



# Important News for **NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS**



**November 16, 2023**

## In This Issue

- [Message from the Superintendent](#)
- [Important Dates for School Systems](#)
- [Office of School Choice](#)
  - [2023-2024 Louisiana Scholarship Program Audits](#)
  - [2024-2025 Louisiana Scholarship Program Application](#)
  - [Interest and Opportunity Survey](#)
  - [Monthly Webinar Call](#)
  - [Important Dates and Deadlines](#)
  - [General Nonpublic School Office Hours](#)
- [Governmental, Administrative, Public Affairs, and Operations](#)
- [Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics](#)
- [Career and College Readiness](#)
- [School System Financial Services](#)
- [Teaching and Learning](#)

## Message from the Superintendent

Dear Colleagues,

We released [2023 school and district performance scores](#) Monday. I'm pleased to announce Louisiana now exceeds its pre-pandemic performance score after two consecutive years of growth. Our 2023 statewide score increased 1.4 points to 78.5. In addition to improving our overall score, we also saw growth in key indicators. These results come one year after we [matched the pre-pandemic score of 77.1](#).

We also released [Early Childhood Performance Profiles](#). The latest early childhood data shows instructional and engaged support for learning scores increased to record highs. These are the highest scores ever for all site types, with the most growth occurring in child care. The quantity of excellent rated sites continues to increase, even as the number of early learning sites has increased by 13%.

Louisiana has faced unprecedented disruptions over the past few years. These scores are a testament to the efforts of so many people across our state. I'm encouraged to see our statewide performance score surpass pre-pandemic levels and clearly recognize work remains to accelerate academic outcomes.

Our newsletter will take a break next week as schools close for Thanksgiving. I want to wish you and your family a blessed Thanksgiving. I am thankful for you and the entire educational community in Louisiana.

Dr. Cade Brumley  
State Superintendent of Education

## Important Dates for School Systems

### **Office Hours and Monthly Calls**

- Monthly Practicing Principal Webinar: Principal of the Year Spotlight: [November 27 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Diverse Learners Office Hours: [November 28 at 2:00 p.m.](#)
- Assessment and Accountability Office Hours: [November 28 at 3:45 p.m.](#)
- System Leaders Monthly Call: [December 1 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Louisiana Scholarship Program School Application Webinar: [December 4 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [December 5 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Louisiana Scholarship Program Parent Application Webinar: [December 5 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: [December 6 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Child Welfare and Attendance Monthly Call: [December 7 at 8 a.m.](#)
- Alternative Education Community of Practice: [December 14 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Human Capital Handbook Webinar Series: Recruiting Strategies: [December 12 at 10 a.m.](#)

### **Upcoming Events and Deadlines**

- Deadline to submit [2023-2024 Title I, Part A Annual Comparability Report](#): November 17
- Deadline to submit [K-3 literacy gifted referral survey](#): November 17
- Deadline to submit [school health survey](#): November 17
- [SCA portal](#) re-opens for spring reporting: November 20
- Deadline to submit system-level [Outstanding School System Support Employee of the Year Award application](#): November 30
- [2023-2024 diploma and seal order form](#) opens: December 4
- 2024-2025 Louisiana Scholarship Program Application Opens: December 11
- Deadline to submit [Louisiana Exemplary Educator Recognition Program](#) recommendations: December 15
- Deadline to submit [2023-2024 dyslexia reporting form](#): December 15

## Office of School Choice

### **2023-2024 Louisiana Scholarship Program Audits**

The audit process for all schools participating in the Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) is underway. All schools should provide timely, informative materials and communications as necessary during the process. The audits are a statute requirement and each LSP school is required to participate.

### **2024-2025 Louisiana Scholarship Program Application**

**The application for 2024-2025 Louisiana Scholarship Program will open on December 11, 2023 and close on January 19, 2024.**

All families (**including Orleans**) who need to submit applications for the 2024-2025 school year must apply using the LDOE website. Parents will be able to access the [application](#) on December 11th on our [website](#).

