

# Louisiana Believes

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SER Enhancements  
August 2015

# Agenda

- Policy Clarifications
  - Act 833 Eligibility vs. Act 833 Application
  - Act 833 Eligibility vs. LAA 1 Eligibility
- SER Enhancements
  - Act 833 Application
- Examples

# Policy Clarification

# Act 833 (2014) Eligibility

Act 833 outlines specific criteria students must meet in order to be eligible for an Act 833 IEP graduation or promotion decision

	Graduation	Promotion
Eligibility Criteria	<p>Student enters high school having not achieved at least a combination of basic/approaching basic on math and ELA in two of the three most recent years (6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades)</p> <p><b>-or-</b></p> <p>Student does not achieve a score of Fair, Good, or Excellent after two attempts of the same EOC test.</p>	<p>In the school year immediately prior to each grade level in which the student would otherwise be required to demonstrate certain proficiency levels in order to advance to the next grade level, the student has not otherwise met the state and local requirements for promotion or has not otherwise met state-established benchmarks on the required state assessments.</p>
Students to Consider	<p>Students in grades T9-12</p>	<p>Students in grades K-8 (there are only state established requirements for promotion in 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades; in the 15-16 school year all promotion requirements will be based on local pupil progression plans)</p>
Frequency of Eligibility Decision	<p>Once the student is eligible for this pathway to a diploma they remain eligible</p>	<p>Eligibility decision made annually based on previous year's results</p>



# Act 833 Eligibility vs. Application

SER requires IEP teams to make Act 833 eligibility decisions for all students. This is a question of whether or not the student is eligible. The Act 833 eligibility page does not capture the implementation of an alternate pathway to graduation or promotion. The application of the alternate pathway is captured in the students goals and objectives.

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION System: \_\_\_\_\_ Parish Meeting Date: State ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Local ID: Page 1 of 1 Created 2014

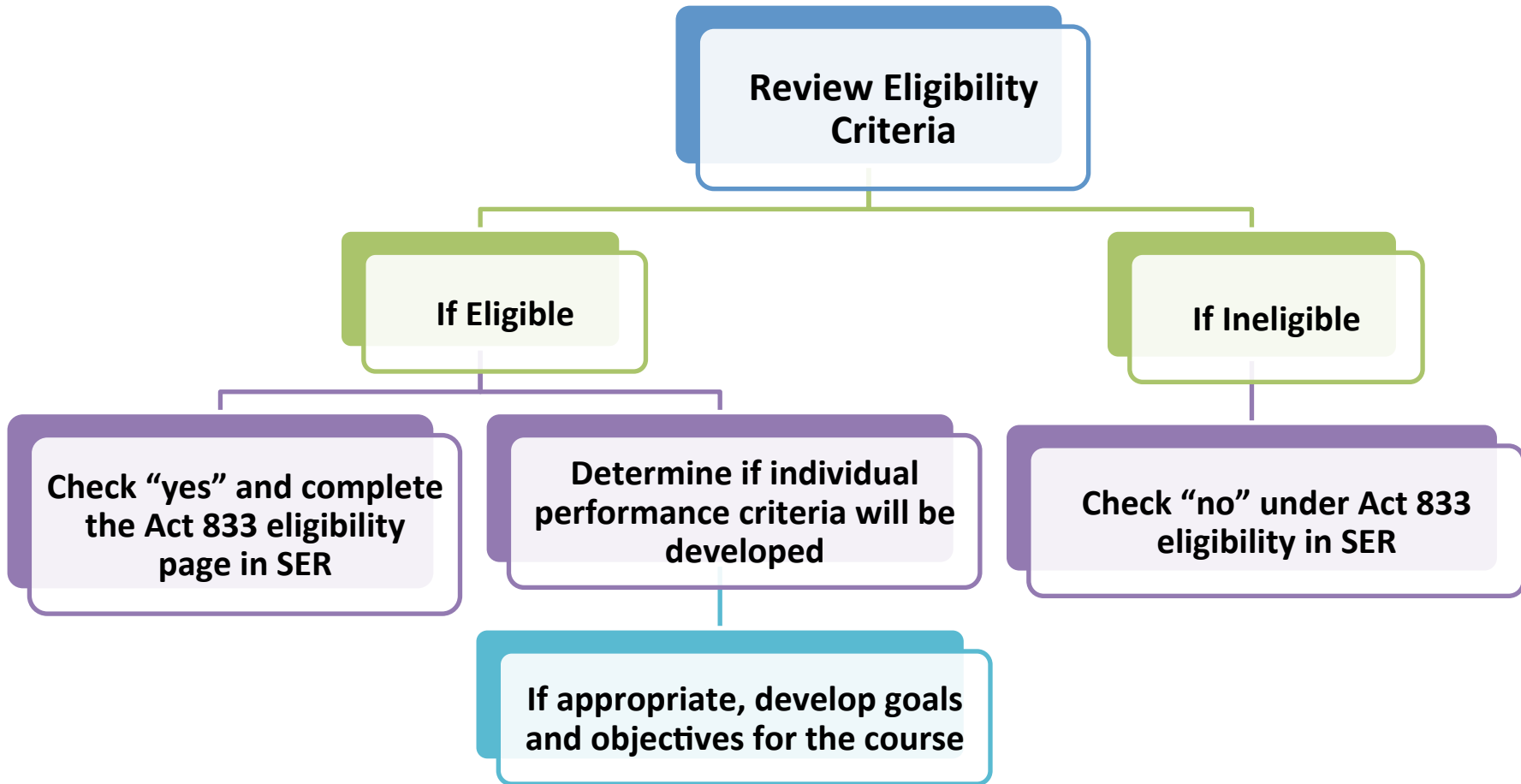
## ACT 833 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA DETERMINATION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

