



Important News for **NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS**



October 5, 2023

In This Issue

- [Important Dates for School Systems](#)
- [Office of School Choice](#)
 - [BESE \(Board of Elementary & Secondary Education\) Application](#)
 - [Brumfield v. Dodd 2024-2025 Application](#)
 - [2024-25 Notices of Intent for Scholarship Programs](#)
 - [Monthly Webinar Call](#)
 - [Important Dates and Deadlines](#)
 - [EdLink Security - Setting Up A New Account](#)
 - [Nonpublic Schools Annual Enrollment Period](#)
 - [SPECIAL OFFICE HOURS FOR EDLINK TRAINING: NPS Annual Enrollment](#)
 - [General Nonpublic School Office Hours](#)
- [Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics](#)
- [Career and College Readiness](#)
- [School System Financial Services](#)
- [School System Relations](#)
- [Teaching and Learning](#)

Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- System Leaders Monthly Call: [October 6 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Monthly Principal Webinars – Math and Literacy: [October 9 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Zearn Support for Middle School Leaders: [October 10 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Assessment and Accountability Office Hours [October 10 at 3:45 p.m.](#)
- Teacher/Principal, New Teacher, Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year Application Process Overview Call: [October 11 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Educational Technology Monthly Call: [October 12 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Alternative Education Monthly Call: [October 12 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Certification Monthly Call: [October 16 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- School Systems Financial Services Monthly Call: [October 18 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Nonpublic Schools Monthly Call: [October 18 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR) Monthly Call: [October 19 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Office of Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [October 19 at 3 p.m.](#)
- School System Planning Office Hours: [October 24 at 11 a.m.](#)
- Division of Diverse Learners Office Hours: [October 24 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: [October 25 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Healthy Schools Community of Practice: [October 26 at 2 p.m.](#)
- School System Planning Office Hours: [October 30 at 2 p.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- Assessment Literacy Initiative [Interpreting and Using Statewide Standardized Test Information](#): October 5 at 3:30 p.m.; Q & A at 4:30 p.m.
- Teacher/Principal, New Teacher, Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year Application Launch: October 12
- Deadline to submit Outstanding School Support Employee [nominations](#): October 12
- Deadline to submit School Health Service Provider of the Year [nominations](#): October 12
- [ACT College & Career Readiness Workshops](#): October 10 - 17
- [School Support Institutes](#) Session 2 Virtual: October 17 - 20
- School System Planning Guide/Super App launch: October 19
- [Mentor and Resident data](#) due in Edlink: October 20
- [Fall 2023 Counselor Institutes](#): October 24 - 26
- Deadline to submit [2023-2024 PPP](#): October 31
- Deadline to apply for [Immersion Site Certification](#): November 15
- Deadline to [order AP Exams](#): November 15
- Deadline to submit [2023-2024 Title I, Part A - Annual Comparability Report](#): November 17

Office of School Choice

BESE (Board of Elementary & Secondary Education) Application

All nonpublic schools seeking BESE approval for the 2024-2025 BESE school year must complete their [BESE application](#) by **October 15** via Jotform. For additional information visit [Nonpublic Schools](#).

For questions please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov.

Brumfield v. Dodd 2024-2025 Application

The 2024-2025 Brumfield v. Dodd's application opened **September 1** for nonpublic schools located on our [Nonpublic Schools](#) webpage. Schools must complete the [Brumfield v. Dodd application](#) or [Brumfield v. Dodd Annual Compliance Report](#) and attach it to your BESE application, which will be submitted via Jotform again this year. **The application will close on October 15.**

For questions please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov.

2024-25 Notices of Intent for Scholarship Programs

The 2024-25 Notices of Intent for the Louisiana Scholarship Program and the School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities are now being accepted. **The deadline to submit your Notice of Intent is October 31st.**

The Notice of Intent is submitted to the Department each year in the fall by ALL schools that wish to participate in the Louisiana Scholarship Programs and request ***NEW*** scholarship seats for the upcoming school year.

Current participating scholarship schools must complete a NOI even if no new seats are being requested for the upcoming year.

You can access the Notices of Intent using the links below:

- The Louisiana Scholarship Program (voucher program)-
 - Notice of Intent: <https://form.jotform.com/232185605451150>
 - For additional information on this program, you can access the program [webpage](#) and review the [LSP school participation guide](#).

