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Important Dates for Nonpublic Schools

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>10/31/18</td>
<td>Submit EEF application</td>
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Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) News

New: Reporting 2017-2018 Student Performance

As part of the release of the 2018 school performance scores, the Department will report Scholarship Cohort Index in School Finder on November 8th.

Prior to this public release on 11/8, the LDOE will share 2017-2018 Scholarship Cohort Indices and the percent of students earning Basic and Above on state assessments with Diocesan superintendents and individual schools via the FTP. Based on these results, the Department will schedule individual calls with schools that will receive a partial or total enrollment sanction for the 2019-20 school year.

If schools have questions about the accountability system or what the School Report Card will look like in School Finder, review these documents:

- 2018 School Performance Scores for Principals

Please note that all linked resources reference the School Performance Score used for public schools, which is analogous to the Scholarship Cohort Index.
By November 5, the Department will also release a series of videos explaining the updates to School Finder. All resources are and will be available in the Principal Support Toolbox library under the "School Finder Toolkit" section. As a reminder, School Finder will never display any letter grades or letter grade equivalents for scholarship schools.

Email assessment@la.gov with questions.

**Reminder: Release of 2018 ACT Data**

On October 17, ACT released its 2018 "The Condition of College and Career Readiness" report outlining national trends in the 2018 administration of the ACT. In preparation for this release, school system leaders have received an individual, unsuppressed school system and school-level summary file, named "LEA code_LEA Name_2018_ACT 12 Grade Best Score Results," via the FTP. Suppressed statewide, school system, and school-level results were posted to the website.

In addition to the 2018 data, ACT has also posted updated District Profile Reports in PANext for students in grade 11 who tested in the spring of 2018.

Please email assessment@la.gov with questions.

**Reminder: Release of School and Center Performance Communications Toolkits**

Please share with family engagement coordinators, principals and early childhood directors.

Today, the Department released a toolkit to help school systems, schools, and early childhood centers communicate the release of their 2018 performance scores in the Louisiana School Finder. The toolkit includes resources such as:

- School Finder flyer, poster, website button, and social media graphics
- Sample early childhood and K-12 news releases
- Animated videos to help explain early childhood performance profiles (coming week of Oct. 22)
- Early childhood and K-12 customizable parent night presentations (coming week of Oct. 22)

All resources are available in the principal support library. All videos are available on the Department's YouTube channel on the "School Finder" playlist.

Email ldeocommunications@la.gov with questions.

**Reminder: 2018-19 Transfer Window Opened**

Families that wish to transfer their Scholarship award from one school to another may complete the attached transfer form. The school leader or Scholarship contact of the student's new school must sign off on the transfer and submit to studentscholarships@la.gov. Transfer forms must be submitted by the school--forms submitted by parents will not be accepted.

Completion of the transfer form is not a guarantee that a transfer will be granted. Schools can not exceed their student enrollment caps. Families should not buy uniforms or other supplies until the Department has approved the transfer.

Please contact studentscholarships@la.gov with any questions.

**Reminder: Important Information for District Testing Coordinators**

**General**

- All changes to district test coordinators (DTCs) or accountability contacts must be submitted to the Department using the DTC and Accountability Contact Update form found in the Assessment Library.

**LEAP 360**

- Students removed from a school in eDIRECT for non-summative assessments will show up on the student transfer report. School systems and schools should use this report to identify a student that has been incorrectly identified and moved by another school or school system. The student transfer report will be available weekly in the View Report tab in eDIRECT.
- The new Interactive Reporting tool is now available for teacher use to view student item responses and data in eDIRECT. To gain access to the tool, DRC IRS permissions must be assigned to district, school, and teacher/test administrator users through the User Management tab in eDIRECT.
- Student access is available for all grades for Interim Form 1, high school Forms 2-3, and grades 6-8 mathematics Form 2.
  - Teacher access is available now through the Interim Quick Start Guide.
  - Communication Assistance Scripts are posted in eDIRECT under General Information, Documents, Diagnostic/Interim 18-19, and then Communication Assistance Scripts.
  - Teacher Study Guides are posted in eDIRECT under General Information, Documents, Diagnostic/Interim 18-19, and then Teacher Study Guides.
  - Additional materials orders for braille test kits can be placed in eDIRECT under Materials and then Additional Materials.
  - Response map reports will be available within 24 hours of test completion. Summary reports will be available within 24 hours of educator scoring. District Data Files will refresh every 24 hours to update test completing and
LEAP 2025

