

LOUISIANA STUDENTS *of the Year*

The Louisiana Department of Education recognizes that many outstanding students are enrolled in public, nonpublic and/or charter schools throughout the state. To acknowledge the accomplishments of students at three pivotal grade levels, the Department and the Louisiana Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, annually honors one incredible student at the fifth, eighth and twelfth grade levels, based on their leadership, academic performance, achievements, citizenship and service to the school and community. This program provides an opportunity to acknowledge the outstanding achievements and contributions of students from school systems across the state.

SELECTION PROCESS

Each school system or charter management organization may nominate one student for each of the three grade levels to compete at the zone level. Each of the zone selection committees will select the nominees to compete at the regional level.

TIMELINE

PHASE	TIMELINE	DESCRIPTION
Application Materials Released	August 27, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student application is available on the website along with the school system information and participation level survey.
Webinar	September 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To assist candidates, coordinators and stakeholders with the application process, a webinar explaining the selection process will be conducted. School System Information and Participation Level Survey due September 30.
School System Nominee Selection	October-November 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School systems select their system level nominees and upload documents to the online portal. Zone and regional coordinator information will be provided to school systems.
Zone Level Applications Due	November 22, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Zone Level Student of the Year applications due in the online portal. Zone Selection Committees complete reviews in December.
Regional Nominees Announcement	January 7, 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Names of the regional nominees are announced, and applications will be shared with the Regional Selection Committee. Essay topics are sent to the school system coordinator of the regional honoree to administer and upload. By February 21, 2025, regional coordinators will submit the names of the state honorees.
Finalists Announced	March 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Department announces the state finalists in March. Essay topics are sent to the school system coordinator of the state-level honoree to administer and upload.
Awards Ceremony	TBD 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All 24 finalists are formally recognized and the overall Students of the Year are announced at an awards ceremony.

For questions, please contact exemplaryeducator@la.gov.