- The School Choice Program for Certain Students with Exceptionalities-
 - Notice of Intent: <https://form.jotform.com/232185306610145>
 - For additional information on this program, you can access the program [webpage](#) and review the [SCP school participation guide](#).

For questions please contact studentscholarships@la.gov for assistance.

Monthly Webinar Call

Our [September Nonpublic Schools Monthly Call](#) was held on September 20. Previous presentations of each monthly call are currently available in the [School Systems Planning Library](#). Our next Nonpublic Schools Monthly Call will be held on [October 18 at 2 p.m.](#)

Important Dates and Deadlines

[Click to access the full Nonpublic Programs Scholarship Annual Calendar for 2023-24](#)

Date	Item	Participants
October 1	Notice of Intent (NOI) for Louisiana Scholarship Program and School Choice Program Opens	Nonpublic schools actively participating or wishing to participate in LSP and/or SCP
October 6	Edlink Office Hours User Training via Zoom (2pm-3pm)	All BESE Approved Nonpublic Schools
October 9	Edlink Office Hours User Training via Zoom (2pm-3pm)	All BESE Approved Nonpublic Schools
October 11	Edlink Office Hours User Training via Zoom (2pm-3pm)	All BESE Approved Nonpublic Schools
October 13	Edlink Office Hours User Training via Zoom (2pm-3pm)	All BESE Approved Nonpublic Schools
October 15	2023 Nonpublic School Annual Enrollment Closes	All BESE Approved Nonpublic Schools
October 15	2024-2025 BESE Approval Application Closes	All Nonpublic Schools Seeking Approval

October 15	2024-2025 Brumfield v. Dodd Application Closes	All Nonpublic Schools Seeking Approval
October 31	Notice of Intent (NOI) for Louisiana Scholarship Program and School Choice Program Closes	Nonpublic schools actively participating or wishing to participate in LSP and/or SCP

**All dates are tentative, please review future issues of the Nonpublic newsletter for all updates*

EdLink Security - Setting Up A New Account

Each fall, all nonpublic schools that are currently BESE approved must submit their school's annual enrollment data. Nonpublic school reporting managers will need to create an account with EdLink and request the **NPS School Manager role**. The detailed steps can be found in the [EdLink Manual](#), which will guide each school through the steps to create an EdLink account.

If support is needed, please email nonpublicschools@la.gov.

Nonpublic Schools Annual Enrollment Period

All nonpublic schools that are BESE approved (Nonpublic Seeking State Approval) must submit their annual enrollment data for 2023. Please refer to the [NPS Schooler Manager User Guide](#) to assist all users in getting an EdLink account setup & be able to complete their school's annual reporting. The last day to submit your school's NPS annual enrollment is **October 15**. Do not create more than one MyLa account when setting up your Edlink account. This could cause a delay in your school being able to complete the enrollment report.

For questions please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov.

SPECIAL OFFICE HOURS FOR EDLINK TRAINING: NPS Annual Enrollment

To provide assistance to schools encountering errors within Edlink, special office hours will be offered via Zoom every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 2pm-3pm through mid-October. Registration is required for each Edlink User Training. See dates and the links above for the upcoming Edlink User Training sessions.

**These days and times are subject to change. Our team will notify all users if any changes occur.

General Nonpublic School Office Hours

The Office of School Choice-Nonpublic Programs Team currently offers a service called [Office Hours](#). We are offering office hours to provide one-on-one assistance regarding any questions you may have regarding our scholarship programs.

Office hours will be offered each week for **school administrators and other school system employees**. Office hours will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

You can book your Office Hours call using this [link: https://www.picktime.com/LDENonpublicschools](https://www.picktime.com/LDENonpublicschools)

In order to make sure that every school gets an opportunity to schedule a call, each call will be limited to 15 minutes. When booking your call, you must include a description of what you'd like to discuss during the call in the "booking notes" section of the form. This will ensure that our staff is prepared ahead of the call and can effectively use the time to address your concerns.

If you miss your scheduled time, you will need to book a new appointment time. If you have any questions about Office Hours, please reach out to us at studentscholarships@la.gov for assistance.

This service is not available to families. Families with questions should submit them to studentscholarships@la.gov

Assessment, Accountability, and Analytics

Assessment Data Certification

Please share with accountability contacts and school system leaders.