- By October 31: School systems indicate the delivery mode, online or paper, in eDIRECT for grades 3 and 4 LEAP 2025 testing and verify or adjust the number of test booklets needed. Directions are available in eDIRECT.
- Social Studies Test Reduction Webinar
  - Social studies teachers and instructional supervisors/coaches should join the Social Studies Test Reduction Webinar to learn about how the reduction affects instruction and test administration.
    - Webinar Date and Time: November 1 at 3:30 p.m.
    - Webinar Link: https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/391641404
    - Webinar Phone Number: 669-900-6833
    - Meeting ID#: 391641404
- Deconstructing Mathematics Constructed-Response Items Webinar
  - Mathematics teachers and instructional supervisors/coaches should join the Deconstructing Mathematics Constructed-Response Items Webinar to learn about the components necessary to effectively assess reasoning and modeling using constructed-response items.
    - Webinar Date and Time: November 8 at 3:30 p.m.
    - Webinar Link: https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/991846723
    - Webinar Phone Number: 669-900-6833
    - Meeting ID#: 991846723

LEAP Connect

- LEAP Connect Test Administration webinar for test coordinators and test administrators
  - Webinar Date and Time: November 7 at 3:30 p.m.
  - Webinar Link: https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/447648371
  - Webinar Phone Number: 1-646-876-9923
  - Meeting ID#: 447649371

ACT and WorkKeys

- ACT provides practice test material for student to prepare for the WorkKeys assessments.
- November 5- PearsonAccessnext (PANext) will open for managing participation for spring testing. No students will be in the system until later in November.
- Do not administer the WorkKeys assessments to teachers as a way of preparing the students for this assessment. This is a violation of test security policy found in Bulletin 118 §5311.
- Students shall be subject to a 30-day (calendar) wait period before retesting on WorkKeys assessments, during which time LEAs shall provide remediation.
- School systems must provide student results for all WorkKeys tests taken by every student every year, as outlined by DOE, to ensure all results are considered (applies only to school systems/schools not signing the ACT (other realms) Addendum).
- WorkKeys: Non-LDOE Realms ONLY
  - Oct. 26- Answer documents received by ACT after this date will not be scored
  - All matters concerning WorkKeys administration on non-LDOE realms can be addressed by calling 800-967-5539 (800-WorkKey) or emailing actcareercurriculum@act.org. Please make it clear that your call is concerning your own realm or a sponsor's realm.
- Every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. - Register for ACT WorkKeys Online Administration Training offered weekly. The link lists all current available dates and times.
- Every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. - Register for ACT WorkKeys Groups and Batch Load Training offered weekly. The link lists all current available dates and times.

Assessment Administration Support and Training
The next Assessment and Accountability Office Hours is October 30.

- Webinar Date and Time: October 30 at 1:00 p.m.
- Webinar Link: https://ldoe.zoom.us/
- Webinar Phone Number: 669-900-6833
- Meeting ID#: 393469342

Tuition Donation Credit (TDC) Program News

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- Webinar Link: https://ldoe.zoom.us/
- Webinar Phone Number: 669-900-6833
- Meeting ID#: 393463942

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, New Schools for Baton Rouge Excellence Scholarship Fund, and Son of a Saint. Schools interested in participating in the TDC program should communicate directly with one or more School Tuition Organizations.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Tuition Organization</th>
<th>Regional Focus</th>
<th>STO Website</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACE Scholarships Louisiana</td>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td><a href="http://www.acescholarships.org">www.acescholarships.org</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:TDR@acescholarships.org">TDR@acescholarships.org</a></td>
<td>504-491-1813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arete Scholars Louisiana</td>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td><a href="http://www.aretescholars.org">www.aretescholars.org</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:maryhw@aretescholars.org">maryhw@aretescholars.org</a></td>
<td>225-245-3610</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Schools for Baton Rouge Excellence Scholarship Fund</td>
<td>Baton Rouge</td>
<td>newschoolsbr.org/our-approach/excellence-scholarship-fund</td>
<td><a href="mailto:brandy@newschoolsbr.org">brandy@newschoolsbr.org</a></td>
<td>225-384-0271</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities (SCP)**

