



October 15 , 2020

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Important Dates for Nonpublic Schools

Office Hours	
Office Hours Title	Zoom Link
Educator Development Office Hours	October 20 at 12 p.m.
Career and College Readiness Office Hours	October 22 at 3 p.m.
Assessment and Accountability Office Hours	October 27 at 3:45 p.m.
Monthly Calls*	
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Reopening Roundtable for System Leaders	October 16 at 9 a.m.
Legislative and Policy Support Monthly Call	October 19 at 10 a.m.
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	October 20 at 3:45 p.m.
Nonpublic Monthly Call	October 21 at 2 p.m.
Student Well-Being Monthly Call	October 21 at 3:30 p.m.
Academic Content and Educator Development Monthly Call	October 28 at 1 p.m.
Data Coordinator Monthly Call	November 5 at 1 p.m.
System Leaders Monthly Call	November 6 at 9 a.m.

SPED Leader Monthly Call	November 12 at 2 p.m.
Upcoming Events	
Event Title	Zoom Link
Resident and Mentor Compensation Process Webinar	October 19 at 3 p.m.
LDOE Virtual Fall Counselor Institute	October 28 at 9 a.m.
LDOE Virtual Fall Counselor Institute	October 29 at 8 a.m.
LDOE Virtual Fall Counselor Institute	October 29 at 12 p.m.
Important Deadlines	
Document Link	Deadline
CTE Mission: CubeSat	October 16
2021 Student of the Year Application	October 16
2020-2021 Education Excellence Funds Application	October 16
Submit NPS Annual Data Submission	October 22
Submit BESE/BvD Approval Application	October 22
Submit ICQ for Louisiana Scholarship Program	October 23
Submit budget form for Louisiana Scholarship Program	October 23
LEAP 2025 Science Grades 3, 5, 7, and 8 Stimuli Review Committees Interest Survey	October 29

All Nonpublics

NPS Annual Data Submission Deadline Extended

Due to school closures for recent hurricanes as well as technological issues, the deadline for schools to submit the annual data submission has been extended to October 22nd. The Nonpublic School Annual Data Submission (previously called the "annual report") requires schools to submit basic enrollment and school information and is submitted electronically using the data system known as **LEADS**.

To complete the Nonpublic School Annual Data Submission, please consult the [Nonpublic Annual School Report User Guide](#).

Please remember, LEADs passwords expire every 30 days and must be reset at <https://password.doe.louisiana.gov/>. Additionally, pop-up blockers must be off in order to access NPS. We appreciate your patience as we process password resets as well as new user requests.

Please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with questions.

BESE Approval and Brumfield vs Dodd Deadline Extended

Due to school closures for recent hurricanes as well as technological issues, the deadline for schools to submit the annual data submission has been extended to October 22nd. As a reminder, all schools must submit a series of documents to the Louisiana Department of Education to receive BESE approval for the following school year. To identify which documents your school must submit, please review the [Nonpublic School Approval Checklist](#).

The Department once again has created an [online survey](#) to collect all required documentation. Schools will no longer need to log in to the FTP to complete the NPS approval process. Completing this survey is expected to take 10-15 minutes.

Please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with questions.

Upcoming Nonpublic Monthly Call

The next monthly call specifically for nonpublics will be on **October 21st**. The call will give updates in regards to teacher certification as well as information specific to the Louisiana Scholarship program (LSP). If your school currently participates in LSP or wishes to participate for the upcoming school year, a representative should be in attendance.

Recommended audience includes schools leaders, Diocesan Superintendents, as well as Scholarship managers and finance

Recommended includes schools leaders, Diocesan and U.S. Department of Education, as well as Scholarship managers and finance managers of schools that participate in LSP.

Calls will be the third Wednesday of every month at 2:00. Please see login information below:

- Webinar Date and Time: **Wednesday, October 21st**
- Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92282614317>
- Webinar Phone Number: 312-626-6799
- Meeting ID#: 922 8261 4317

Please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with questions.