LEAP progress rosters were posted on September 29, and all accountability contacts were notified by email of their availability. All new data certification submissions for LEAP, LEAP progress, LEAP Connect, and ELPT progress must be submitted no later than this Friday, October 6. School systems should enter all requests as soon as possible. Extensions cannot be granted without delaying the release of school performance scores.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

ACT/WorkKeys

Please share with testing coordinators.

- WorkKeys October 2 - 6: Receive materials for accommodated paper testing
- WorkKeys October 9: Online testing window opens; fall paper and online accommodations windows open

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Innovative Assessments for ELA and Math Testlets

Please share with testing coordinators.

Testing schedules for fall administrations are due to assessment@la.gov by this Friday, October 6, from participating districts.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

Healthy Schools Mini-Grant Opportunity

Please share with school and system leaders and teachers.

K-12 schools can apply for up to \$3,000 to increase physical activity for students. Ten schools will be awarded. Funds may support projects such as playground enhancement, implementing active classrooms, and more. Awarded schools will receive technical assistance to complete grant requirements. The deadline to apply is October 16. Find more information and submit an application on the [Healthy Schools Mini-Grant website](#).

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions.

LDH Health Alert Network

Please share with emergency operations staff and school system leaders.

The Louisiana Department of Health-Health Alert Network (LDH-HAN) is a unified method of sharing cleared information about urgent public health incidents with public information officers; federal, state, territorial, tribal, and local public health practitioners; clinicians; and public health laboratories. LDH collaborates with federal, state, city, and parish partners to develop protocols and stakeholder relationships that will ensure a robust interoperable platform for the rapid distribution of public health information. Alerts are disseminated to partners based on the levels of relevance.

Categories of Health Alert Network Messages

- Health Alert: Requires immediate action or attention; highest level of importance
- Health Advisory: May not require immediate action; provides important information for a specific incident or situation
- Health Update: Unlikely to require immediate action; provides updated information regarding an incident or situation
- HAN Info Service: Does not require immediate action; provides general public health information

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

School Health Service Provider of the Year Award

Who has positively impacted a student's health? [Nominate](#) an outstanding school nurse, behavioral health provider, speech therapist, OT or PT for the 2023-2024 School Health Service Provider Award. Nominations are accepted through October 12.

More information about the award may be found in the [award overview](#).

Please contact elizabeth.duncan@la.gov with questions.

U.S. Presidential Scholars Award Program

The [U.S. Presidential Scholars Award Program](#) was established to recognize and honor some of our nation's most distinguished graduating high school students selected on the basis of outstanding scholarship.

In order to recommend students for nomination to the program, school systems are required to submit to the LDOE a [parental release form](#) for each nominated student and complete a [JotForm application](#) for each student by 4 p.m. November 6. It is recommended that school systems review the [LDOE evaluation rubric prior](#) to nominating students.

Please contact jumpstart@la.gov with questions.

School System Financial Services

FY 2023-2024 Student Scholarships for Educational Excellence Program Audit

Please share with principals and financial officials

Pursuant to Section 1303 of Bulletin 133, 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.

Scholarship Audit - Internal Control Questionnaire

Participating 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 20, 2023 via e-mail to staudit@la.gov.

Scholarship Audit Engagement Letters

Beginning Monday, October 9, 2023, 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 it is located. If your school has not been contacted by the assigned audit firm by October 13, or if you have any questions, please contact staudit@la.gov.

2023-2024 Scholarship Financial Audit Information

As an additional resource, the School System Financial Services state audit team has prepared a [financial audit presentation](#) which includes instructions on how to ensure your school is prepared for the FY 2023-2024 audit.

You may contact staudit@la.gov with audit specific questions and studentscholarships@la.gov with Scholarship program-specific questions.

Scholarship Program Budget

The initial [Scholarship Program budget](#) is due Friday, October 20, 2023. Schools should provide specific details in this budget demonstrating how the total estimated SSEE revenue will be allocated and spent for the 2023-2024 school year. Submit your budget form via email to staudit@la.gov.

Please contact staudit@la.gov with any questions about the audit process.

School System Relations

Teacher/Principal, New Teacher and Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year Application Process Opening Soon

Please share with educators, and school and system leaders.

