

Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section	Section Description	Page
Introduction and Purpose		2
Section I: BESE Approved Home Study Program Overview	Curriculum, Grade Level, and Applications	3
	Compulsory Attendance, Eligibility, State funding, Textbooks, Students with Exceptionalities, and High School Diplomas	4
	Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) and State Testing	5
Section II: Application Instructions	Application Overview	6
	Application Required Information	7
	Initial Application Required Documentation	8
	Renewal Application Required Documentation	9
	Submitting a Home Study Application: Online and Mail-in	10
Section III: Additional Information	Interscholastic Athletics Borrow/Purchase Textbooks Sample Curriculum Resources	11
	Admitted/Readmittance into a School System HISSET Exam	12
Appendix	Appendix A: Home Study Paper Application	13-14
	Appendix B: Laws and Policies	15
	Appendix C: Sample High School Diploma Template	16
	Appendix D: Local School Board Office Contact Information	17-20
	Appendix E: Required Documentation to Obtain a Driver's License or Learner's Permit	21



Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

These guidelines provide valuable information to families wishing to start their own [Board of Elementary and Secondary Education \(BESE\) Approved Home Study Program](#) for their own children. The [Louisiana Department of Education \(LDOE\)](#) provides a similar handbook for families interested in educating their children through a [Nonpublic School Not Seeking State Approval](#).

The LDOE has divided these guidelines into four sections to help easily organize this information for families:

Section	Section Description
Section I: BESE Approved Home Study Program Overview	Highlights the key responsibilities and information for families participating in a BESE Approved Home Study program.
Section II: Application Instructions	Informs parents about both: a) information requested for initial and renewal applications; and, b) how to submit an application using the online application system or mail.
Section III: Additional Information	Provides information to families on a variety of topics like How to Participate in Interscholastic Activities and How to Find Sample Curriculum Resources .
Appendix	Contains supplemental resources for families to use for their BESE Approved Home Study program. Resources include a sample high school diploma template and the Approved Home Study paper application.

If you have questions about starting a BESE Approved Home Study Program, please contact the LDOE's toll free number at 1-877-453-2721.

BESE Approved Home Study Programs should not be confused with the provisions by a district under the State's homebound law for eligible students who are temporarily ill or injured and can receive instruction from a certified teacher in core content areas while at home or in the hospital. To apply for homebound services, contact your local school board office.



Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

I. BESE APPROVED HOME STUDY PROGRAM OVERVIEW

CURRICULUM, GRADE LEVEL, AND APPLICATIONS

A BESE Approved Home Study program provides Louisiana families the opportunity to independently educate their child. In a BESE Approved Home Study program, parents have complete control and responsibility for educating their child. Parent’s primary responsibilities include: a) selecting and using curriculum to teach their child; b) determining the child’s grade placement; and c) submitting [initial and renewal home study applications](#) to the LDOE for approval.

Key Responsibility	Responsibility Description
Curriculum	<p>Parents have complete control over selecting the curriculum to use to educate their child. Parents must use a sustained curriculum of quality at least equal to that offered by public schools at the same grade level.</p> <p>A parent or tutor may be permitted to provide the instruction; there are no teaching certification requirements.</p> <p>While the decision of what curriculum to select is completely up to the parents, Section III: Additional Information provides examples of how to find sample curriculum resources.</p>
Grade Level	<p>Parents determine the grade level at which they plan to teach their child during the upcoming year. The LDOE does not make assumptions or judgments about the grade level provided by the parent. In addition, retroactive changes to a student’s grade level are not allowed.</p>
Applications	<p>Parents must submit an initial application to the LDOE to receive BESE Approval. Once initially approved, parents must submit a renewal application by the first of October of the school year, or within 12 months of approval of the initial application, whichever is later. The approvals are valid for one year from the date of approval for the grade level indicated on the application. If a student transitions to a new grade level before the 12 month period ends, parents should submit a renewal application indicating the student’s current grade level.</p> <p>The LDOE has designed an online application system to help parents submit their application. The online system allows the LDOE to send automatic emails confirming both: a) when an application is submitted; and, b) when the LDOE approves the application.</p> <p>The online system is available at: https://webapps.doe.louisiana.gov/publicapps/homestudy_app/homestudy_app.aspx.</p> <p>In limited/hardship circumstances, parents may submit a paper application. See Section II: Application Instructions for more information.</p>



Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE, ELIGIBILITY, STATE FUNDING, TEXTBOOKS, STUDENTS WITH EXCEPTIONALITIES, AND HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS

In addition to key responsibilities, the following table highlights key information for families about BESE-Approved Home Study programs.