Disaster Recovery Guidance

The Department has released [disaster recovery guidance](#). Please continue to check [this link](#), as the guidance will be updated as new information becomes available. The document includes guidance and resources on the following topics:

- Enrollment of displaced students
- Damage to facilities and supply needs
- Staffing capacity
- Issues related to the start of the school year
- Charter school specific guidance

Please contact systemrelations@la.gov with questions.

Super App Launch

This year's **Super App Launch is scheduled for November 6 and will be all virtual**. Sessions will be pre-recorded, shared in the weekly newsletter, and posted to the Department's [School Improvement Library](#) on **November 6**.

During November, December, and January, regularly scheduled team monthly calls and office hours will provide opportunities for school system leaders to learn more about specific sections, ask questions, and receive guidance.

New this year: The Department will offer Super App Planning Support calls beginning in December where teams can request one-on-one targeted guidance and support with planning, completing the workbook, and aligning funding to priorities.

More information will be provided in the coming weeks.

Questions should be emailed to LDOE.grantshelpdesk@la.gov. Please include "Super App" in the email subject line.

Federal Policy on Military Recruiting in Schools

Please share with principals and counselors to ensure systems are in compliance with federal law.

Representatives of military recruiting offices have recently contacted the Department to express concerns regarding access to student contact information. By federal law according to 20 U.S.C. 7908, all school systems that receive funds under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) must provide student's names, addresses, and telephone listings to military recruiters unless the student's parents or guardians have individually opted out of providing this information. Local education authorities cannot adopt a blanket opt-out policy and 20 U.S.C. 7908 supersedes any conflicting state law.

In addition, please be mindful that schools are to allow recruiters from the various branches of service equitable access to classrooms and/or facilities. School systems must allow equal access and accommodation to all branches of services in accordance with a consistent application of their local policies. Students interested in joining the military after high school should be allowed to receive information from all branches of service so they can make an intelligent decision if they are considering joining the military.

Please contact ernise.singleton@la.gov with questions.

Student Well-Being Monthly Call: Added Date

Please share with the Urgent Intervention Required for Discipline (UIR-D) school leadership team(s).

The Department has added an additional Student Well-Being Monthly Call date for the month of November. This call will serve as an opportunity for student well-being vendors to attend and share more information about their services. Supervisors of school improvement, supervisors of student services/programs/life, supervisors of child welfare and attendance, and supervisors of pupil appraisal are encouraged to attend. **Please note:** This additional date in November has a different Zoom link than the other monthly call dates.

Information needed to join this newly-added call is included below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** November 9 at 3:30 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/91427137294>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 914 2713 7294

Please contact studentwellbeing@la.gov with questions.

School Year 2020-2021 Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) Application

Applications for the 2020-2021 Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program are available for returning sponsors via the [Child Nutrition Program \(CNP\) website](#). Applications must be completed and submitted by **November 10**.

Please contact childnutritionprograms@la.gov with questions.

ELA Guidebooks: Updates

Please share with ELA supervisors, administrators, and ELA teachers.

The ELA Guidebooks landing [page](#) on the [Louisiana Believes website](#) has been updated to include download boxes with ELA Guidebook resources and distance learning resources.

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

ELA Guidebooks: Foundations Supports Update

Please share with ELA supervisors, administrators, and ELA teachers for grades 3-5.

The ELA Guidebooks Foundations Supports to support students in grades 3-5 who struggle to read fluently have been updated. These resources include both teacher-facing directions and student-facing materials.

- The teacher-facing directions provide guidance for explicitly teaching foundational phonics skills and practicing grade-level fluency.
- The student-facing materials include targeted skill activities and fluency practice passages directly related to the grade-level ELA Guidebook unit texts used during whole-class, core instruction.

The updated materials will be available for download through the [bulk downloader tool](#) on [Louisiana Curriculum Hub](#). Each ELA Guidebook unit folder will have a folder entitled "Foundations Supports."

