

Office of Career and College Readiness

Diploma Endorsement

[Bulletin 741, Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators: §2317](#). High Schools, outlines the diploma endorsements Louisiana high school students may earn upon graduation.

Seals

What diploma endorsements can be earned by high school students in Louisiana?

School systems may allow students to earn a Community Service Diploma Endorsement, State Seal of Biliteracy, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Diploma Endorsement, and/or Freedom Framework Diploma Endorsement.

Community Service

What is the Community Service Diploma Endorsement?

School systems may award a Community Service Endorsement to students completing a minimum of 80 hours of service anytime between ninth and twelfth grade. Students may earn service hours identified in the [Community Service Diploma Endorsement Categories](#).

What are the requirements for earning a Community Service Endorsement?

To earn the Community Service Endorsement, the student must earn a minimum of 80 community service hours by graduation. The school system will use the [Community Service Diploma Endorsement Tracking Form](#) to summarize the student efforts recorded on the [Community Service Diploma Endorsement Student Documentation Form](#). Documentation is housed at the local level.

Biliteracy

What is the State Seal of Biliteracy?

Since the approval of RS [17:273.4](#) in 2014, Louisiana students may earn the State Seal of Biliteracy by proving literacy in English and another language.

What are the requirements for earning the State Seal of Biliteracy?

To earn the Seal of Biliteracy, the student must demonstrate mastery of English by meeting the English Language Arts graduation requirements and by earning a composite score of 19 on the English and Reading components of the ACT test. The student must also demonstrate proficiency at the Intermediate-High level in a second language using one of the pathways outlined on the [Seals of Biliteracy Request](#) form. English Language Learners are eligible to receive the Seal of Biliteracy provided they meet the above criteria and score proficient on the English Proficiency Assessment.

STEM

What is the STEM Diploma Endorsement?

The gold and silver STEM Diploma Endorsements recognize students who have completed one of Louisiana's five STEM Pathways.

What are the requirements for earning the STEM Diploma Endorsement?

To earn the Silver STEM Diploma Endorsement, students must pass one course from each of the four concentration areas found on the relevant STEM Pathway brief. To earn the Gold STEM Diploma Endorsement, students must complete the requirements for the Silver STEM Diploma Endorsement, complete three additional courses from the approved STEM Pathway listing, and pass an additional math or science course from the options listed. The coursework requirements for each endorsement vary from one STEM Pathway to another based on the concentration area. Specific details for each STEM Pathway can be found on the [pathway briefs](#).

Freedom Framework Diploma Endorsement

What is the Freedom Framework Diploma Endorsement?

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) has developed the Freedom Framework Diploma Endorsement, a new recognition for high school students who demonstrate excellence in civics education.

What are the requirements for earning the Freedom Framework Diploma Endorsement?

The endorsement will be awarded to students who score Mastery or above on the LEAP 2025 civics assessment. Beginning with the 2025–2026 school year, eligible students will receive a special diploma seal and may receive a red, white, and blue honor cord to wear during graduation.

Ordering

How do I order diploma endorsements?

Diploma endorsements are ordered yearly using the electronic Diploma and Seal Order Form made available by the Louisiana Department of Education. If you need more information, please email stephanie.marcum@la.gov.

How do I order honor cords?

Red, white, and blue honor cords are available for order from both local and online awards and graduation supply vendors.