



Louisiana Students of the Year

2025 Honorees

Overview

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) recognizes that many outstanding students are enrolled in public, nonpublic or charter schools throughout Louisiana. To acknowledge these accomplishments, the Department, in conjunction with the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), annually honors one incredible fifth-, eighth-, and twelfth-grade student based on their leadership, academic performance, achievements, citizenship and service to the school and community.

This year, school systems across the state submitted Students of the Year candidates for the zone-level process. From this impressive group, the Department is proud to announce the 2025 Louisiana Students of the Year.

In addition to announcing the state-level honorees, all Students of the Year Finalists were celebrated and honored at the 2025 Students of the Year Award Ceremony at Louisiana State University's Lod Cook Alumni Center on May 16. Congratulations to these outstanding students!

2025 Overall Students of the Year

- Elementary School Student of the Year
 - Mary Mack Thornton, Caddo Parish
- Middle School Student of the Year
 - Rylann Renee Viator, Vermilion Parish
- High School Student of the Year
 - Neal Pramod Tandon, Jefferson Parish

2025 Students of the Year Finalists

- 2025 Students of the Year Grade 5 Finalists
 - Oliver Paul Richard, Calcasieu Parish
 - Zoey Olivia Jenkins, East Baton Rouge Parish
 - Aly Lea May, Ouachita Parish
 - Brynlee Elizabeth Perez, St. Charles Parish
 - Anniston Elizabeth Guidry, St. Martin Parish
 - Lauren Kay Singleton, St. Tammany Parish
 - Kai Ava-Jrew Butler, West Baton Rouge Parish

- 2025 Students of the Year Grade 8 Finalists
 - Janiya Amani Belle, Algiers Charter School Association
 - Brielle Taylor Poche', Ascension Parish
 - Lily Lynne Kees, Bossier Parish
 - Avery Bernadine Dixon, Lincoln Parish
 - Christopher James Godso III, Livingston Parish
 - Ramy D. Dali, St. Bernard Parish
 - Jayden Michael Gardere, The Willow School
- 2025 Students of the Year Grade 12 Finalists
 - Marlie Blair McLellan, Ascension Parish
 - Akshita Sridhar, Benjamin Franklin High School
 - Kylie Marie Small, Bossier Parish
 - Walker John Prejean, Lafayette Parish
 - Colton Charles Brasher, Ouachita Parish
 - Trey Matthew Meyers, St. Bernard Parish
 - Krishawndalyn Louise Rian Clark, West Baton Rouge Parish