

### PURPOSE

In order to receive state and federal funding, nonpublic schools in Louisiana must be approved by the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and be compliant with the nondiscrimination requirements of **Brumfield v. Dodd**. The nonpublic school approval process is intended to confirm that schools utilize “a curriculum of quality at least equal to that prescribed for similar public schools,” as required by the Louisiana Constitution. Additional accountability measures apply for eligible nonpublic schools that participate in the Louisiana Scholarship Program.

### APPLICANT CATEGORIES

Bulletin 741 Nonpublic lists the following designations for BESE-approved schools:

1. **Accredited approved:** currently accredited by [SACSCOC](#), [Cognia](#), or [NAIS](#) and meets all other criteria for BESE approval;
2. **Non-accredited approved:** school is not currently accredited by [SACSCOC](#), [Cognia](#), or [NAIS](#), but has met all other criteria for BESE approval;
3. **Louisiana Montessori accredited approved school:** school meets LMA’s accreditation requirements and all other criteria for BESE approval; and
4. **Louisiana Montessori provisionally accredited approved school:** school is working toward meeting LMA’s

A “returning applicant” is any nonpublic school with state approval for the prior school year. A “new applicant” is any school seeking state approval for the first time or without approval for the prior school year.

### REQUIREMENTS & TIMELINE

All forms can be downloaded on the Louisiana Department of Education website at <http://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/nonpublic-schools>.

ACCREDITED SCHOOLS		NON-ACCREDITED SCHOOLS	
New	Returning	New	Returning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letter of Accreditation</li> <li>• Department of Health and Hospital Inspection Report</li> <li>• State Fire Marshal Inspection Report</li> <li>• Program of Study ( For schools that serve 9th-12th grade)</li> <li>• Brumfield v. Dodd Initial Application</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letter of Accreditation</li> <li>• Department of Health and Hospital Inspection Report</li> <li>• State Fire Marshal Inspection Report</li> <li>• Program of Study (For schools that serve 9th-12 grade)</li> <li>• Brumfield v. Dodd Annual Compliance Report</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Applicant Questionnaire</li> <li>• Department of Health and Hospital Inspection Report</li> <li>• State Fire Marshal Inspection Report</li> <li>• Program of Study (For schools that serve 9th-12 grade)</li> <li>• Brumfield v. Dodd Initial Application</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Returning Applicant Questionnaire</li> <li>• Department of Health and Hospital Inspection Report</li> <li>• State Fire Marshal Inspection Report</li> <li>• Program of Study (For schools that serve 9th-12 grade)</li> <li>• Brumfield v. Dodd Annual Compliance Report</li> </ul>

The Jotform survey will be available beginning September 1, 2023 in the [Nonpublic Library](#). All required documents must be submitted with the Jotform survey by October 15, 2023 to be considered for BESE approval. Please contact [nonpublicschools@la.gov](mailto:nonpublicschools@la.gov) if you have any questions.