

# Course Choice Enrollment Parent Guidance

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## What is Course Choice?

Louisiana's Course Choice program was developed to give students access to courses and programming that may not be available at their school. This program helps families customize their child's education by providing funding to school systems for:

- Dual Enrollment - College courses that let students earn both high school and college credit.
- Industry Based Certifications (IBCs) - Career-focused courses that help students gain real-world skills and credentials.
- Advanced and Specialized Courses - Online or in-person classes that support a student's academic and career goals.

## What is a Parent's Role in Course Choice?

As a parent, you are a key partner in your child's education, and Course Choice gives you more ways to be involved in shaping their academic journey. Here's what you should expect and how you can stay engaged:

- Be Informed - Schools must share information about available courses and enrollment deadlines. Stay connected with your child's school to learn about their options.
- Plan Together - Work with your child and school to select courses that align with their graduation requirements, career interests, and future goals.
- Give Consent - Your written permission is required before your child is enrolled in a Course Choice class ensuring you are a part of the decision-making process.
- Stay Updated - Schools should provide a clear list of approved courses and providers so you can make informed decisions.

## How to enroll your child in Course Choice

Conversations between you, your child, and your child's school are a vital part of the enrollment process. Each step below is critical in ensuring your child gets the right course that fits their academic and career goals:

- Step 1: Talk to your child about his or her long-term academic and career goals, as well as their goals for the upcoming school year.

- **Step 2:** Talk to your school’s Course Choice designee about opportunities available both through the school system and through Course Choice that align to your child’s academic and career goals.
- **Step 3:** Identify the courses that meet your child’s academic and career goals.
- **Step 4:** Share your course selection(s) with the school so they can confirm the course(s) align with the policy’s priorities, are academically appropriate, and meet graduation requirements.
- **Step 5:** Provide written permission for the final Course Choice courses you and your child’s school have determined are appropriate.

## Is Enrollment Guaranteed?

There are a few reasons a school may decline Course Choice enrollment. The funding used to enroll students in Course Choice courses is prioritized to ensure students have access to the courses they need most. Enrollment requests may also conflict with a student’s academic progress or graduation pathway. Should an enrollment be declined, it may be due to one of the following reasons:

- **Course Misalignment:** If the course does not align with the student’s graduation pathway or conflicts with state graduation planning resources.
- **Academic Appropriateness:** If the school determines that the course is not suitable for the student based on their current progress or course prerequisites.
- **Funding Priorities:** If the school has already used its Course Choice funds on policy priorities (such as for seniors who need a course to graduate).

## Course Choice Prioritization

Priority	Description
1	Seniors who require a course in order to graduate or student access to TOPS aligned courses not available through the school or school system;
2	Students enrolling in courses required to complete an associate degree in a Fast Forward pathway or a certificate of technical studies aligned to high wage, high demand jobs or work-based learning;
3	Students seeking access to TOPS aligned college credit;
4	Students enrolled in a Comprehensive Intervention Required (CIR) or Urgent Intervention Required for Academics (UIR-A) schools;
5	Access to high quality academic content aligned to graduation requirements or access to high quality career and technical content aligned to the Louisiana IBC state focus list which can be offered as recovery credit;
6	Students seeking coursework to increase a student score on a nationally recognized assessment (ACT, SAT, CLT, WorkKeys, or ASVAB) as defined in LAC 28:XI.1711 Bulletin 111;
7	Other priorities defined by the school system, approved by LDOE, and included in the School System’s pupil progression plan prior to the student enrollment process.