2019-2020 Performance Profile Update Frequently Asked Questions

1. How did COVID-19 impact Early Childhood Performance Profiles?

In March of 2020, the Governor issued a statewide Stay At Home Order. Shortly thereafter, all public schools and Head Starts closed for the remainder of the year, and many nonpublic schools and child care centers also closed. Those that remained open had significant impacts on their enrollment. As a result of the widespread closures and changes in enrollment, all early childhood sites in the state were considered 'severe impact' sites per the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) policy. Bulletin 140 provides flexibility in how Performance Profiles are issued for 'severe impact' sites. For information on how COVID-19 impacted K-12 Report Cards, click here.

2. How were the 2019-2020 Performance Scores & Ratings published on Louisiana School Finder calculated?

While many observations occurred during the 2019-2020 school year before schools and centers began closing in March 2020, the picture of student/teacher interactions captured by CLASS® observations was less complete than previous years. As a result, the Louisiana Department of Education developed a "hold harmless" approach to the Performance Scores and Ratings published in Fall 2020 for the previous school year. Schools, child care sites, and Head Start Centers with higher 2019-2020 Performance Scores could opt-in to having their profiles updated with the more recent, higher scores. The Department extended 2018-2019 Performance Scores and Ratings for all sites that did not receive higher scores in 2019-2020 or did not opt-in to having 2019-2020 scores published.

3. Is the Department publishing network-level data? How is this calculated?

No, the Department is not publishing updated 2019-2020 network-level data. All networks are considered "severe impact networks" and, as a result, the Department will extend the 2018-2019 Network Profiles for an additional year. The Department will work with networks to contextualize and analyze the 2019-2020 data to identify priorities and next steps to increase access to high quality child care.

4. What is the source of the STAR rating used to determine School Readiness Tax Credit Brackets?

The Performance Score and Rating published in the Fall of 2020 is the score and rating that should be used to determine School Readiness Tax Credit eligibility and brackets. For some sites this will be the score and rating issued based on CLASS® observations in the 2018-2019 School Year. For other sites-- namely, those that have opted in to having their higher 2019-2020 Performance Score and Ratings published on the Louisiana School Finder-- the School Readiness Tax Credit bracket will be calculated using the score and rating issued based on CLASS® observations in the 2019-2020 School Year. More details on these brackets, and the School Readiness Tax Brackets, can be found here. The table on the following page provides more information about the timeline for Star Ratings based on this years' Performance Profiles.

Tax Year	Academic Year Performance Profile	Star Rating Effective Dates
2021	2019-2020	January-December 2021
2020	2018-2019	January-December 2020
2019	2017-2018	January-December 2019
2018	2016-2017	January-December 2018

More information about Performance Profiles and the CLASS® observations that inform Performance Scores & ratings can be found on the Early Childhood Page of the Louisiana Department of Education website.