



Important News for **NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS**



June 4, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you to the thousands of educators who joined us in New Orleans last week for Teacher Leader Summit. My spirit is still lifted high after spending a few days surrounded by so many professionals who are passionate about getting better for kids. The week was a success and we are already looking at how to make next year even better. If you were unable to join us for the opening session, [you can watch it on our YouTube channel](#). I also hope you will watch the stories shared by educators of [GEO Prep Mid-City](#), [Red River Parish Schools](#) and [Calcasieu Parish Schools](#). Three amazing examples of how Louisiana educators met the needs of children this year by being reliable, responsible and resilient.

Governor Edwards announced last week that he is lifting the K-12 mask mandate effective at the close of the 2020-2021 school year. School systems can begin implementing their own face mask policies starting with summer programs. After a statewide effort that served its purpose, I applaud the Governor for now returning this decision to our local communities. You know your children best. Just as they have since the pandemic began, I know school system leaders will continue to work with parish medical experts as they navigate what we all hope is the final chapter of this pandemic. I'm confident we will continue to move closer to offering in-person instruction to every child by the start of next school year.

As we wrap up this school year, we're asking for your help targeting supports to where they are needed most. Our [Strong Start Spring Survey](#) is open to school leaders, teachers, students, families and community members. We've extended the deadline to June 7.

Thank you for continuing to meet the needs of children and families. It's an honor to serve alongside you.

Dr. Cade Brumley
State Superintendent of Education

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Important Dates for Non-Public School Systems

Important Deadlines	
Roster Verification Due in FTP	June 9 at 5 p.m.
Submit Tuition and Fees via Jotform	June 9 at 5 p.m.
Student Registration Deadline	June 30 at 5 p.m.
Office Hours	
Office Hours Title	Zoom Link
Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours	June 8 at 3 p.m.
Assessment and Accountability Office Hours	June 8 at 3:45 p.m.
Education Technology Office Hours	June 10 at 9 a.m.
Monthly Calls*	
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Data Coordinator Monthly Call	June 10 at 1 p.m.
SPED Leader Monthly Call	June 10 at 2 p.m.
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	June 15 at 3:45 p.m.
Nonpublic Monthly Call	June 16 at 2 p.m.
Student Well-Being Monthly Call	June 16 at 3:30 p.m.
Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call	June 17 at 10 a.m.
Career and College Readiness Monthly Call	June 17 at 3 p.m.
Legislative and Policy Support Monthly Call	June 21 at 10 a.m.
Education Technology Monthly Call	June 24 at 9 a.m.
Nutrition Support Monthly Call	July 6 at 1 p.m.
System Leaders Monthly Call	August 6 at 9 a.m.
System Leaders Roundtable	August 20 at 9 a.m.
Academic Content and Educator Development Monthly Call	August 25 at 1 p.m.
<p><i>*Monthly call presentations are available in the School Improvement Library. View the School System Support Calendar to access a complete schedule of events.</i></p>	

Roster Verification

School rosters for the Louisiana Scholarship Program have been added to the FTP Portal. Please log into your FTP portal to review your roster of awarded students for the upcoming school year.

Be sure to review the [Scholarship Program FAQ guide](#) for further information about lottery priorities, as this may assist in questions that you have.

Each participating school is required to complete the roster verification by **Wednesday, June 9, 2021**. Failure to complete this task will result in delayed award letters for the Louisiana Scholarship Program. As a result, we, and other participating schools are counting on you to complete this task within the required time frame!

To complete the roster verification, complete the following steps:

1. Review the roster to ensure that your continuing students are included. Please remember that some of your students may have chosen to apply for another school.
2. Review the roster for errors in assigned grade level.

If there are errors: Please make the notation on the roster document in the corresponding column. If there are students missing that were previously enrolled for Q3 and Q4, write the student information in the row indicated on the form.

If there are no changes needed to your roster, please type 'No Changes' in the first column

Every participating school must submit a roster verification.

Once you have completed the required actions, upload the document back into the FTP. Please add 'Verified' to the file name before uploading.

Submit the roster verification by **Wednesday, June 9, 2021** at the very latest. It is essential that we get the rosters verified by that date to ensure we have final rosters for registration in a timely manner.

Once all verifications have been received, reviewed and resolved as needed, we will then send award letters to families. Student registration must be completed by **June 30, 2021**. A final roster will be uploaded into your school's FTP by **June 11th** with the final list of students to register.

Contact studentscholarships@la.gov with any questions.

Tuition and Fees Submission

Schools submit tuition and fee information to the LDOE. Tuition and fees received through the Scholarship Program for participating students must not exceed tuition and fees charged to enrolled students not participating in the program. Scholarship funds may not be used to pay tuition and fees for students not participating in the Scholarship Program.

All schools must submit 2021-2022 tuition and fee information by 5:00 p.m. on June 9th via this form.

In addition to submitting tuition information and documentation, schools must upload signed copies of:

- [Individual Enrichment Assurances Form](#), signed by all board members, school administrators and principals
- [Educational Purposes Assurances Form](#), signed by the principal

The tuition and fees charged for a sample of non-Scholarship students will be reviewed to verify that the tuition and fee amount charged for these students is not less than the amounts charged to students participating in the Scholarship Program. In the event that the financial audit identifies a finding regarding inappropriate payment of tuition and fees, payment adjustments will be made, schools may be required to reimburse the Department for overpaid tuition and fees, and schools may receive further sanctions.

