School Choice Program for Students with Certain Exceptionalities 2024-2025 Family Application Webinar



Zoom Meeting Preparation



- Please make sure your phone or computer is muted to minimize background noise.
 - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click "Mute."



- Please make sure you have turned off your camera to save bandwidth and prevent any connectivity issues.
 - o To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click "Stop Video."



• Please submit questions during the presentation in the "Chat" function located on the bottom of your screen.





Application Timeline

2024-2025 Application Timeline

STEP	DATE	
Parent Application Webinar	January 31. 2024	
SCP Online Application Opens	February 5, 2024	
SCP Online Application Closes	March 8, 2024	
Deadline for Families to submit all Documentation to Schools	March 15, 2024	
SCP Award Notification Letters to Families	April 29, 2024	
SCP Summer Transfer Window Opens	June 10, 2024	
SCP Summer Transfer window Closes	July 19, 2024	



2024-2025 Application Timeline

The 2024-25 School Choice Scholarship application opens on February 5, 2024.

- 1. Access the online application available on the LDOE website, found here.
 - a. The link will not be active until **February 5, 2024**.
- 2. All online applications must be completed by March 8, 2024.
- 3. Submit all eligibility documents to the first choice school by March 15, 2024. (New applicants only)
- 4. Schools will have until March 22, 2024 to upload a verified demand report on the FTP.
- 5. 2024-2025 award notifications from LDOE will be sent to families by April 29, 2024.

*Failure to meet these deadlines will result in the application being marked incomplete and/or the removal of the Scholarship award.





- The 2024-25 School Choice Program online application will open on **February 5, 2024.**
 - The application will be available online using Jotform
 - Families will be able to access the application using an online link that will be published on the LDOE website.
 - Both new and returning students must complete an application yearly to be considered for a scholarship award.
 - <u>NEW Student</u>: student who is not currently participating in the School Choice Program
 - Families applying for a Scholarship for a student not currently enrolled as a SCP student in grades K-12, MUST confirm their eligibility.



- In order to be eligible for an award, students must meet the following criteria:
 - Have an exceptionality of autism, intellectual disability, brain injury, development delay, other health impairment, emotional disturbance, or specific learning disability.
 - Be evaluated by the local school district and have an IEP or a district-created service plan.
- Families will be required to upload copies of the IEP or district-created service plan along with proof of residency during the completion of the application.

Continuing students must reapply in order to maintain their award for the upcoming school year.



- All applications must be submitted by March 8, 2024.
 - Families must submit all eligibility documents to their first choice school by March 15, 2024 for new students.
 - Families will be required to submit copies of the IEP or district-created service plan along with proof of residency during the completion of the application.
 - Continuing students <u>are not required</u> to provide eligibility documentation.





Application Process

Application Process

- Applying for a School Choice Program is a two-step process.
- Step 1 is completion of the online application using the LDOE website.
- **Step 2** is submission of the income and residency verification to the first choice Scholarship school.





Application Process

The Louisiana Department of Education will attempt to place as many applicants as possible in their preferred school choice.

- Not all applying students are eligible.
- Demand for some schools and/or grades is greater than availability.
- State funding determines final number of awards made.



Submitting Your Application: Eligibility Check

Certain Students with Exceptionalities Student Application If you encounter any issues while completing this application, please contact the Office of School Choice at studentscholarships@la.gov for assistance. Step 1: Eligibility Check Does the student have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or district provided services plan? * Yes O No Is the student eligible to attend any Louisiana public school, grades Kindergarten through 12th? * Yes O No Please indicate which of the following exceptionalities the student has been evaluated by a local school and determined to have: * Autism Developmental Delay Emotional Disturbance Mental Disability Other Health Impairment Specific Learning Disability Traumatic Brain Injury None of the above Check Eligibility

- To begin the application process parent's must answer questions to verify the following:
 - The student has a current IEP or district provided services plan
 - b. The student is eligible to attend any Louisiana public school in grades K-12
 - c. Parents must indicate the student's exceptionalities



Submitting Your Application: Eligibility Check

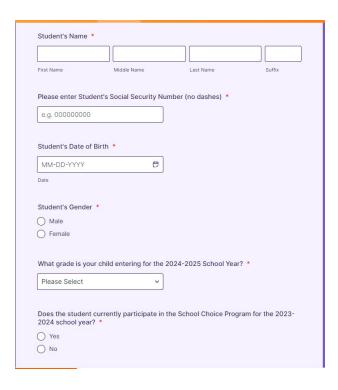
• If a student does not meet the eligibility criteria, then families will receive the following message:

Sorry, this student is not eligible to participate in this program.

Applicants must have an IEP or district provided service plan, must be eligible to attend any Louisiana public school, and must have at least one of the listed exceptionalities to quality.



Submitting Your Application: Student Information



- Once parent's have verified the student's eligibility, they will then be asked to enter the student's information.
- This information includes name, date of birth, grade level, previous participation in the SCP program, gender, etc.