**Reminder: Transfer Request Form Available**

In order to transfer a School Choice award from one participating school to another, families and receiving schools should complete a transfer form. Please submit transfer forms to nonpublicschools@la.gov.

**All Nonpublics**

**New: CTE Leadership Academy Regional Meeting**

Please share with CTE leaders and industry partners.

The Career and Technical Education (CTE) Leadership Academy will be holding the first virtual regional meeting via a webinar at 4:00 p.m. on November 7. The purpose of Academy regional meetings is to help current and prospective CTE leaders form a community of practice with other CTE leaders and our industry allies.

The meeting will feature guest speakers Ashley Aleman of Nepris, and Laura Smith of Louisiana Council for Economic Education, who will share information on how schools can help students engage with workplace experts, and innovative best practices implemented by members of the CTE Leadership Academy.

- Webinar Date and Time: November 7 at 4:00 p.m.
- Webinar Link: [https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/855549452](https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/855549452)
- Webinar Phone Number: 646-876-9923
- Meeting ID: 855549452

For more information, please contact dave.lefkowith@la.gov.

**New: August BESE Meeting Summary**

The Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) met on October 17 and approved a number of bulletin revisions and recommendations. A summary of the approvals that directly impact the activities of school systems is now available.

Please email ryan.n.gremillion@la.gov for more information.

**New: Support and Training Opportunity for School Emergency Operations Plans**

In September, the Department received $3.6 million for the Grants to States for the School Emergency Management Program to assist schools statewide with developing and expanding their Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs), which are mandated by state law (La. R.S. 17:416.16). Schools are required to review these plans annually and to conduct drills and staff training on the execution of these EOPs. As part of the grant, the Department has partnered with LSU's National Center for Biomedical Research and Training/Academy of Counter Terrorist Education (LSU-NCBRT/ACE) to provide technical assistance and training to schools and local emergency officials. The first phase of this process will be for LSU-NCBRT/ACE to review existing EOPs and to train schools that have not yet developed EOPs.

Please review this information for more additional details. The deadline to submit plans for expert reviews is October 31. This service is available to all school system and charter LEAs as well as nonpublic schools.

Please contact schoolsafety@ncbrt.lsu.edu with questions.

**Reminder: Education Excellence Fund (EEF) Application Released**
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The FY 2018-2019 Education Excellence Fund (EEF Application is now available in LDOE's electronic grants management system (eGMS). The submission deadline is October 31.

EEF recipients can begin by completing or verifying the following sections of LEA Central Data:

LEA Plan Upload (For non-public recipients the LEA plan is not required but recommended. For questions 1-7 you may type N/A in the response section. The LEA plan does have a required upload, however you may upload a document that states "no plan necessary").

To complete the EEF Contact Information use the following path (Contact Information > Formula Program Contacts > EEF Program Contact). To complete the EEF Assurances use the following path (Assurances > Formula Program > EEF Program Assurances.

For further information about Education Excellence Fund (EEF) see EEF Q&A in the Information section below, or contact ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov.

Reminder: 2019 College & Career Readiness Champion Applications

Please share with school counselors and school administrators.

Applications for the ACT College and Career Readiness Champion Awards are now open. This award program recognizes individuals' exemplary efforts in advancing college and career readiness in four categories:

- Student Champion (student in the graduating class of 2019)
- K-12 Champion
- Postsecondary Champion
- Workforce Champion

Applications are now available. The submission deadline is October 31. One Champion per category will be selected in each state. All Champions receive individual certificates and recognition by the Louisiana ACT Council. Additionally, Student Champions receive a $500 non-renewable scholarship.