Eligibility Date Determined: \_\_\_\_\_

- In the prior year, student did not meet state-established benchmarks on the required state assessments.
- Student did not meet state-established benchmarks on required state assessments in two out of the three most recent years. Select the grades in which the student did not meet the benchmarks.
  - 6th Grade  7th Grade  8th Grade
- Student did not score Fair or above on two administrations of a state assessment required for graduation (EOC tests).
- I certify that the information above is accurate.

# Act 833 Eligibility vs. Application

When considering Act 833 decisions in an IEP meeting the team must first consider if the student is eligible then consider if the alternative pathway will be applied.



# Act 833 Eligibility Clarification

## High School Graduation Example

Scenario	IEP Team Actions	Rationale
<p>MM is an incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade student with a specific learning disability in reading. MM's IEP team reviewed her assessment history and determined that she did not meet benchmark scores on state assessments in 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> grades. The IEP team also reviewed MM's schedule for her 9<sup>th</sup> grade year and determined that individual performance criteria was not appropriate for any of the courses in her current 9<sup>th</sup> grade schedule.</p>	<p>During the IEP meeting, the team will select "yes" on the Act 833 eligibility page and select that she did not meet the state benchmark scores in two out of the three most recent years. The team will develop appropriate goals and objectives for MM but will not develop individual performance criteria for specific courses.</p>	<p>The IEP should reflect MM's eligibility for Act 833 provisions even if she will not pursue the alternate pathway at this time. MM remains eligible for these provisions for the remainder of high school and the IEP team may choose to implement individual performance criteria at any point of MM's high school career (provided that the decision and planning takes place at the beginning of the specific course).</p>

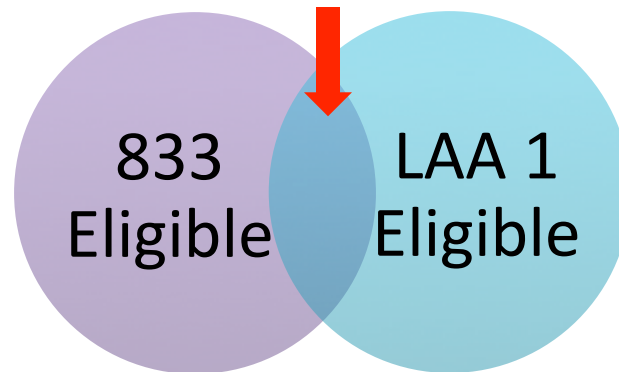
# Act 833 Eligibility Clarification Promotion Example

