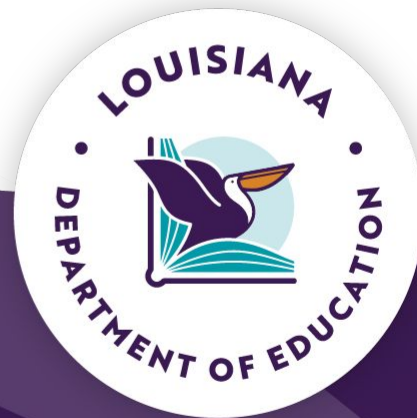


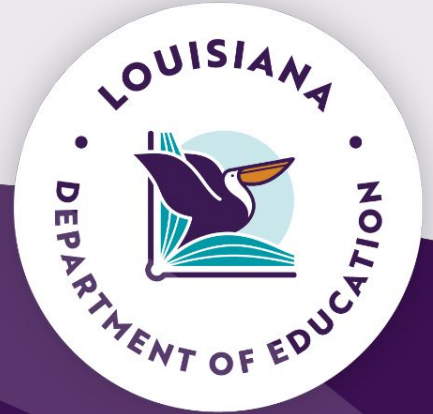
The Course Choice Program



Objectives

- Outline of the past and present and future of the Course Choice Program
- Discuss policy changes to Bulletin 132, Louisiana Course Choice Program, based on Act 91 of the 2024 Legislative Session
- Outline updated policies for School Systems
- Explain the updated policy in reference to parental choice

Course Choice.....The Past

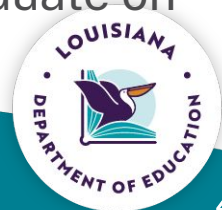


Purpose and Implementation

The Course Choice Program (funded through the Supplemental Course Allocation) was developed to:

- Provide course opportunities that may not be available at a student's school
- Allows students to physically attend courses on a college or university campus
- Develop innovative career and technical education courses and internship opportunities
- Motivate academically-focused students to graduate high school early and/or earn credits towards a college degree
- Help students who are behind their class level to catch up and graduate on time

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First Years of Implementation

- **June 2012**

- Act 2 was passed creating the Course Choice Program

- **2013 - 2014 School Year**

- Courses offered to students statewide by 21 private providers

- **2014 - 2015**

- Course offerings were expanded to include Public Higher Education colleges, universities and CTE Education Centers

Course Choice.....The Present



Funding

- Allocation is \$70 per student in grades 7 -12
- Allocation paid through MFP and can only be used on BESE approved course providers
- School systems use the allocation to pay tuition cost for courses
- LDOE monitors expenditures and reallocates funds not spent and/or allocated pre program policy

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Overview of System-Level Responsibilities

- Refer to current [MFP Budget Letter](#) to determine the school system's allocation for the current year
- Designate person at school system and school level to handle reporting in the [Course Choice Portal](#)
- Work with course providers to get students registered through their registration system
- Report registration enrollments in the [Course Choice Portal](#) by the deadline
- Pay invoices to course providers upon receipt

Course Choice.....The Future



School System Beginning 2025-2026 School Year

The revised policy defines clear responsibilities for School Systems to promote transparency, accountability, and fair access to high-quality courses funded by the Course Choice program.

Overview of system-level changes:

- Parental Involvement & Course Approval – Schools must obtain written parental permission and ensure courses align with students' graduation pathways.
- Increased Transparency & Outreach – Schools are required to actively inform parents and students about Course choice opportunities, funding, and course options.
- Funding & Accountability – Schools must prioritize funding based on graduation requirements, TOPS-aligned and college credit courses, Fast Forward and career pathways, support for struggling schools, academic and career-technical recovery, test preparation, and school system-defined priorities approved by LDOE.

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What Does Parental Involvement and Outreach Now Look Like?

- Access to Planning Resources - Provide parents with information about LDOE planning resources to help them understand graduation requirements and available Course Choice course enrollments.
- Consultation – Consult with student and parent in course selection process
- Written Permission – Obtain written consent from parent prior to enrollment
- Academic Guidance – Notify parent if course is determined to be academically inappropriate based on the student's graduation pathway or if it conflicts with state graduation planning resources.



What Does Prioritization Look Like?

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:X1.1711 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.

Planning

Considerations when thinking about next steps:

Depending on your role (system leader, principal, counselor, etc.)

- What changes would your school system need to make internally to implement these priorities?
- What are the current parental communication channels that can be leveraged in implementing these changes?
- What practices does your school system already have in place that fall in line with the changes?
- At the system level, who would be the key people involved in beginning to implement these priorities?
- At the school level, what internal practices need to be adjusted to follow the new policy and to help students and parents make the transition?
- How can your school work effectively with parents to ensure that the students are provided the appropriate opportunities to Course Choice courses?
- Which key stakeholders do you see as the key people in getting the changes implemented?

Closing

- Course Choice has provided over a decade of providing students with access to high quality, credit earning courses.
- Policy changes have been made to improve the opportunities for students within the school systems.
- Parental choice and communication are major components of the improvements .

Questions?

Reach out to SCA@la.gov

