



Important News for **NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS**



April 20, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

Louisiana is committed to the safety of students, educators, and families. School safety must be a way of life for today's education professionals and first responders. Last August, we gathered around 800 educators and first responders for the state's first Louisiana School Safety Summit. I'm pleased to announce [registration is open](#) for our second annual summit June 15 in Baton Rouge.

The Louisiana School Safety Summit is a free event that brings together school system leaders, local and state law enforcement, government agencies, and mental health providers. This day-long conference will include a wide array of sessions focused on one goal, keeping our schools safe.

We're partnering with Louisiana State Police, GOHSEP, and the Louisiana Center for Safe Schools to make sure every attendee leaves this event with actionable steps to take back to their schools and communities. I hope to see you in Baton Rouge.

Dr. Cade Brumley

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Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- Diverse Learners Monthly Office Hours: [April 25 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Assessment and Accountability Office Hours: [April 25 at 3:45 p.m.](#)
- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: [April 26 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [April 27 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [May 2 at 1 p.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- Computer Science Education Advisory Commission [Listening Sessions](#) for K-12 Educators: [April 20 at 5:30 p.m.](#)
- [Assessment Development Educator Review Committees](#) interest survey deadline: April 21
- April Dunn Act Training: Self-Assessment Guide Section Two: [April 24](#) and [April 26](#) at 4:30 p.m.
- Deadline to apply to [Literacy Licensure Test Standard-Setting Study Committee](#): April 25
- Computer Science Education Advisory Commission [Listening Sessions](#) for K-12 Educators: [April 25 at 5:30 p.m.](#)
- [Deadline to indicate AP Exam fee reduction](#): April 30 at 10:59 p.m.
- High Cost Services Round 2 Application deadline: May 5
- [2023 Louisiana School Safety Summit](#): June 15

School Choice

Monthly Call

Our monthly call was held on yesterday, April 19th at 2 pm. During this call, we discussed 2023-24 LSP site registration for the upcoming year. A copy of the [monthly call presentation](#) can be found in the [School Systems Planning library](#).

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

Quarterly Enrollment Reporting

All Quarterly Enrollment Reports must be submitted on time via the LEADS portal during each quarter by the dates listed below in order to receive payments on-time.

- Quarter 4 reporting for both the Louisiana Scholarship Program (SEE) and the School Choice Program (SCP) is May 1-3.
- If the enrollment reports are not submitted on time, it affects your student enrollment counts and delays payments.
- If a student drops from your school, please follow the drop procedures so that the student can be dropped from your roster.

Note: All on time Quarter 4 submissions will be paid by the end of May.

If you have any questions, please reach out to us at studentscholarships@la.gov for assistance.

Upcoming Dates

You can access the 2022-23 Nonpublic Annual Reporting Calendar [here](#).

Date	Item	Participants
April 20	Parent Webinar on Site Registration	LSP Schools and Families

April 24	2023-24 LSP Site Registration Begins (Rosters will be available on the FTP and SEE)	LSP schools
April 24	LSP Award Notification Letters sent to families	LSP schools
May 1	2023-24 SCP Site Registration Begins	SCP Schools
May 1	SCP Award Notification Letters sent to families	SCP schools
May 26	LSP Site Registration Ends	LSP schools
May 31	Roster Certification Due (declined awards due for non-registered students)	LSP schools
May 31	SCP Site Registration Ends	SCP schools
June 12	Summer Transfer Window Opens	LSP and SCP schools

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

Louisiana Scholarship Program

Site Registration for 2023-24

Site Registration for the 2023-24 Louisiana Scholarship Program will begin on April 24th and will end on May 26th.

Please see the reminder below regarding site registration:

- The Site Registration Roster File and Final Rosters will be available on FTP and SEE on **April 24th**.
- Award notifications will be sent out to families via email and mail on **April 24th**.
- Site Registration ends on **May 26th**
- Site Registration Roster File are due on the FTP by **May 31st at 5pm**
- Transfer Window opens **June 12th**
 - Scholarship students who wish to transfer to another participating before the start of the 2023-24 school year must accept the scholarship at the original awarded school.
 - Families are required to submit a Transfer Request form to the Department signed by both the parent/guardian and a representative of the receiving school.
- Declined Awards
 - Scholarship students who no longer wish to participate in the scholarship program for the 2023-24 school year must complete a declined award form.
 - **This form is NOT to be used for families requesting a transfer.**
 - Declined awards must be submitted to our office by **May 26th**.

- **Once a family declines the award, they will no longer be eligible to receive a scholarship for the remainder of the 2023-24 school year.** Once the award has been removed, it cannot be reinstated.