On October 11, the Teacher/Principal, *New Teacher*, and the Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year application process for the 2023-2024 school year will open. At this time, the application materials and timelines will be available in the [Library](#) on the [Awards](#) webpage.

All school systems are encouraged to select up to three teachers, three principals, and three *new* teachers (with less than one year of teaching experience), one per division (elementary, middle, and high) as their local-level honorees, and submit these selections to the state process. School systems without a formal selection process in place may elect to send their candidates directly to the state-level process.

State-level applications must be submitted via an online application portal, which will open in late 2023.

- Teacher/Principal of the Year and Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year will be due **January 11**.
- New Teacher of the Year will be due **January 26**.

The LDOE will host an informational Zoom to share details regarding this year's Teacher/Principal, *New Teacher* of the Year, and Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year application processes.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 11 at 3 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96693540609>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 966 9354 0609

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

ELA and Literacy Collaboration

Please share with grades 3-5 ELA teachers, ELA supervisors, and school leaders.

The ELA content and literacy teams are conducting a webinar at 3 p.m. on October 17 to present best practices in planning for literacy support using high-quality instructional materials (HQIM). Invite instructional leaders and teachers to [register](#) to learn more about how to bridge the gap between core instruction and literacy support.

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

Foundational Lessons to Accelerate Math Education (FLAME)

Please share with K-5 math supervisors, math teachers, and school leaders.

[FLAME](#) resources are now available to support the development of math foundational skills and fluency for students in grades K through 5. FLAME offers short, engaging lessons and tools for teachers to track and inform parents of student progress. Unit 1 is now available; Unit 2 posts in November; Unit 3 posts in January.

To learn more, join the FLAME Kickoff Webinar.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 11 at 10 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96635687157>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 966 3568 7157

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

Bayou Bridges: A K-8 Louisiana Social Studies Curriculum Updates

Please share with K-5 math teachers, content supervisors, and social studies teachers.

All grade 4 Bayou Bridges units are now available. Please navigate to the [Bayou Bridges Resource page](#) to access. Units are aligned to meet the [2022 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies](#). All grade 5 units will be published by October 31.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

Instructional Support: Instructional Materials Reviews

Please share with content supervisors, literacy coaches, and school leaders.

The LDOE conducts reviews of instructional materials to support school systems in adopting curricula in all core subjects. Newly-rated Tier 1 materials are listed below. All tiered reviews can be found on the [annotated reviews](#) web page. The status of all instructional materials submissions can be found in the [weekly report](#).

- Great Minds, PBC - Eureka Math Squared, Grades K-5 (©2021)

The LDOE is reviewing currently posted Tier 1 and 2 ELA curricula which include foundational skills for [Act 517](#) (2022) compliance. Upon completion, a cover page is added to the posted review noting the impact of the review on compliance. The materials listed below have been reviewed for compliance and posted to the [Tiered Reviews](#) web page.

- Tier 1: Core Knowledge - Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) ELA Skills Strand, Grades K-2 (©2013)

The [Act 517 Compliance Reviews Status Report](#) lists the status of all Act 517 compliance reviews, including reviews that have been completed, are under review, and are ready for review. For any materials not reviewed for compliance under Act 517, the LDOE recommends that school systems engage in a [local review process](#) using the [Act 517 Three-Cueing System Ban Guidance](#) located on the [Literacy Instruction, Intervention, and Extension](#) web page.

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.

International Associate Teacher Recruitment

Please share with school and system leaders.

The 2024-2025 International Associate Teacher (IAT) Program recruitment cycle will begin November 1. Any school or school system interested in recruiting an IAT of French, Mandarin, or Spanish should reference the [Louisiana International Associate Teacher Program Guide](#) for more information on recruitment guidelines and timelines.

Please contact language.acquisition@la.gov with questions.

Dual Language Immersion K-3 Literacy Screener Guidance Available

Please share with school and system leaders.

The LDOE World Languages Team developed guidance and support documents to aid schools and school systems with Dual Language Immersion (DLI) programs to navigate the implementation of [Act 438 \(2021\)](#). [The K-3 Literacy Screener: Dual Language Immersion Education](#) guidance document is available on the LDOE [Literacy Screener](#) web page. Sample parent reporting letters for parents of students in DLI programs are available on the [LDOE World Languages and Immersion](#) web page.

