

# LOUISIANA SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE PROVIDER *of the Year*

The Louisiana Department of Education recognizes that student health plays a vital role in education and that school health providers are the critical link in ensuring health service delivery to students. Through the School Health Service Provider of the Year program, the Department recognizes and celebrates some of the state's most exceptional occupational therapists, physical therapists, speech-language pathologists, audiologists, nurses, nurse practitioners, licensed practical nurses, and licensed behavioral health providers (LCSW/LMSW, LPC, and psychologists). This program provides an opportunity to acknowledge school health service providers who demonstrate superior provision of health services in schools and support the expansion of health services in schools.

## SELECTION PROCESS & TIMELINE:

PHASE	TIMELINE	DESCRIPTION
Nominations Portal Open	August 12 - September 12, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The nominations portal will be open from August 12-September 12.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Upon portal close, the nomination information is shared with school systems and nominees.</li></ul></li></ul>
Application Release	September 16, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Department releases School Health Service Provider of the Year application materials for the 2025-2026 school year.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Visit the <a href="#">Resources Library</a> and <a href="#">Awards page</a>.</li></ul></li></ul>
State-level Applications Due	December 9, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>By December 9, candidates are to submit their application in the School Health Service Provider of the Year online application portal.</li></ul>
Finalists Announced	TBD 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Department names the five Finalists for School Health Service Provider of the Year (one Finalist from each provider type).</li></ul>
Honoree Recognition	April 15, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The five School Health Service Provider of the Year Honorees are recognized at the Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) meeting.</li></ul>

**QUESTIONS:** Contact [healthyschools@la.gov](mailto:healthyschools@la.gov).