- New applicants, students who wish to transfer to another participating scholarship school for the upcoming year, and **those in a terminal grade** will need to submit an application for the 2024-2025 school year.
- We will be hosting two upcoming webinars to discuss the application process for the upcoming year.
  - A **School LSP Application for 2024-2025 Webinar** will be held on [December 4th at 2pm](#). This webinar will provide guidance on the application process for participating **schools**.
  - A **Parent LSP Application for 2024-2025 Webinar** will be held on [December 5th at 2pm](#). This webinar will provide guidance on the application process for both new and continuing students.

For the latest information on the application process, please visit our [website](#) for more information or contact our office at [studentscholarships@la.gov](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov).

### **Interest and Opportunity Survey**

The Interest and Opportunity Survey will be going out to all nonpublic schools in the Spring of 2024. All scholarship schools are expected to participate and complete the survey in a timely manner. Please be on the lookout for upcoming webinars from the Assessment Team and the Nonpublic Team regarding the Interest and Opportunity Survey.

### **Monthly Webinar Call**

Our last Nonpublic Schools Monthly Call was held on Wednesday, November 15. Presentations of each monthly call are currently available in the [School Systems Planning Library](#).

***Please Note: There will be no monthly call for the month of December due to the Louisiana Scholarship Program webinars being held on December 4 and December 5.***

### **Important Dates and Deadlines**

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

<b>Date</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Participants</b>
<b>November 27</b>	Final Date for Quarter 2 LSP Transfers	LSP Schools
<b>December 1</b>	Quarter 2 Enrollment Opens <b>*LSP Only*</b>	LSP Schools
<b>December 4</b>	School LSP Application for 2024-2025 Webinar	LSP Schools
<b>December 5</b>	Quarter 2 Enrollment Closes <b>*LSP Only*</b>	LSP Schools

<b>December 5</b>	Parent LSP Application for 2024-2025 Webinar	New and Returning LSP Families
<b>December 7</b>	Last date to submit Payment Adjustment Forms for Q2 <b>*SCP Only*</b>	SCP Schools
<b>December 11</b>	2024-2025 Louisiana Scholarship Program Application Opens (including Orleans Parish)	New and Returning LSP Families
<b>December 11</b>	LSP Transfer window opens for Q3	LSP Schools
<b>December 20</b>	Nonpublic Schools Monthly Call Cancelled	All Nonpublic Schools
<b>January 8</b>	Last date to submit Payment Adjustment Forms for Q2 <b>*LSP Only*</b>	LSP Schools
<b>January 19</b>	2024-2025 Louisiana Scholarship Program Application Closes	New and Returning LSP Families
<b>January 26</b>	Last day for families to submit Application documentation to LSP Schools	New and Returning LSP Families

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

### **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](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov) for assistance.

***This service is not available to families. Families with questions should submit them to [studentscholarships@la.gov](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov).***

## **Governmental, Administrative, Public Affairs, and Operations**

## **Top Gains & Opportunity Honoree Seals**

**Please share with system leaders and school leaders**

Top Gains and Opportunity Honoree seals [can now be downloaded](#) to help recognize schools that achieved one of these distinctions. Top Gains and Opportunity Honoree distinctions are included in the [2023 School Performance Scores spreadsheet](#).

Please contact [ted.beasley@la.gov](mailto:ted.beasley@la.gov) with questions.

## **Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics**

### **SPS Appeal/Waiver Form**

**Please share with district accountability contacts and system leaders.**

The [SPS Appeal/Waiver Form](#) is now available. All appeals or waivers related to the release of school performance scores must be received no later than December 8. Details for submission are included in [the document](#). Per BESE policy, appeals cannot be based on any data that could have been corrected during any data corrections or certification period that were provided throughout the year.

Please contact [assessment@la.gov](mailto:assessment@la.gov) with questions.

### **ACT**

**Please share with testing coordinators.**

The deadline for completing the tasks below in PANext is December 6.

- Select test and shipping dates in PearsonAccess<sup>next</sup>.
- Verify the shipping address in PearsonAccess<sup>next</sup>.
- Upload only repeat grade 12 testers in PANext.

All ACT testing coordinators should become familiar with the [State of Louisiana ACT State Testing web page](#). This includes:

- Schedule of Events ([ACT](#) and [WorkKeys](#))
- What's New for State Testing ([ACT](#) and [WorkKeys](#))
- District Test Coordinators manage contacts in PearsonAccess<sup>next</sup>

Please contact [assessment@la.gov](mailto:assessment@la.gov) with questions.