Scenario	IEP Team Actions	Rationale
<p>JS receives special education services at his local elementary school. At the end of the 14-15 school year JS met the local pupil progression plan requirements and was promoted to the 4<sup>th</sup> grade. State assessment results were released in October 2015 and showed JS did not meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade benchmark scores in ELA/math.</p>	<p>During the IEP meeting, the team will select “no” on the Act 833 eligibility page because JS is not eligible for an IEP team decision about promotion at the end of 4<sup>th</sup> grade. The team will develop appropriate goals and objectives for JS but will not develop individual performance criteria for 4<sup>th</sup> grade.</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria for an Act 833 promotion decision is based on whether or not the student met the state or local requirements for promotion in the year prior. When JS was in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade promotion was based on local pupil progression plans. JS met the local requirements for promotion and therefore is not eligible for individual performance criteria or an IEP team decision about promotion at the end of 4<sup>th</sup> grade.</p>



# Act 833 Eligibility and LAA 1 Eligibility

- The implementation of Act 833 and the pathway to a Career Diploma for students assessed on the LAA 1 provide options for all students to work towards high school diplomas.
- Each of these policies is rooted in specific eligibility criteria and is not dependent on the other.
- Though a small number of students may meet the eligibility criteria for both, a student who is eligible for the LAA 1 assessment does not have to meet Act 833 eligibility criteria to pursue the pathway to a Career Diploma for students assessed on the LAA 1.



# SER Enhancements

# 2015-16 Act 833 Enhancements

Additional features will be added to the system for students in grades T9-12 who are identified as eligible for Act 833 in SER. These enhancements align with current guidance on how to develop individual performance criteria and allow LEAs to run data to help understand the application of Act 833 in high schools.

Pre-Enhancement	Post- Enhancement
Complete Act 833 eligibility page	Complete Act 833 eligibility page
Select “Academic /Cognitive” as the goal focus area	Select “Academic /Cognitive” as the goal focus area
-----	<b>Select “Act 833 Applied” check box</b>
Type specific course name where Act 833 is being applied	<b>Use course edit button to select specific course where Act 833 is being applied</b>
Develop goals and objectives for the course	Develop goals and objectives for the course

# 2015-16 System Enhancement Act 833

When Academic/Cognitive is checked under Educational Needs, the Act 833 applied box will become accessible on the Instructional Plan page.

**Educational Needs:**  
(Check all that apply)

- Academic/Cognitive
- Behavior
- Communication
- Motor
- Self-Help
- Social

Academic/Cognitive checked

**Instructional Plan**

+ Add New

<b>Educational Need Area</b>	Academic/Cognitive
<b>Content Area</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> ESY Instruction	
<input type="checkbox"/> Targeted for Secondary Transition	
<input type="checkbox"/> Act 833 applied	

Act 833 checkbox accessible



# 2015-16 System Enhancement Act 833

Check the Act 833 applied box, then click Edit to select the course where Act 833 will be applied.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Act 833 applied	
Course:	<input type="text"/>
<b>Present Level of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance</b>	
<input type="text"/>	

**To find a Course:**

- Type the first part of the course name or the full course code.
- Wait for a list of results to appear.
- If no results appear, try a broader search using fewer letters.

Tip box appears after clicking Edit

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Act 833 applied		
Course:	ALGEBRA I (160321)	<a href="#">Edit</a>

# 2015-16 System Enhancement Act 833

If any other educational need is checked, the Act 833 applied box and the Course Edit button will be grayed out.