View the selection criteria and learn more about the process at www.act.org/readinesschampions. State Champions will be notified on or before January 31, 2019.

Questions may be directed to ccrc@act.org.

Reminder: AP® Update Webinar

To support Advanced Placement (AP®) programs statewide, the Department will host a webinar providing AP® teachers and administrators with tips related to completing and preparing for the AP® Course Audit. Topics include current and future developments related to important dates, resources, and training requirements. New and experienced AP® teachers, coordinators, and administrators are encouraged to participate. The webinar will be held on November 1 at 3:30 p.m. and again on December 4 at 3:30 p.m.

- Topic: Advanced Placement Program Updates
- Webinar Date and Time: November 1 at 3:30 p.m.
- Webinar Link: https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/188879112
- Webinar Phone Number: 408-638-0968
- Meeting ID: 188879112

For more information, please email raphael.curtis@la.gov.

Reminder: Monthly Data Coordinator Webinar

The Department will hold its monthly webinar for data coordinators and data managers of eScholar and STS on November 1 at 1:00 p.m. Topics will include 2018-2019 data submissions, upcoming deadlines, system enhancements, other updates and best practices.

- Webinar Date and Time: November 1 at 1:00 p.m.
- Webinar Link: https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/976397929

Please email systemsupport@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Healthy Schools Collaborative

Please share with school leaders.

The Department, in partnership with Well-Ahead Louisiana, is hosting a Healthy Schools Collaborative on November 7 from 10:00
The Department, in partnership with Well-Ahead Louisiana, is hosting a Healthy Schools Collaborative on November 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Smoothie King Center in New Orleans for school leaders. School leaders must register by November 1, as space is limited.

Reminder: Request for Nominations for the 2019 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program

The nomination process for the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program is now open. Each state can nominate up to 25 students for one of the following categories:

- General: outstanding academic performance on the ACT or SAT
- Career and Technical Education (CTE): outstanding performance in CTE (new this year)

The Department invites school systems to submit nominations for up to three outstanding students. The nominations must include a male and female student for the general category, and at least one nomination should be for a student who has been successful in career and technical education. Students must be high school seniors scheduled to graduate or receive a diploma between January-June of 2019. Additional program requirements are available on the U.S. Department of Education's website.

Nominations should be submitted through a single nomination letter for all nominees (not to exceed three pages total), signed by the local superintendent or charter school leader, and emailed to leslie.hill@la.gov no later than November 2 at 4:30 p.m. with "Presidential Scholars" in the subject line. Please include the following information for each nominee: the student's name, home mailing address, gender, and email address; and high school name, mailing address, and (College Entrance Examination Board) CEEB code.

Reminder: Statewide Science Trainings for Teachers

Please share with middle and high school science teachers.

OpenSciEd: Middle School
Middle School Science teachers have the opportunity to receive training on and pilot high quality units by OpenSciEd, a project that is building out a full middle school curriculum. Middle school educators can register for pilot and four-day professional development, which is occurring in Ruston. The deadline to register is November 2.

Inquiry Hub: High School Biology
Due to high demand, additional Inquiry Hub trainings are now open. High school Biology teachers have the opportunity to receive training on and pilot high quality units, which are linked in the Department's Biology Sample Scope and Sequence document. The units are anchored in phenomena and aligned to Louisiana Student Standards for Science.

Registration for the two-day trainings in Baton Rouge and West Monroe are now open. The cost of the trainings are $100. Please note that if a minimum of 75 people do not register for the sessions, they will be canceled.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Registration Information</th>
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<tr>
<td>November 15 and 16</td>
<td>Baton Rouge, LA</td>
<td>Registration Link</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 13 and 14</td>
<td>West Monroe, LA</td>
<td>Registration Link</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Other Department Newsletters

To view the October 23rd District Newsletter or the October 18th 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

John White
State Superintendent of Education
877.453.2721 (toll-free)
Twitter @LouisianaSupe

LDOE Links

LDOE Website
Contact Us

STAY CONNECTED

Facebook
Twitter
YouTube