

NONPUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE NEWS

A Publication for Participating Nonpublic Choice Schools



September 7, 2017

In This Issue:

Important Dates for Nonpublic School Choice Programs

Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) News

Tuition Donation Rebate Program (TDR) News

School Choice Program for Certain Students with Exceptionalities (SCP) News

Other

Other Department Newsletters

Important Dates for Nonpublic School Choice Programs

School Choice Program	Date	Action, Event, or Deadline	Owners
LSP, SCP	9/8/17	Complete Q1 enrollment verification in SEE or SCS	School leaders or Scholarship contacts
LSP	9/8/17	Return signed 2017-18 Approved Tuition and Fees Certification sheets and Assurances	School leaders
All nonpublics	9/15/17	Submit a change form for any school updates	School leaders
All nonpublics	9/22/17	Upload required documents for BESE approval to FTP	School leaders
LSP, TDR	9/29/17	Submit ACT MOU	High school testing coordinators

Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) News

Reminder: Q1 Enrollment Closes on 9/8

The Quarter 1 (Q1) enrollment verification process for the Louisiana Scholarship Program opened yesterday and will close on Friday, 9/8. Please be prepared to complete the enrollment verification process in [SEE](#) on time to ensure prompt payment.

Friday, 9/8. Please be prepared to complete the enrollment verification process in SEE on time to ensure prompt payment. Instructions for completing enrollment verification can be found [here](#).

Please remember that LEADs passwords expire every 30 days and must be reset at <https://password.doe.louisiana.gov/>. Additionally, pop-up blockers must be turned off.

Schools will not receive their Q1 payments until they have submitted registration workbooks to the FTP and signed and returned all required Tuition and Fees documentation. Please contact StudentScholarships@LA.gov with any questions.

New: Updated LDOE Planning Tools

The Department released updated versions on the 2017-2018 School System Planning Calendar and the 2017-2018 Educator Resource Guide. Updates include:

[School System Planning Calendar](#): Updates highlighted in yellow

- Updates to WorkKeys, LEAP Connect and ELPT assessment windows

[Educator Resource Guide](#): Updates marked in pink

- Addition of science scope and sequence documents
- Addition of Louisiana Connectors for Students with Disabilities and English Language Learners

Email districtsupport@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: 2017-18 Approved Tuition and Fee Certification Sheets and Assurances Due

All schools should have received their 2017-18 Approved Tuition and Fees Certification Sheets along with two assurance forms. After receiving your certification sheets and assurance documents, please sign and return all documents to studentscholarships@la.gov by Friday, September 8th in order to ensure timely Q1 payment. Schools will not receive their Q1 payment until all required items have been submitted.

If you have any questions, please reach out to studentscholarships@la.gov.

Updated: September Superintendents' Call

You are invited to participate in the Superintendents' Conference Call hosted by State Superintendent John White on Wednesday, September 13, at 9:00 a.m. (Please note that this is a change to the original meeting time.) You may begin dialing into the call fifteen minutes in advance by following the instructions below.

To join the Superintendents' September 13 call

- Go to <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/suptscall>.
- Dial into the Phone Bridge: 877-475-0109.
- When prompted, please give the Meeting ID #34167449.
- You will need to identify yourself in order to be placed into the meeting.

New: Device Toolkit Dashboard

Please share this information with district technology coordinators and district testing coordinators.

On August 29 DRC completed an update to the Device Tool Kit. This update now allows you to use the Device Toolkit Dashboard to visually monitor and manage your configurations and their devices. Any ORG Units previously created will appear in the new Device Toolkit Dashboard as configurations. Each configuration contains the same testing devices and TSM as the ORG Units from which it was created.

For more information, please refer to the [Device Toolkit Update Guide](#).

New: Updated LEAP 2025 Assessment Guides

[LEAP 2025 Assessment Guides](#) for grades 3-8 math, ELA, social studies, Algebra I, Geometry, English I, and English II have been updated and reposted to the Assessment Guidance library.

Summary of primary updates

- ELA: minor test design changes for all grades/courses
- ELA and math: session times updated for all grades/courses
- Social studies: achievement level descriptors for all grades

Future Updates

- The LEAP 2025 U.S. History session times are still being determined and guides will be updated with this information in September 2017.
- Specific calculator information about the online platform will be included in a Fall 2017 update of the LEAP 2025 Algebra I and Geometry Assessment Guides.
- Science grades 3-8 and Biology Field Test Guides will be available Fall 2017.