Please contact language.acquisition@la.gov with questions.

Professional Learning for Teachers of French

Please share with school and school system leaders.

On October 30, Catherine David, a senior lecturer at the University of Aix-Marseille, will travel to Louisiana for a one-day in-person workshop for all teachers of French language and French Immersion teachers entitled *Pédagogies différenciée et créativité*. This workshop aims to introduce differentiation and variation methods to effectively address multi-level French language classes.

Participants will engage in a comprehensive analysis of didactic resources and gain insights into crafting innovative learner-specific pedagogical approaches that capitalize on the diversity/differences among learners. The all-day workshop will be conducted in French and is funded by the Cultural Services of the Embassy of France. [Registration](#) is now open.

Please contact language.acquisition@la.gov with questions.

Diverse Learners

2023-2024 High Cost Services

Please share with special education leaders.

The LDOE will host an overview webinar of the High Cost Services (HCS) Fund for the 2023-2024 school year. The HCS fund supports school systems and schools that serve Louisiana's students with the most difficult needs by providing additional funding for high-cost special education services for students with disabilities. Special education leaders are encouraged to invite personnel in their LEA responsible for the HCS application to attend this webinar.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 5 at 2 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96099946792>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 960 9994 6792

Please contact ashley.augustine@la.gov with questions.

Dyslexia Practitioner Training Opportunity

Please share with principals, special education directors, and system leaders.

The LDOE will sponsor 25 educators to participate in a year-long dyslexia practitioner training program. Those who are interested in applying for this opportunity should plan to attend one of the following informational webinars.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 3 at 3 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:**
- https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_P99MfOy7RBGt5aeZIF8h7Q#/registration
- **Passcode:** 696064

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 5 at 4:30 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:**
- https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_P99MfOy7RBGt5aeZIF8h7Q#/registration
- **Passcode:** 768432

Please contact sueellen.bates@la.gov with questions.

Educator Certification

New Certification Applications

Please share with human resource directors and staff.

Nearly 30 certification applications, forms and other resources have been updated and are available on the Teach Louisiana [website](#). Applicants may begin using applications with the revision date of October 1 beginning November 1. The LDOE will accept all applications with the September 2022 or the October 2023 revision date until September 30. The Department will only accept the revised October 1 version on November 1. In addition, beginning November 1, the LDOE will no longer place applications on hold, waiting for verification of payment or the correct payment. Any applications received without proper payment will be closed unprocessed.

Please contact certification@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

Reach Program Overview Call

Please share with school system leaders.

The LDOE is hosting a Reach program overview call for system leads at 10 a.m. on October 10. Reach

University will introduce the bachelor's degree pathways designed uniquely for school staff. The program supports school systems in “growing your own” teachers, removing a barrier for staff working in schools. Reach has active partnerships in more than 80 school systems in Louisiana, with over 700 candidates currently enrolled across Louisiana. School system leads should join the call to learn more about this opportunity for their employees and the system’s role in the partnership.

- **Webinar date/time:** October 10 at 10 a.m.
- **Webinar link:**
<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97055272407?pwd=OWlqd3E1UmVMaVhtbUEyeTM3dHJRZz09>
- **Meeting Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 970 5527 2407
- **Passcode:** 111644

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Literacy

Translated Family Reporting Documents for Literacy Screener Available

Please share with school and system leaders.

Family reporting documents for the literacy screener and the literacy screener alternate assessment (LAAR) have been translated into Arabic, Vietnamese, and Spanish. These translated forms can be found on the [Literacy Screener web page](#) under Family Reporting.

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.

School Improvement

Best Practices Level 1 and 2 Training

Please share with school and system leaders.

Level 1 and 2 ILT and Teacher Collaboration Trainings are offered free of charge and are appropriate for leaders who have not completed foundational training. This includes new school leaders, ILT members, and teacher leaders who facilitate Teacher Collaboration sessions. Please visit the [NIET Best Practices Training](#) website to register.

Remaining sessions available

- October 5-6: TC Level 1 Virtual
- October 5-6: TC Level 2 Virtual
- October 10-11: TC Level 1 Onsite - Shreveport
- October 10-11: TC Level 2 Onsite - Baton Rouge

Please contact schoolimprovementdivision@la.gov with questions.