Contact studentscholarships@la.gov with any questions.

Operations

Federal Support and Grantee Relations

ESSER/GEER FAQ Update

An updated Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) about how funding under the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund (including the American Rescue Plan (ARP) ESSER program, and the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund) may be used in response to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on students in pre-K-12 education has been released by ED. This [document](#) is intended to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies and has been added to both the [Pandemic](#) and [ESGR](#) libraries.

Please contact LDOE.grantshelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

Legislative Affairs, Policy, and Workforce Support

Healthy Communities

Registration Open for the 2021 PD4HS Professional Development Opportunities: School Mental Health Seminar Series

The Department is promoting the upcoming seminar series from Professional Development for Healthy Schools (PD4HS). PD4HS is partnering with Dr. Jill Bohnenkamp from the National Center for School Mental Health to provide a seminar series that will help state, district, and school education and behavioral health leaders plan for and address the mental health needs of the entire school community (including students, school staff, and families) and implement multi-tiered mental health promotion, prevention and intervention support, and services in their school system.

[Registration](#) closes on **June 6**.

Please contact stephen.guccione@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

For District Testing Coordinators and Accountability Contacts

DRC Online Cleanup (Student Corrections)

- **June 14-18:** DRC will host an online cleanup process for LEAP 2025 and LEAP Connect.
- This cleanup does not require documentation.
- The closing date is final, and there can be no extensions.
- An FAQ will be provided by the assessment team prior to opening.

Test Results Reporting

- **Available Now:** ELPT test results for all grades
- **Late July:** LEAP grades 3-8 all subjects
- **Late August:** LEAP Connect all grades

LEAP 2025

- Spring Administrations: All voids and testing irregularities due no later than the last day of the appropriate testing window.
- Summer Administration
 - **June 10:** Test Setup and Additional Materials Available
 - **June 10-29:** Assign and enter TA numbers
 - **June 21-25:** LEAP 2025 HS Testing Window

NAEP 2021

- **Additional Monthly Survey**
 - By Executive Order, a NAEP 2021 Monthly School Survey will be collected from approximately 90 schools in Louisiana to understand the impact of COVID-19, including the status of in-person learning.
 - Nationally, the survey will collect data from approximately 3,500 schools that enroll fourth-graders and an equal number of schools that enroll eighth-graders.
- The submission windows have been extended again to add days to each window (May 19-June 2, and June 16-29).
 - The status of in-person learning will be disaggregated by student demographics, including race/ethnicity, disability, English Learner status, and an economic disadvantage indicator.
 - The public will have access to data about school reopenings for in-person instruction and how students are learning.
 - For questions or additional information, please email jennifer.baird@la.gov or rebecca.frederick@la.gov.

PIRLS

- The Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) is an international assessment and research project designed to measure trends in reading achievement at the fourth-grade level and school and teacher practices related to instruction. For the first time, PIRLS will be administered on a tablet with a keyboard. This fall, the assessment will include students in grade five and three schools across the state will be selected.

Assessment Administration Support and Training Office Hours

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

- **Webinar Date and Time:** June 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!

Reminders

- **[Operations Reminders](#)**
 - **[Communications Reminders](#)**
- **[Teaching and Learning Reminders](#)**
 - **[Educator Development Reminders](#)**

Operations Reminders

[Emergency Preparedness and Recovery Webinar](#)

The Department recently hosted an Emergency Preparedness and Recovery Webinar. During this initial webinar, the Department previewed the Emergency Preparedness and Recovery Dashboard and shared helpful resources. The dashboard has been created to collect preparedness and recovery status information from each Emergency Preparedness and Recovery Contact. This information will enable LDOE to support LEAs with emergency management in Louisiana schools. The presentation [deck](#) and [recording](#) are now available and have been posted to the Department's [Emergency Preparedness and Recovery webpage](#).

As a reminder, [LDOE's Contact Form](#) has been updated to include an Emergency Preparedness and Recovery Contact role. LEA's are asked to add their Emergency Preparedness and Recovery Contact [to this form](#). Access the Department's [guide](#) for assistance with completing the contact form.

Please contact LDOEcommunications@la.gov with questions.

Communications Reminders

[LDH Vaccine Communications Resources](#)

The Louisiana Department of Health has developed communications resources schools and systems may use in order to inform stakeholders about the availability of vaccines for ages 12-15. This [social media toolkit](#) includes sample posts and LDH graphics that can be used on social media channels. The social media toolkit also includes information about LDH's vaccine hotline and an upcoming parent webinar. LDH also released a [letter from medical professionals](#) about the recent vaccine expansion.

Please contact ted.beasley@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning Reminders

Update: Staffing and Scheduling Best Practices

Sessions Posted: The presentations from the Job Alike Sessions (counselors and counselor leadership, school leaders, diverse learners leaders, and system academic leaders) are available in the School System Support [Library](#).

Books Mailed: The LDOE has partnered with the District Management Group to provide a series of resources, live webinars, and targeted training sessions for educators across the state on building strong staffing and scheduling models using best practices.

Three complimentary copies of ***Six Shifts to Improve Special Education and Other Interventions*** will be mailed to superintendents, CAOs, and special education directors later this spring. The book includes details about specific strategies to address unfinished learning and raise achievement. It also offers practical advice on how to help students experiencing social and emotional and behavioral difficulties. More information about the book is [available](#).

Please contact em.cooper@la.gov with questions.