## **Career and College Readiness**

### **New Fast Forward Pathway and Course Codes**

**Share with counselors, CTE supervisors, principals, and secondary supervisors.**

The LDOE will host a webinar discussing the recent updates to the Fast Forward Pathways and Course Codes. The new codes became effective during the 2023-2024 school year.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** December 13 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/94894150597>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID:** 948 9415 0597
- **Passcode:** 496383

Please contact [caronda.bean@la.gov](mailto:caronda.bean@la.gov) with questions.

## **2024 Jump Start Convention and Child Welfare and Attendance Summit** **Share with school system leaders, high school administrators, school counselors, and child welfare and attendance stakeholders.**

[Registration](#) is now open for the 2024 Jump Start Convention and Child Welfare and Attendance Summit. This one-day event will be held on January 23 at the Cajundome and Convention Center in Lafayette. This year's conference will provide professional development opportunities around career and technical education, workforce readiness, and child welfare and attendance.

More information will be shared in future newsletters around the agenda, hotels, etc.

Please contact [jumpstart@la.gov](mailto:jumpstart@la.gov) with questions.

## **School System Financial Services**

### **FY 2023-2024 Nonpublic Textbook Allocation** **Please share with business managers and financial professionals.**

Allocations for nonpublic textbook funding are now available via the electronic grants management system (eGMS). To be eligible for reimbursement, textbook orders must be delivered and received by eligible nonpublic schools during the period of July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Please begin consultations with nonpublic school staff to expend their nonpublic textbook allocations accordingly.

Please contact [nonpublicfinancehelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:nonpublicfinancehelpdesk@la.gov) with questions.

## **Teaching and Learning**

### **Diverse Learners**

#### **Alternate Assessment Waiver for Public Comment** **Please share with educators, special education leaders, and stakeholders.**

Under the requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the LDOE must limit the number of students who are assessed statewide on alternate assessments to 1.0 percent of the total number of students who are required to participate. The LDOE intends to seek a [waiver](#) for the 2023-2024 school year for this federal requirement that would limit the number of students in the state who participate in alternate assessments.

The LDOE welcomes public comment in drafting the waiver. Comments should be submitted via email at

[specialeducation@la.gov](mailto:specialeducation@la.gov) by November 30. Please include your full name, organization (if applicable), and contact information along with your comments. All comments are subject to public records requests.

Please contact [specialeducation@la.gov](mailto:specialeducation@la.gov) with questions.

### **Fast Track ESL Add-On Starts in November**

**Please share with EL departments, instructional coaches, principals, and teachers.**

Courses are available for teachers and leaders to earn an [ESL Add-On credential](#). Cost is to be covered by the individual or the LEA. [The program announcement](#) has cost and contact information.

Please contact [diverselearnersupport@la.gov](mailto:diverselearnersupport@la.gov) with questions.

## **Educator Development**

### **Teacher Leader Summit: Leading the Next Level**

**Please share with school leaders, system leaders, and teachers.**

The 12th annual Teacher Leader Summit will be held May 28-30, 2024 at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans. This year, the summit will focus on supporting educators in “Leading the Next Level.” Educator preparation program faculty are encouraged to attend.

Registration is first come, first served. Early bird registration is January 5 to February 2. Regular registration will be February 3 to March 15, or at sellout.

The LDOE is looking for talented leaders to apply to present sessions at this year’s Summit. Presenter applications will open January 5 and will close January 31.

Applications for the Educator Expo will also open on January 5 and close on February 2. The objectives for the Teacher Leader Summit are to:

- Improve the everyday practice of educators in Louisiana by building their knowledge and skill in key areas related to their role.
- Provide opportunities for educators to collaborate and share best practices.
- Introduce high-quality strategies, resources, and professional development aligned to the state priorities that can be adopted and scaled in schools and school systems across Louisiana.
- Foster a culture that celebrates and engages educators and empowers and inspires them to take on an even greater leadership role within their classrooms, schools, and school systems.

Please contact [events@emergentmethod.com](mailto:events@emergentmethod.com) with questions.