+ Add New	
<b>Educational Need Area</b>	Behavior
<b>Content Area</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> ESY Instruction	
<input type="checkbox"/> Targeted for Secondary Transition	
<input type="checkbox"/> Act 833 applied	
<b>Course:</b>	<a href="#">Edit</a>
<b>Educational Need Area</b>	Communication
<b>Content Area</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> ESY Instruction	
<input type="checkbox"/> Targeted for Secondary Transition	
<input type="checkbox"/> Act 833 applied	
<b>Course:</b>	<a href="#">Edit</a>

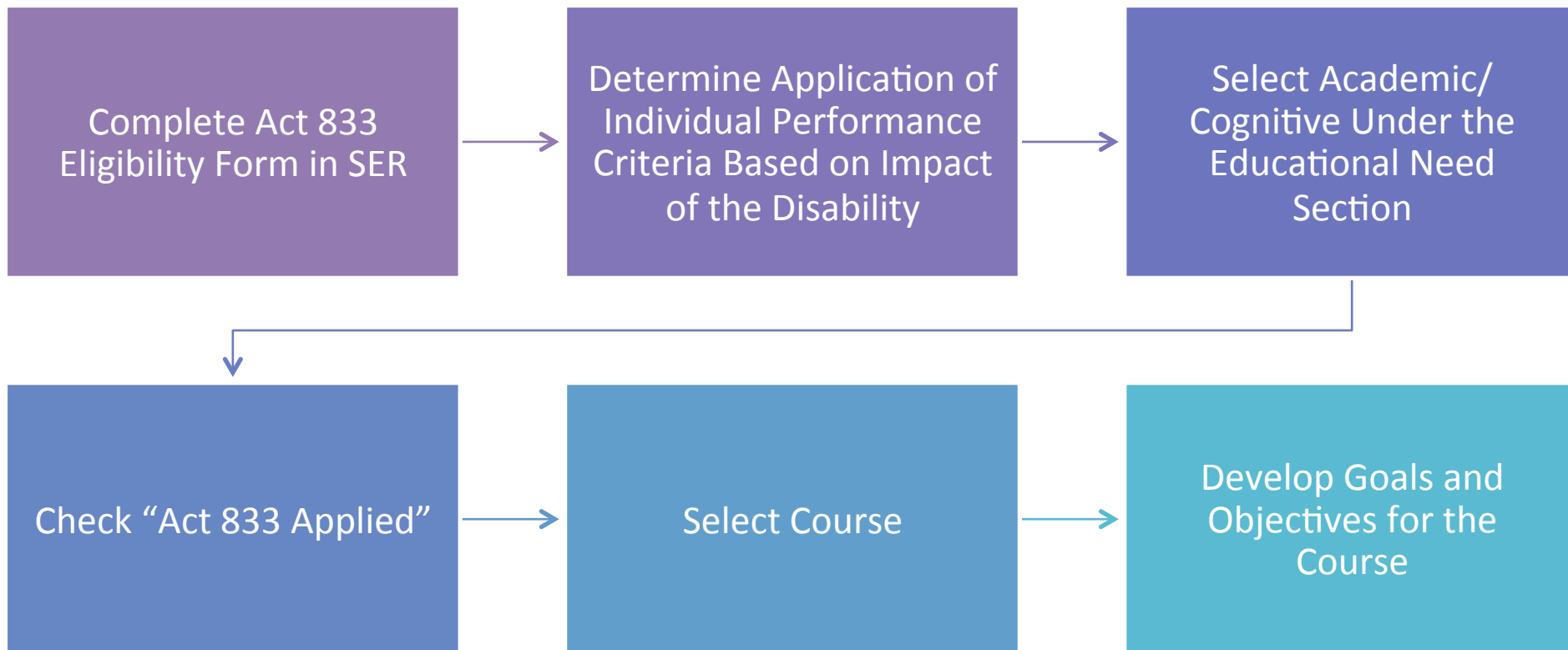


Grayed out because Academic/Cognitive is not selected



# Documenting Act 833 Eligibility and Application in SER

This flow chart serves as a quick reference for documenting Act 833 eligibility and application in SER for high school students



\* Flow chart assumes the student meets Act 833 eligibility criteria and the IEP team determines it is appropriate to apply individual performance criteria to the students courses.

# Next Steps

- SER enhancements go live August 5, 2015
- Network teams are available to support with any additional questions.