

Important News for NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS



December 3 , 2020

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Important Dates for Nonpublic Schools

Office Hours	
Office Hours Title	Zoom Link
Super App Office Hours	December 4 at 10 a.m.
Assessment and Accountability Office Hours	December 8 at 3:45 p.m.
Data Coordinator Office Hours	December 10 at 1 p.m.
Educator Development Office Hours	December 15 at 12 p.m.

Monthly Calls*	
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
System Leaders Monthly Call	December 4 at 9 a.m.
Academic Content and Educator Development Monthly Call	December 9 at 12:30 p.m.
Nonpublic Monthly Call	December 9 at 2 p.m.
Student Well-Being Monthly Call	December 9 at 3:30 p.m.
Legislative and Policy Support Monthly Call	December 14 at 10 a.m.
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	December 15 at 3:45 p.m.
Education Technology Monthly Call	December 17 at 9 a.m.

Education Technology Monthly Call	December 17 at 9 a.m.
Federal Programs and Grants Management Monthly Call	December 17 at 10 a.m.
Career and College Readiness Monthly Call	December 17 at 3 p.m.
Reopening Roundtable for System Leaders	December 18 at 9 a.m.
*Monthly call presentations are available in the School Improvement Library . View the School System Support Calendar to access a complete schedule of events.	
Upcoming Events	
Event Title	Zoom Link
Credit Recovery Policy Review Webinar	December 9 at 9 a.m.
Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council Meeting	December 9 at 1 p.m.
Early Literacy Commission Meeting	December 10 at 12 p.m.

Important Deadlines	
Action Item	Deadline
LSP Q2 count	December 4
Strong Start Survey	December 15
TDC Q2 count	December 31
FY 2020-2021 Nonpublic School Lunch Salary Supplement Application	December 31
TDC Annual Report	January 1
TDC Financial Report	January 1

All Nonpublics

Nonpublic Webinar Next Wednesday

The next nonpublic webinar will be **Wednesday, December 9 at 2:00 p.m.** This call will present information about issuing state diplomas, SuperApp items, and Louisiana Scholarship Program application reminders.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** Wednesday, December 9 at 2:00 p.m.
- **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 any questions.

Strong Start 2020 Survey

Louisiana school systems have created strong academic plans aligned to Strong Start 2020. To ensure continued implementation of current plans, and successful adaptation and planning for the 2021-2022 academic year, the LDOE created the Strong Start 2020 Implementation Survey series.

This week, LDOE released the [Winter Strong Start Survey](#). LDOE is seeking a complete response from each and every school system to successfully plan the guidance and supports most needed for the next academic year. All surveys should be completed by December 15.

To prepare for the completion of this survey, access the available [survey template](#).

Please contact LDOEcommunications@la.gov with questions.

Spring Semester 2021 PPE Supplies

Please share with public, private, and charter school system leaders.

The LDOE, in collaboration with the Special School District, has face coverings and hand sanitizer available for all public, private, and

charter school systems that need supplies for the spring semester. Each school system may request an appropriate number of masks equivalent to their student and faculty census.

School systems will be responsible for coordinating the pick-up of PPE supplies between 7 a.m. through 3 p.m. at the Special School District Warehouse located at 2888 Brightside Dr. Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Requests for face coverings should be made directly to:

Joel A. Snider

Director of Operations, SSD

Office: 225-757-3235

Cell: 225-200-3849

Fax: 225-757-3436

Email: jsnider@lsdvi.org

Please contact LDOECOVID19support@la.gov with questions.

Credit Recovery Policy Review

Please share with counselors, principals, school system staff, and teachers that implement and/or manage credit recovery programs.

A webinar is scheduled to review the policy changes related to credit recovery and best practices for implementing credit recovery programs.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** December 9 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96314109309>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID:** 963 1410 9309

Please contact stephanie.marcum@la.gov with questions.

Crisis Communication Planning and Implementation for School Leaders

LSU's National Center for Biomedical Research and Training is hosting a virtual workshop on crisis communications for school leaders. This four-hour workshop provides an overview of the role of communications in planning for, responding to, and recovering from emergencies in K-12 schools. Participants will discuss critical tasks for managing communications during all phases of an incident, outline a process for creating crisis communications plans, and identify communications and warning best practices.