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

ELA Guidebooks: High School Guidebooks (2020) Updates

Please share with ELA supervisors, administrators, and ELA teachers for grades 9-12.

[Louisiana's ELA Guidebooks 9-12 \(2020\) Pilot Overview](#) document has been updated to include the most recent information about the 9-12 units on [Louisiana Curriculum Hub](#). The Life of Pi unit for grade 10 will be available on [Louisiana Curriculum Hub](#) by **October 19**.

The Department is also soliciting teacher feedback through [Louisiana's ELA Guidebooks 9-12 \(2020\) Pilot Feedback Form](#) for the units being implemented this year. Please encourage educators to bookmark this link for use throughout the 2020-2021 school year.

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

Resident and Mentor Compensation Process Webinar Rescheduled

Due to Hurricane Delta, the Resident and Mentor Compensation Process webinar has been **rescheduled to October 19 at 3 p.m.**

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 19 at 3 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/7328306617>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 646- 876- 9923
- **Meeting ID#:** 732 830 6617

Please contact toriano.hayward@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: COVID-19 Mitigation Strategies Course Registration

Well-Ahead Louisiana, in partnership with Louisiana Department of Education and Southwest Louisiana Area Health Education Center, has launched a variety of [self-paced virtual trainings](#) to help schools prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Schools can now access the COVID-19 Mitigation Strategies course, developed by the [Children's Hospital New Orleans](#). This course outlines key principals and strategic tools for mitigating the spread of COVID-19, such as assessing and isolating students, faculty, and staff. After completing the course, attendees will be emailed a certificate of completion.

[Registration](#) is now open. When enrolling in the course, use "JOIN" as the self-enrollment key.

Please contact stephen.guccione@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Healthy Schools Academy

In collaboration with the Healthy Communities Section, Well-Ahead Louisiana is hosting a free virtual professional development

opportunity dedicated to improving student health and academic achievement.

The virtual Healthy Schools Academy is open to teachers, school nurses, counselors, coaches, administrators, and others looking for ways to help students stay healthy and ready to learn. Participants will gain skills to enhance the educational process by supporting the needs of the whole child.

The virtual Healthy Schools Academy will be held on **October 27 from 8:45 a.m. to 2:20 p.m.** There is no cost to participate. For information on sessions and speakers, and to register, visit [Well-Ahead Louisiana](#).

Please contact stephen.guccione@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: New School WellSpot Benchmarks

The WellSpot Designation program recognizes schools that are implementing policies and practices to support the health of their students and staff. The school wellness benchmarks were recently updated and now align more closely with school health best practices. Becoming a WellSpot lets families and the community know that schools are committed to prioritizing student and staff health.

Well-Ahead representatives are ready to guide schools through the designation process! Well-Ahead will work with schools that are already a WellSpot to help them move up a level. To learn more, visit [Well-Ahead Louisiana](#).

Please contact wellahead@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: 2020-2021 Education Excellence Funds (EEF) Application Release

The 2020-2021 Education Excellence Fund (EEF) Application is now available in the Louisiana Department of Education's (LDOE) Electronic Grants Management System (eGMS). The submission deadline is **this Friday, October 16**.

Please review the EEF Application information (EEF slide deck) under the Announcements section on the eGMS login page.

Nonpublic applicants must complete both the EEF Contact Information and EEF Assurances sections of the LEA Central Data for the EEF application to appear.

Please contact tonya.johnson@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Virtual Instruction Training for Teachers and Leaders

The Department, in partnership with the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching (NIET), is offering all educators in Louisiana the opportunity to participate in three 90-minute sessions to learn more about effective virtual teaching practices.

There are three different tracks for educators to receive training based on their role: one for K-2 classroom teachers, one for 3-12 classroom teachers, and one for school leaders. The sessions will cover:

- **planning** for virtual instruction,
- delivery of virtual **instruction**, and
- strengthening the virtual **environment**.