If you have any issues or questions about the site registration, please contact our office via email at studentscholarships@la.gov for assistance.

Operations

BESE Endorses Resolutions Aimed at Strengthening Security on K-12 Campuses

In response to an increasing nationwide trend of shootings and other acts of violence in school facilities, the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) endorsed resolutions aimed at strengthening security in K-12 public schools.

At a special called meeting earlier this month, BESE officially requested that public school systems partner with local law enforcement to provide a school resource officer for all schools under their jurisdiction and further requested that the Louisiana Legislature provide adequate funding to school systems to ensure the implementation. The resolutions were adopted unanimously.

Louisiana Revised Statute 17:416.9 provides that any city, parish, local public school system, or nonpublic school may enter into agreements with local law enforcement agencies to provide for school resource officers. BESE's resolution would require officers to be certified by a nationally accredited school resource officer program or a state training program certified by the Council on Peace Officer Standards and Training. BESE also requested that school systems annually report the total number of school resource officers to the Louisiana Department of Education.

Please contact ethan.melancon@la.gov with questions.

Assessment, Accountability and Analytics

Accountability Policy

2022-2023 Interests & Opportunities

2022-2023 Interests & Opportunities indicators will be used for calculating 2022-2023 Scholarship Cohort Index. All nonpublic schools (K-12) who participate in the scholarship program must complete this survey with their indicator selection in order to earn points on the Interests and Opportunities Index as part of the Scholarship Cohort Index. The survey will open on **Monday, April 17, 2023**. The survey will remain open until **Monday, May 15, 2023**. In addition, the survey must be validated by your superintendent or their designee by **Friday, May 19, 2023**. The [Interests and Opportunities Menu Based Approach Guidance 2022-2023](#) can be found in the Accountability Library. Please refer to the letter that was sent to principals on Friday, April 14, 2023 for more details.

Please contact accountability@la.gov with questions.

LEAP 2025 Graduating Senior Retest

Please share with test coordinators and school leaders.

All students awaiting the results of LEAP 2025 high school assessments to meet graduation requirements for spring must be identified as grade 12 in DRC INSIGHT in order to receive results in time for graduation. Students who are not eligible for graduation and are not grade 12 cannot participate in this option. Results for all other students will be reported no later than the close of the testing window.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

ACT/WorkKeys

Please share with test coordinators.

- April 19: ACT Online Reporting Webinar at 12 p.m. [Register](#) here.
- April 21. WorkKeys testing closes. This is the final date that will be considered as in-window for 2023 grade 12 students who will be eligible for inclusion in the ACT index.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with any questions.

Interests and Opportunities Data Certification

Please share with accountability contacts and school leaders.

Data certification opened April 17 for public schools in La Data Review.

- All documentation must be submitted no later than June 7.
- Schools with no documentation submitted by June 7 will be assigned a zero for that indicator.
- Requests for changes to indicator selection will not be approved.

Please contact accountability@la.gov with questions.

2022-2023 Teacher Roster Verification

Please share with school system leaders, school leaders and educators.

The [Curriculum Verification and Results \(CVR\) Reporting Portal](#) roster verification ensures that teachers are assigned to the correct courses and classroom rosters of students for the purposes of value-added (VAM) analysis. The data in CVR will be used to calculate a teacher's VAM score even if the teacher and/or the principal do not verify the roster. Teachers of ELA, math, science, social studies (grades 4-8), Algebra I, geometry, English I and English II, and EOC courses are eligible to receive VAM scores and should verify their rosters.

- **March 20 - April 28: CVR Open for View-only.** During this time, users can view and

check roster data for accuracy but cannot make changes in the CVR Portal. The CVR Portal will be updated daily to reflect any submitted changes to EdLink 360.

- **May 8 - May 26: CVR Open for Roster Verification.** Teachers and principals can verify and correct records for specific courses and students. Data managers will track verification completion at the school system and school levels.

Refer to the [updated CVR User Guide](#) for more information. Please contact systemsupport@la.gov with roster verification questions and compass@la.gov with general Compass-related questions.

Career and College Readiness

2023 Louisiana School Safety Summit

Please share with school system leaders, system safety coordinators, emergency preparedness coordinators, school leaders, mental health providers and school counselors.

The Louisiana Department of Education, in coordination with the Louisiana State Police, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness, Motorola, and the Louisiana Center for Safe Schools will host the [2023 Louisiana School Safety Summit](#) on **June 15** in Baton Rouge. This free event will offer opportunities to share best practices on school safety and emergency preparedness.