Please email assessment@la.gov for more information.

Reminders for District Testing Coordinators and Accountability Contacts

A new file layout will be posted to [eDIRECT](#) on September 13, 2017. This layout will now include online accommodations for Interim, Diagnostic, EAGLE 2.0, and Practice Test assessments. This new layout must be used to upload students for these assessment administrations. Students will not load unless school systems add the appropriate headers or move the students to the new layout.

Assessment Administration Support and Training

Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call: Tuesday, September 12, 2017, at 1:00 p.m.

- Webinar link: <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/assessment-accountability/>
- Phone Number: 1-646-307-1380
- Participant PIN code: 89147656

Resources

The following updated resources have been posted in the Assessment Library:

- [Office Hours Questions and Answers 2017-2018](#);
- [2017-2018 Assessment Calendar](#); and
- [2017-2018 Individual Accommodation Plan \(IAP\)](#).

Please email assessment@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Guidance on Student Fees

As first communicated in the June 20, 2017, weekly newsletter, [House Resolution 183](#) of 2017 urges and requests all schools that participate in the Louisiana Scholarship Program to enact and publish policies relative to student fees. Please refer to the Department [guidance document](#) if your governing board has not yet enacted and published these policies. The Department will submit a report to the Legislature by January 1, 2018, identifying the policies that have been adopted, pursuant to the Legislature's request.

Please email erin.bendily@la.gov for more information.

Reminder: Submitting Transfers for the 2017-18 SY

As in previous years, [transfer forms](#) must be completed and signed by the **receiving school** and sent to StudentScholarships@LA.gov. Families in Orleans parish should be directed toward the receiving school, not the Family Resource Centers. Students should not purchase uniforms or begin attending the new school until the transfer has been processed and approved by the Department of Education.

If you have a particular question or concern regarding a transfer request, you can email studentscholarships@la.gov or call (504) 304-5467.

Tuition Donation Rebate Program (TDR) News

Frequently Asked Questions and Contact Information

Information about the Tuition Donation Rebate Program can be found in the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and [Scholarship Programs Comparison Chart](#). Currently, Louisiana has three School Tuition Organizations participating in the Tuition Donation Rebate Program:

ACE Scholarships Louisiana, Arete Scholars Louisiana, and New Schools for Baton Rouge Excellence Scholarship Fund. Schools interested in participating in the TDR program should communicate directly with one or more School Tuition Organizations.

School Tuition Organization	Regional Focus	STO Website	Email	Phone
ACE Scholarships Louisiana	Statewide	www.acescholarships.org	TDR@acescholarships.org	504-491-1813

Arete Scholars Louisiana	Statewide	www.aretescholars.org	maryhw@aretescholars.org	225-245-3610
New Schools for Baton Rouge Excellence Scholarship Fund	Baton Rouge	newschoolsbr.org/our-approach/excellence-scholarship-fund	esf@newschoolsbr.org	225-395-1686

School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities (SCP)

New: Q1 Enrollment Closes on 9/8

The Quarter 1 enrollment verification window for the School Choice Program opened on Wednesday and will close on September 8th. Please complete the enrollment verification process in SCS on time to ensure prompt payment.

Please remember that LEADs passwords expire every 30 days and must be reset at <https://password.doe.louisiana.gov/>. Additionally, pop-up blockers must be turned off.

Please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with any questions.

Reminder: Submitting Transfers for the 2017-18 SY

If a student wishes to transfer a School Choice Award for Students with Exceptionalities, [transfer forms](#) must be completed and signed by the receiving school and sent to nonpublicschools@la.gov.

Other

New: Nonpublic School Annual Report and School Approval Process

Nonpublic school leaders were sent an email earlier this week regarding two important action items related to the Nonpublic Annual School Report and the Nonpublic School Approval process. Completing these processes is required for all nonpublic schools in order to receive state and federal funding. The text of the email can be found [here](#).

Please direct any questions to nonpublicschools@la.gov.

Other Department Newsletters

To view the **September 5th District Newsletter** or the **August 31st Nonpublic School Choice Newsletter**, please [visit the LDOE Newsroom](#).

To be added to the newsletter distribution list, please send an email to studentscholarships@la.gov.

LDOE Contacts

[John White](#)
State Superintendent of Education
877.453.2721 (toll-free)
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LDOE Links

[LDOE Website](#)
[Contact Us](#)

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