All educators will receive a variety of templates, tools, and strategies they can use immediately in their schools and classrooms. School leaders will receive more support around coaching, while classroom teachers will receive more content they can use directly in their virtual instruction.

These sessions are completely free and will be offered multiple times each week over the course of 2020-2021, starting the last week of October.

Teacher and school leaders will have a variety of options as they select session times, including after school, in the evening, and on weekends. School leaders will also have options during the school day. More information about how to register will be shared with system and school leaders via the School Systems Relations Team.

All sessions are taught live (synchronously), and there will be asynchronous modules available beginning in November for those who choose to facilitate through a collaborative setting.

Please contact systemrelations@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: LEAP 2025 Assessment Updates

The [LEAP 2025 assessment guides](#) have been revised and reposted to reflect the following testing updates:

1. Grades 5-8 Social Studies: In the past, a sample of students taking the grades 5-8 social studies assessments were required to participate in a short field-test session. This spring, no field testing will take place at grades 5-8 in social studies.
2. Grades 3-8 Science: See update on the design of the science tests in the grade-level assessment guides.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: LEAP 360 Updates

A [LEAP 360 Interim Guidance document](#) has been created and posted on the [LEAP 360 homepage](#). It describes the updates to the LEAP 360 Interim Assessments for the 2020-2021 school year, provides a list of Interim resources, and includes guidance on how to use the resources to help achieve the goal of integrating the Interims into high-quality ELA and mathematics curricula.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Multiphase Challenge Building Skills for 21st Century Careers

Please share with career and technical education and math/science leaders and educators.

The U.S. Department of Education has launched [CTE Mission: CubeSat](#), a national challenge to inspire high school students to build technical skills for careers in space and beyond. Students from across the country are invited to design and build prototypes of CubeSats (cube satellites), or satellites that aid in space research, bringing space missions out of the clouds and into the classroom. No in-person collaboration or prior experience with CubeSats is required. Teams can use a curated collection of virtual resources in the [CTE Mission: CubeSat resource hub](#) as they develop and submit their mission proposals.

The deadline to submit proposals is **October 16 at 5:59 p.m.**

Please contact jumpstart@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: CARES Act Interim Final Rule Invalidated

On July 1, the U.S. Department of Education (ED) published an [Interim Final Rule \(IFR\)](#) regarding equitable services under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. On September 4, in NAACP v. Davos, the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia issued an [opinion](#) and an [order](#) vacating the IFR. Accordingly, the IFR is no longer in effect.

The LDOE has received the Secretary's response ([ED's Response to Interim Final Rule Invalidations](#)) to the IFR guidance invalidation and it is important to note:

- ED will not appeal the court's decision to invalidate the IFR.
- ED will not take any action against states or local school systems that followed the initial guidance and/or the IFR prior to notice of the court's decision.
- ED will use its enforcement authority to ensure districts comply with the Equitable Services requirements provided in Section 1117(a)(4)(A) of the ESEA of 1965. (calculating equitable services based on student low income data)

As a reminder, the agency is recommending school systems consider the following next steps as they prepare to move forward in providing equitable services to eligible private schools.

- School systems should conduct meaningful consultations with private schools acknowledging the judge's ruling regarding invalidating ED's IFR guidance.
- School systems are to calculate CARES Act equitable services funding levels using student low income data only.
- Services and devices already delivered to participating private schools above the student low income equitable services level are to remain with the private schools so that there is no interruption of services for students.
- Back orders for devices, materials, and supplies should be provided up to the low income equitable services level. The remaining devices, materials, and supplies should remain with the school system.
- Private schools with no low income student counts should not be afforded CARES Act equitable services.

During the Federal Programs and Grants Management next Monthly Call scheduled for October 15 at 10 a.m., the Department will review frequently asked questions received from school districts as they move forward with implementing CARES Act equitable services according to ED's response to the courts' rulings.

Please contact bernell.cook@la.gov with questions.

Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) News

Reminder: Scholarship Audit - Internal Control Questionnaire

Participating Scholarship schools are required to complete the [Internal Control Questionnaire](#). This information is provided to assist in evaluating that financial operations are effective and efficient and that schools have a reliable financial reporting system and comply with applicable laws and regulations.

The completed questionnaire is due by **Friday, October 23, 2020** via e-mail to staudit@la.gov.

Reminder: Scholarship Audit Engagement Letters

Pursuant to Section 1303 of Bulletin 133, State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education requires the Department to audit the

Pursuant to Section 1505 of Article IX, State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education requires the Department to audit the financial performance and capacity of Scholarship schools as a criterion for continued participation in the Scholarship program.

Beginning **Monday, October 12th**, the audit firms conducting the financial audits will begin contacting schools via an engagement letter. The letter will include audit dates and an in-depth description of the process and school responsibilities.

The audit firm assigned to your school is based on the district in which your school is located. Please click [here](#) for the list of districts covered by each firm.

If your school has not been contacted by the assigned audit firm by **October 16th**, or if you have any questions, please contact Ronnie.DavisJr@la.gov or 225.342.3621.

Reminder: 2020-21 Scholarship Financial Audit Information

The LDOE finance team has prepared a presentation on the financial audit which include instructions on how to ensure your school is prepared for this year's financial audit. You can access a copy of the PowerPoint [here](#).

Please contact Ronnie.DavisJr@la.gov with audit-specific questions and studentscholarships@la.gov with Scholarship Program specific questions.

Reminder: Scholarship Program Budget

The initial Scholarship Program budget is due **Friday, October 23, 2020**. Schools should provide specific details in this budget demonstrating how the total estimated SSEEP revenue will be allocated and spent for the 2019-2020 school year.

Things to know

1. No actual expenditures should be reported in the expenditures column at this time.
2. The total enrollment on the budget should exclude Pre-K students.

Submit your [budget form](#) via e-mail to staudit@la.gov.

Please contact Ronnie.DavisJr@la.gov with any questions or concerns about the audit process.

Reminder: Transfer Window Opened

If a family is interested in a transfer, please have the family complete the [transfer form](#) and submit it to a school representative. The representative at the school must then sign the form and email it to studentscholarships@la.gov. Forms submitted by parents will not be considered.

Transfers are at the discretion of the receiving school; however, schools may not exceed new student caps (if applicable) based on [accountability results](#) for the 2019 school year.

Please email studentscholarships@la.gov with any questions.

Reminder: For School and District Testing Coordinators

ACT

- **Important:** Test coordinators are reminded to only use ACT test materials sent for the October test. Answer documents from spring 2020 will be rejected if used in October, as well as any spring 2020 answer documents that are returned with barcode labels from October placed over the spring barcode labels.
- October 6-April 30: The 2020-2021 WorkKeys testing window is open.
 - Please refer to the *Quick Start Guide for Assigning TTS to a Single Examinee* for WorkKeys. The document will be posted to the ACT State Testing site in the [WorkKeys](#) section.
 - The Department will cover the cost for one WorkKeys administration for students who are on the Jump Start pathway and are in grade 11.
- Please check the [ACT State Testing](#) site for an updated [Schedule of Events](#).

LEAP 2025 Assessment Development

- LDOE Assessment Development will convene LEAP 2025 Science Stimuli Review Committees in Lafayette for the following grades at the listed dates and times:
 - Grade 3: November 14 (9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)
 - Grade 5: November 21 (9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)
 - Grade 7: November 14 (1:30 p.m.-5 p.m.)
 - Grade 8: November 21 (1:30 p.m.-5 p.m.)
- The committees will review stimuli to ensure the materials that will be used to develop item and task sets on the LEAP 2025 Science tests are fair and appropriate for all students and will allow an opportunity for students to demonstrate their knowledge and skills in science. Participants may each earn a stipend and be reimbursed for mileage to and from the meeting.
- Interested science teachers (including those who work in special education or with English Learners), supervisors, and content specialists should complete the [interest survey](#) to apply to participate by **October 28**.