Click on the links below to register:

- [Register](#) to attend the workshop scheduled for December 9 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- [Register](#) to attend the workshop scheduled for December 11 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

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

2020 Second Extraordinary Legislative Session Update

The Louisiana Legislature adjourned the 2020 Second Extraordinary Legislative Session on October 23. Please review the overview of the [2020 Second Extraordinary Legislative Session](#).

Please contact leslie.hill@la.gov with questions.

Seed Packet Distribution to Schools Begins January 2021

The **Seeds to Success** program will distribute seed packets to schools across the state beginning in January. To request additional packets and gardening materials at no charge, create an account on the [Seeds to Success website](#). The account will allow the user to select and save growing guides and lesson plans specifically designed for use with the mailed seeds.

Seeds to Success is a program that brings the garden into Louisiana classrooms with engaging educational materials related to agriculture and nutrition. The website and program support school gardens with practical growing information and lessons to integrate into both classroom and virtual learning. Seeds to Success is a branch of the LSU AgCenter Louisiana Farm to School Program in collaboration with the Louisiana Department of Education.

Please contact melissa.campbell@la.gov with questions.

Virtual Instruction Training for Teachers and Leaders Update

The Louisiana Department of Education is partnering with the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching to help teachers and school leaders become more equipped to deliver virtual instruction. Throughout the 2020-2021 year, live (synchronous) training sessions on virtual instruction are available to all Louisiana educators. Now, to provide more opportunities to participate in this powerful learning, a flexible, asynchronous option will be offered as well.

Starting December 8, Louisiana educators will have free access to three, 60-minute self-study modules that showcase different aspects of effective virtual teaching. Through the asynchronous sessions, which are similar to the live training, educators will learn

aspects of effective virtual teaching. Through the asynchronous sessions, which are similar to the live training, educators will learn about tips, templates, and strategies to use immediately in their virtual classrooms.

These modules will be available in the Department's [School Improvement Library](#) on **December 8**.

As in the live sessions, there are different options for teachers and principals to receive more tailored support based on their role. Modules for principals and administrators will focus on coaching practices and strategies, while teacher sessions will provide more content teachers can use in their virtual instruction. As a bonus, these asynchronous learning modules provide opportunities for professional learning. They can be used as a resource in common planning, provide additional support for teachers or leaders, and act as a pre-work assignment in conjunction with professional development meetings.

Please contact systemsrelations@la.gov with questions.

Green Ribbon School Awards: Entries Being Accepted through December 31

Please share with administrators, sustainability staff, and environmental science teachers.

The Louisiana Department of Education is now accepting applications for those seeking nomination for the [2021 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon Schools](#) (EDGRS) awards. These awards recognize schools, systems, colleges, and universities that demonstrate a significant commitment to reduce environmental impacts, improve the health and wellbeing of students, faculty, and staff, and provide effective environmental education programs. Applications, due by **December 31**, should be submitted to environmentaleducation@la.gov as attachments in Microsoft Word or PDF format. Applications should be written in a narrative form documenting the school, system, or college's progress in the [three pillars defined by EDGRS](#).

Please contact environmentaleducation@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: MYACT Student Accounts

To register for the ACT, students will create a MyACT student account by going to www.myact.org. In addition to registering for the ACT, MyACT accounts can also be used to prepare for the test, view and send test scores, explore colleges and careers, and plan for college. Students can also purchase prep material through their account or access our free test prep material. Access the [quick start guide](#) for additional support, and contact ACTcollegeready@act.org or act-cares@act.org for assistance with account issues, including duplicate accounts.

Please contact act-cares@act.org with questions.

Reminder: 2021 Teacher Leader Summit T-Shirt Design Contest

The Department is seeking inspiration for the 2021 Teacher Leader Summit t-shirt design! Educators and students with an artistic flair are encouraged to submit their design for consideration by **February 5** to ldoecommunications@la.gov. The winning school will receive \$1 per shirt sold.

The winning design will be announced in the March edition of the Teacher Leader newsletter. Reference the [contest rules](#) for details or contact ldoeevents@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: New Principals Workshop

The Louisiana Association of Principals (LAP), in conjunction with the Louisiana Department of Education, is offering a half-day new principals workshop. This workshop is designed for principals with 0 to 3 years of experience. The New Principals Workshop will be held on December 8 in Lafayette at the Double Tree Hotel. The cost is free for LAP members and \$100 for non-LAP members. Seating is limited to the first 100. Visit the [New Principals Workshop 2020 webpage](#) to register and learn more.

Please contact jeanine.ford@laprincipals.org with questions.