Submitting Your Application: School Choices

Do you wish to stay at your current school for the 2024-2025 School year? *

Yes - Continue at current school

No - Apply to a new/different school

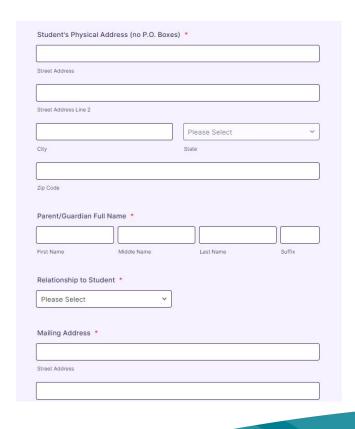
Please select up to three (3) participating schools below that you would like your student to attend, in order of preference. This rank order will be used to match your student with a school that has seats available. You should only select schools that you are interested in having your child attend. Your child may be assigned to any of the schools selected.**There is no guarantee that you will receive a match.** *

	School	
First Choice		~
Second Choice		~
Third Choice		~

- Continuing students will be asked if they'd like to remain at their current SCP School.
 - **Please Note**: New applicants will not see this question.
- This page of the application will ask parents to select their requested school for the 2024-25 school year from a dropdown list of participating schools.
- Families will be able select up to 3 school choices.



Submitting Your Application: Residency



- Families will then be asked to provide their physical address.
- Also, this page will collect the parent/guardian information.

Please note: Documentation must be in the parent and/or guardian's name and must match the student's address listed on the application.

New Students - Required Documentation

New Participants - Required Supporting Documentation

Families applying for **NEW** students must provide the following eligibility documents to your **first choice scholarship school by March 15, 2024**:

- Copy of student's current Individualized Education Program (IEP) or district-provided service plan
- One proof of residency documentation. Acceptable documents to verify residency include one of the following:
 - · Rental agreement or mortgage statement
 - · Landline telephone bill
 - · Cable or internet service bill
 - Sewerage or water bill
 - · Electricity or gas bill
 - · A current property tax notice
 - Official Letter from a Government Agency such as the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) or Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH)

<u>Please note</u>: Documentation must be in the parent and/or guardian's name and must match the student's address listed on the application.

Continuing students do NOT need to provide eligibility documentation.

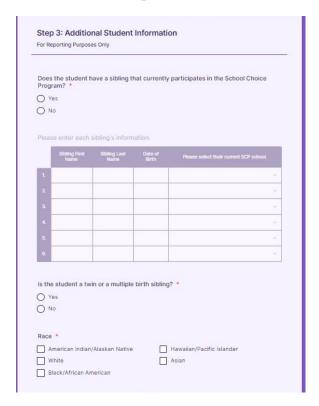
Back

Next

- New participants to the program will be asked to provide a copy of their IEP or district created service plan.
- New participants will also be asked to provide at least one proof of residency document.
- All proofs of residency must be current and should match with the student's address listed in this application. The person named on this proof of residency must be the parent or responsible adult of the student.
- All documentation must be submitted to your first choice school.

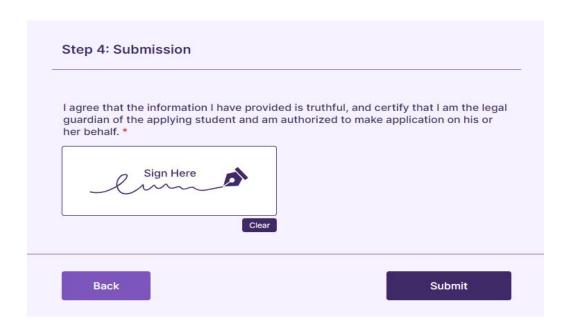
*PLEASE NOTE: Current school choice program participants completing the application will not see this screen.

Submitting Your Application: Additional Student Information



- Families will then be asked about to enter sibling information for each applicant.
- This section will also asked additional information about the student.

Submitting Your Application: Signature Page



 At the end of the application, parents will be asked to sign the application.



Submitting Your Application: Confirmation

Thank You!

Your application has been received.

Families applying for NEW students must provide the following eligibility documents to your first choice school by March 15, 2024:

- 1. A copy of the student's current Individualized Education Program (IEP) or district-provided service plan
- One proof of residency documentation. Acceptable documents to verify residency include one of the following:
 - Rental agreement or mortgage statement
 - Landline telephone bill
 - Cable or internet service bill
 - Sewerage or water bill
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 - A current property tax notice
 - Official Letter from a Government Agency such as the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) or Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH)

Please note: Documentation must be in the parent and/or guardian's name and must match the student's address listed on the application.

Continuing Students are not required to provide eligibility documentation.

- Once the application has successfully been submitted, families will receive a Thank You message.
- A confirmation email will also be sent to the email address provided on the application.
- This message will also outline all the required forms of eligibility documentation needed for new students

*If families have any questions or need assistance, they should contact the Office of School Choice at studentscholarships@la.gov for assistance.



Helpful Links

Helpful Links

- SCP Application Guide 2024-2025
- 2024-2025 School Choice Program Application (active on February 5, 2024)
- SCP Family Participation Guide
- SCP School Participation Guide
- School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities webpage



Questions







Thank You For Joining Today's Call!

For questions about the scholarship program please send an email to:

School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities Program studentscholarships@la.gov