- Content specialists should complete the [interest survey](#) to apply to participate by **October 29**.
- LEAP 2025 Enrollment Verification**
- Now-October 31: School systems should log into DRC INSIGHT and complete the enrollment information for third and fourth grade that is required no later than **October 31**.
 - Schools testing third or fourth grade on paper should also indicate the number of test booklets needed.
 - School systems need to verify the number of braille tests necessary for testing grades 3-8 for both paper-based or computer-based testing formats.

LEAP 2025 Grades 3-8 Spring Test Administration

- At the request of many school systems that have had especially difficult challenges to the opening of school, the LEAP 2025 spring testing for grades 3-8 has been rescheduled as follows:
 - April 26-May 26: CBT
 - April 28-30 ELA and Math: PBT
 - May 3-4 Science and Social Studies PBT
- The [2020-2021 Assessment Calendar](#) has been updated and additional key dates will be released in the coming months.

2020-2021 Growth Target Rosters

- The 2020-2021 growth target rosters are now posted to secure FTP (file names LEACode_2020-21 HS Growth to Mastery Student Roster and LEACode_2020_LEAP 2025_Grades 3-8_Growth to Mastery Student Roster). The rosters include a target scale score for eligible students. Students are assigned to schools based on the 2019-2020 site code. The rosters will be updated with this year's site codes in November. For information about how the targets were calculated without scores from 2020, please contact jennifer.baird@la.gov.

Advanced Placement® Results

- The 2019-2020 Advanced Placement Results® rosters are now posted to secure FTP. The roster includes, for the total population and for student groups, exams taken, exams passed (scoring 3+), and student counts for the school system and schools. Suppressed public data has been made available in the Department's [High School Performance Library](#). Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Assessment Administration Support and Training Office Hours

The next Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call will be on **October 20 at 3:45 p.m.** A password will now be required for office hours. Webinar details are listed below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 20 at 3:45 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/202189164>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
- **Meeting ID#:** 202 189 164
- **Passcode:** 2020202!

Tuition Donation Credit (TDC) Program News

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- **Meeting ID#:** 202 189 164
- **Passcode:** 2020202!

Reminder: Frequently Asked Questions and Contact Information

Information about the Tuition Donation Credit Program can be found in the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and [Scholarship Programs Comparison Chart](#). Currently, Louisiana has four School Tuition Organizations participating in the Tuition Donation Credit Program: ACE Scholarships Louisiana, Arete Scholars Louisiana, Aspiring Scholars, and Son of a Saint. Schools interested in participating in the TDC program should communicate directly with one or more School Tuition Organizations.

School Tuition Organization	Regional Focus	STO Website	Email	Phone
ACE Scholarships Louisiana	Statewide	www.acescholarships.org	TDR@acescholarships.org	504-491-1813
Arete Scholars Louisiana	Statewide	www.aretescholars.org	maryhw@aretescholars.org	225-245-3610
Aspiring Scholars	New Orleans Archdiocese	https://aspiringscholarsla.org/	info@aspiringscholarsla.org	504-513-4140
Son of a Saint	Orleans	www.sonofasaint.org	hello@sonofasaint.org	504-561-7508

School Choice Program

Reminder: SCP Transfer Window Open

Students wishing to transfer SCP awards from one school to another participating school for the 2020 school year can complete the [SCP transfer form](#). The form must also be signed by a representative of the receiving school.

Please send completed form to nonpublicschools@la.gov.

Other Department Newsletters

To view the **October 13th District Newsletter** or the **October 8th Nonpublic Newsletter**, please [visit the LDOE Newsroom](#).

To be added to the newsletter distribution list, please send an email to nonpublicschools@la.gov.

LDOE Contacts

Dr. Cade Brumley
State Superintendent of Education
877.453.2721 (toll-free)
Twitter @LouisianaSupe

LDOE Links

[LDOE Website](#)
[Contact Us](#)

STAY CONNECTED



