
This page is being continuously updated. If you've opened this document more than once, please clear your history/cache and refresh the page to view the most up-to-date version.

All new/updated information is highlighted throughout this FAQ.

Assessment Guidance

Q: Can the WorkKeys silver be used for both complementary and the substitution for the culminating IBC credential?

A: Yes, a score of Silver or higher on ACT WorkKeys will substitute as the culminating IBC.

Q: Do students have to pass LEAP 2025 or complete a minimum of 20 hours of extended learning for LEAP 2025 courses they were enrolled in last spring (Spring 2020) when they received a LEAP 2025 COVID waiver?

A: Students are not required to take LEAP 2025 for courses taken when the initial testing waivers in Spring 2020 were authorized. LEAP 2025 testing requirements for graduation seniors are required if they took LEAP 2025 courses not covered by the Spring 2020 LEAP waiver.

Q: Do students have to pass the LEAP 2025 or complete a minimum of 20 hours extended learning for LEAP 2025 courses that were earned out of state, from a nonpublic school or from a BESE-approved home study program?

A: Students are not required to take the assessment for a course that was earned out of state, from a nonpublic school or from a BESE-approved home study program.

Q: If a student has a Covid-19 waiver for Biology and must still pass the test for US History, how can ACT be used to meet the USH requirement?

A: Although a student has a waiver for the Biology assessment, if the TOPS U student 1) does not pass the USH assessment, 2) does not have an ACT composite score of 17, (and add no WorkKeys certificate for Jump Start student) the pair requirement can be met in one of two ways:

- a. If the student has a 17 for the ACT science subject test, then the pair requirement is met.
- b. The student can complete a minimum of 20 hours for US History

Q: Does a student have to have attempted the IBC for their pathway prior to applying the WorkKeys Silver as substitute?

A: No, a score of Silver or higher on ACT WorkKeys will substitute as the culminating IBC. However, school systems are encouraged to give students the opportunity to earn their Jump Start credential if the necessary conditions exist that will allow for the opportunity.

Q: If a student attempts the spring/summer LEAP assessment for any missing pair to graduate (because they didn't take the courses during either Spring 2020 or Spring 2021) and doesn't pass, will they be able to try the ACT in July or August to try to get the 17 or higher and still graduate before the 21-22 school year begins?

A: There is no ACT test scheduled for August. There is an ACT test on July 17. Scores are returned 3-8 weeks after test administration. If the scores do not come back by August 31, LDOE will provide an opportunity to apply a graduation date of August 31 to the transcript.

Q: Do school systems need to receive LDOE approval of the district identified assessment?

Updated 5/7/2021

A: No, the student must demonstrate proficiency corresponding to level 2 (approaching basic) or above, as determined by either the school or school system

Extended Learning Guidance

Q: Does the certified teacher providing the extended learning hours have to be certified in the respective content area the students are lacking a test in?

A: Yes, the qualified teacher providing the 20 or more extended learning hours must hold a valid and current Louisiana teaching certificate in the LEAP 2025 content area or have received a final COMPASS evaluation of Effective:Emerging or higher.

Q: When will the extended learning opportunity need to occur?

A: The end of the academic year is determined by the local school system.

Q: Can the extended learning instruction occur virtually?

A: The instruction must be provided by a qualified teacher with a Compass of Effective Emerging. The teacher will be required to verify that this student has completed the minimum 20 learning hours for the subject pair(s) not passed and that this student has demonstrated knowledge equivalent to Approaching Basic on their high school assessment.

Q: Does the qualified teacher who is Effective: Emerging in COMPASS have to be for any specific school year?

A: Yes, it should be for the most recent year reported.

Student Transcript and Reporting Guidance

Q: How will this alternate information be entered into the STS system to load to the state as having met graduation requirements?

A: The LDOE will provide school systems with the technical specifications for entering information into STS.

Q: Will there be any teacher or school system reporting requirement for the student extended learning?

A: Yes, school systems will be required to submit a [school system verification of graduation form](#) for each student that is provided the minimum 20 hours of extended learning.

Q: How do I designate graduating seniors who are eligible for one of the assessment substitution options?

A: Due to the various substitution options, new code values have been added to the Met Assessment Requirements for Graduation (Met GEE/EOC) Flag of the Demographic (020) record. These codes and options are outlined here:

- 1= Graduate on TOPS University or Jump Start diploma pathway who uses one of the two available ACT options (≥ 17 Composite or ≥ 17 subject for needed assessment pair)
- 2= Graduate on Jump Start diploma pathway who uses WorkKeys Silver or higher certificate
- 3= Graduate on either TOPS University or Jump Start diploma pathway who participates in 20+ hours of extended learning

Q: What code should I use for Jump Start students who are applying the IBC credential requirement substitution for graduation?

A: Jump Start graduates substituting the WorkKeys Silver or higher certificate for the IBC requirement should use IBC code "921 - 2021 graduate IBC substitution (WorkKeys Silver or higher)" in STS.

Regulatory Flexibility Eligibility

Q: Where can we find a link to the flowchart that outlines the process to review eligibility?

A: The flowchart can be found by reviewing page #2 of the March 2021 [LEAP 2025 Senior Guidance Document](#)

Q: Do the LEAP 2025 high regulatory flexibilities apply to students classified as juniors that have not yet been identified as seniors in data systems but who would be qualified as seniors this school year?

A: If a student would be classified as a senior at any time during the current school year and eligible to graduate by August 31, 2021, then the flexibilities to graduation requirements would apply to that student. The student's Individual Graduation Plan must indicate they were on track for an early graduation.

Q: Will the LEAP 2025 substitution flexibilities be in place for 5th and 6th year graduates?

A: Yes, if the student was enrolled as a 5th or 6th year senior and counted in the latest Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) enrollment count and the student meets course credit graduation requirements.

Q: Are initial testers and third year assessment cohort students required to take the spring assessments?

A: Yes, they must test to be eligible for this waiver and their score must be included as part of the final grade for the course.

Q: If a student previously failed a LEAP 2025 and they qualify for a substitution, does the student still need to sit for LEAP 2025 in the spring?

A: The only time that a student who has previously failed the assessment for a course must retest is if the student is also enrolled in the course and needs a test score for inclusion in the final grade. If the student is willing to use a score earned in a prior administration as part of the current final grade, then there is no reason to retest.

Q: For the 20+ hours of extended learning time do the provisions include LEAP Connect students?

A: It does not apply. Schools should continue to use the existing portfolio process for LEAP Connect graduation requirements for students who don't pass LEAP Connect ELA or math.