[Registration](#) is currently open and will close May 26 or when capacity is reached. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis. In addition to general attendee registration, **seats are reserved for system leaders or designees**. Please email healthyschools@la.gov for more information on accessing tickets.

[Hotel blocks](#) are reserved throughout downtown Baton Rouge. Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Diverse Learners

The Bridge from High School to Postsecondary Services

Please share with special educators, paraprofessionals, and related service providers.

Families Helping Families is hosting [The Bridge from High School to Postsecondary Services](#), a webinar that will review the IEP process pertaining to services and resources available to students entering postsecondary education or employment. The webinar will be held this Wednesday, April 19, from 11 a.m. until 12 p.m. Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov for more information.

The Importance of Inclusion

Please share with special educators, paraprofessionals, and related service providers.

Families Helping Families is hosting [The Importance of Inclusion](#), a free webinar that will discuss the

importance of inclusion in the classrooms, schools, and community for children with disabilities. The webinar will be held April 24, from 12 - 1 p.m. Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov for more information.

Mentor Coaching for Cohort 4 of Special Education Fellows

The Department is recruiting [mentor-coaches](#) for the SPED Fellow Academy, a year-long, comprehensive development program for novice special education directors and supervisors across Louisiana. The program provides in-person training, coaching, and a community of practice that instills the knowledge and skills the next generation of leaders need to lead and sustain change in improving outcomes for students with disabilities.

Mentor-coaches should have extensive special education experience as special education leaders (administrators) and be able to demonstrate strong interpersonal relationship-building skills, track records of effective leadership, an understanding of Louisiana's academic strategy, and a strong willingness to support the Fellowship.

[Applications](#) are now open and will close on May 31. Please see the [Mentor-Coach Overview](#) for more information; contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

Principal's Webinar Series

Please share with principals and principal supervisors.

The LDOE hosts a monthly webinar series for current school leaders and principal supervisors on best practices in school leadership aligned to the state's priorities. April's webinar will feature information about Louisiana's Pre-Educator Pathway Program and The New Teacher Experience.

- **Principal's Webinar Date and Time:** April 24, 1 - 2 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:**
<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98516144298?pwd=VHoxSlhaNWwhFZUNrQWICS05MRHlzZz09>
- **Meeting ID:** 985 1614 4298
- **Passcode:** 125571

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.

CIS Evaluation Closeout for Teachers, Counselors, and Librarians

Please share with system leaders, school leaders, human resource directors, and data managers.

Systems may begin finalizing teacher, counselor, and librarian evaluations in May. Systems are encouraged to complete and sign off on all observation and Student Learning Target (SLT) data prior to staff leaving for summer break. **Once the Compass Information System (CIS) rolls to SY 2023-2024 in the fall, no teacher, counselor, or librarian evaluation data for the 2022-2023 school year can be added or amended.** It is recommended that educators complete the following assigned tasks.

CIS Administrators	Evaluators	Teachers, Counselors, Librarians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update rosters in CIS. • Assign evaluators to all educators. • Monitor evaluation completion in CIS. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that all teachers, counselors, and librarians are in CIS. • Enter professional practice/observation scores in CIS; for 2022-2023 only, if the educator scored Effective: Proficient or Highly Effective, enter the single score twice. • Accept SLTs in CIS; Rate SLTs in CIS • Print observations and SLTs; meet with teachers, counselors, and librarians prior to leaving for summer, obtain signatures acknowledging scores. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter all SLTs in CIS • Assess students and report SLT results in CIS • Meet with evaluators to view and acknowledge observation and SLT scores

Note: Systems utilizing the spreadsheet to upload data to CIS should also finalize teacher, counselor, and librarian observations and SLTs in local system databases/trackers.

Resources for [finalizing and uploading](#) evaluations are located in the [Compass Library](#). Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.

Literacy Licensure Test Standard-Setting Study Committee

Please share with literacy experts, including new teachers and mentor teachers.

In 2022, the state legislature passed ACT 214, which requires K - 3 teachers seeking initial licensure to pass a scientifically researched and evidence-based examination on the teaching of reading. This assessment will replace the existing Reading Language Arts exam, which is part of the Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects Praxis® exam.

The Louisiana Department of Education is seeking up to 18 committee members from K - 12 and educator preparation programs to serve on a two-day standard-setting study committee facilitated by Educational Testing Services. The [panel overview document](#) provides information on the standard-setting process and how to apply to the committee. The deadline to apply is **April 25**. Please contact rebecca.stephenson@la.gov with questions.