Reminder: FY 2020-2021 Nonpublic School Lunch Salary Supplement Application

The FY 2020-2021 Nonpublic School Lunch Salary Supplement Application is now available in the Department's electronic grants management system (eGMS). The submission deadline is **December 31**. Please review the Nonpublic School Lunch Salary Supplement Application information under the Announcement section in [eGMS](#).

All applicants are encouraged to ensure Nonpublic School Lunch Salary Supplement Contact Information is updated and saved.

Please contact nonpublicfinancehelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) News

Quarter Two Enrollment Due Tomorrow

The Q2 enrollment count is now open in [SEE](#) until COB, **December 4**. **Please complete by the deadline so that the Louisiana Scholarship Program application can open on time.**

Please remember that passwords expire every 30 days and must be reset at <https://password.doe.louisiana.gov/>. Please also remember that pop-up blockers must be off in order to access SEE.

Please contact studentscholarships@la.gov with any questions.

Reminder: MYACT Student Accounts

To register for the ACT, students will create a MyACT student account by going to www.myact.org. In addition to registering for the ACT, MyACT accounts can also be used to prepare for the test, view and send test scores, explore colleges and careers, and plan for college. Students can also purchase prep material through their account or access our free test prep material. Access the [quick start guide](#) for additional support, and contact ACTcollegeready@act.org or act-cares@act.org for assistance with account issues, including duplicate accounts.

Please contact act-cares@act.org with questions.

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

LEAP 2025 Fall High School Administration

- **Important:** It is extremely important that no accountability codes be applied this fall for any reason other than code 81 for EL. An accountability code applied to a student record in December will prevent the student with an opportunity to participate in the January makeup window. Please make sure all test coordinators know that codes should not be applied for **any** students (initial or retester) who do not test during the fall administration.
- Testing schedules are now due to assessment@la.gov for all windows.
- The DRC INSIGHT portal is open to complete test setup and assignment of TA numbers.
- Test manuals are available online.
- A new demographic field has been added to collect information regarding students' participation in virtual learning. If the field is not completed, the student will be considered in-person with no virtual learning. For questions about the new demographic field, contact jennifer.baird@la.gov or assessment@la.gov.
- Schools that are testing should plan to allow for state monitors. Schools can follow protocols for safety but should not prevent them from observing testing.

ACT

- Please check the [ACT State Testing](#) site for an updated [Schedule of Events](#).
- November 2-January 22, 2021: Verify enrollment, submit the Enroll or Unenroll student files, if needed. January 22 is the deadline to receive barcode labels.

Assessment Administration Support and Training Office Hours

The next Assessment and Accountability Office Hours will be on **December 8 at 3:45 p.m.** A password will now be required for office hours. Webinar details are listed below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** December 8 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

Quarter Two Count Due 12/31

The quarter two enrollment file is due by **December 31st**. Please upload to your STO FTP. This action item is only for the School Tuition Organizations, not individual schools. Please make sure to include student LASIDs on the quarterly enrollment file.

If you have any questions, please reach out to lindsey.rhodes@la.gov.

Annual Report Due 1/1

As per [Bulletin 134](#), each school tuition organization shall annually provide a public report to the LDE that contains information regarding all scholarships awarded or granted in the previous fiscal year. The report shall be prepared by a certified public accountant and shall be submitted to the department no later than the first day of January each year. This action item is only for the School Tuition Organizations, not individual schools.

For more information on the contents of the report, please reference Chapter 7 of [Bulletin 134](#). If you have any questions, please contact lindsey.rhodes@la.gov.

Financial Information Report Due

According to Bulletin 134, each school tuition organization shall prepare a financial information report that complies with uniform financial accounting standards, to be submitted to the LDE no later than six months after the end of the STO's fiscal year. For most STOs, this means the Financial Information Report is due on January 1st. The report shall be prepared by a certified public accountant and shall contain a certification from an auditor that the report is free of material misstatements.

This report is a requirement for school tuition organizations, not individual schools. If you have any questions or operate on a fiscal year that would merit the report due on a date other than January 1st, please reach out to lindsey.rhodes@la.gov.

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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

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 **December 1st District Newsletter** or the **November 19th Nonpublic Newsletter**, please [visit the LDOE Newsroom](#).

To be added to the newsletter distribution list, please [complete this form](#).

LDOE Contacts

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

LDOE Links

[LDOE Website](#)

[Contact Us](#)

STAY CONNECTED