Topic	Topic Description
Compulsory Attendance	A child who participates in a BESE Approved Home Study program is considered: a) in attendance at a day school; and b) compliant with state compulsory attendance laws. See Appendix B: Laws and Policies for more information.
Eligibility	To be eligible to participate in a home study program, a child must be eligible by Louisiana law to attend a Louisiana elementary or secondary school.
State Funding	Parents are responsible for all Approved Home Study Program related costs. No state funding is available for parents who have students in an Approved Home Study Program.
Textbooks	Parents have the option to use a state-approved textbook from the local school system if extra copies are available . Local school systems may charge a deposit for each book borrowed, with that deposit being refunded when the book(s) is/are returned. Please note: Parents are not required to use state approved textbooks along with their selected curriculum. See Section III: Additional Information for more information about how to borrow/purchase textbooks.
Students with Exceptionalities	BESE-Approved Home Study Programs do not qualify for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 U.S.C. §1400, et seq., nor for modifications and/or accommodations under §504 of the Rehabilitation Act or the Americans with Disabilities Education Act. (Adopted by the BESE on November 15, 1984. Revised April 2002.) Before enrolling in the BESE-Approved Home Study Program, parents who have children with exceptionalities should contact their local education agency for information regarding the free and appropriate educational services available. See Appendix B: Laws and Policies for more information.
High School Diplomas	Diplomas from BESE Approved Home Study programs have the same rights and privileges as those awarded to a BESE Approved Nonpublic School. Parents create and issue diplomas for an Approved Home Study Program; they are not awarded by BESE or the LDOE. Therefore, a depiction, reproduction, or duplication of state seals or wording which implies from BESE or the LDOE is unauthorized.



Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

	<p>All diplomas from BESE-Approved Home Study programs are recognized by all public secondary educational institutions, state departments, agencies, boards, and commissions and all other state/local government entities.</p> <p>See Appendix C: Sample High School Diploma for an example template that families use.</p>
--	--

TAYLOR OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM FOR STUDENTS (TOPS) AND STATE TESTS AND ASSESSMENTS

Topic	Topic Description
<p>Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS)</p>	<p>To be eligible for the TOPS Scholarship program, students must be enrolled in a BESE Approved Home Study program for both 11th and 12th grade. In addition, students must meet TOPS’ ACT requirements. If a student previously attended a Louisiana public high school, a Louisiana nonpublic high school, or an approved non-Louisiana high school, the previously attended high school must certify that the student was in good standing at the time the student last attended such school. Certification must be on the school’s letterhead and signed by the principal, headmaster, or appropriate personnel at the high school previously attended. Certification can also be obtained from the school board office. Please mail original documents to: LOSFA, Scholarship/Grant Division, P.O. Box 91202, Baton Rouge, LA 70821- 9202. For additional information regarding the TOPS Scholarship program for home study students, see LOSFA’s TOPS Q&A.</p> <p>Please note that the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA) – not the LDOE – administers the TOPS program.</p> <p>Parents who are interested in more information about the TOPS program should contact the Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance at 800-259-5626, extension 1012.</p>
<p>State Tests and Assessments</p>	<p>State testing is not required for BESE Approved Home Study programs. However, a parent may schedule state testing (i.e., English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies) for their child through the local school board’s testing administrator (See Appendix D: Local School Board Office Contact Information). Administered tests shall correspond with the enrolled grade. It is the parents’ responsibility to make testing arrangements through the local school board office during the first part of January.</p> <p>A fee covering actual costs of administering, scoring, and reporting the results of the test of up to \$35 may be charged. For those students testing in order to enter the public school system, this fee shall be refunded upon the student’s enrollment in that public school system the semester immediately following the testing. The District Testing Coordinator shall provide test results to parents after the test results are sent to the public school.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: https://www.louisianabelieves.com/measuringresults</p>



Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

II. APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

APPLICATION OVERVIEW

Families wishing to participate in a BESE Approved Home Study program must complete and submit an application to the LDOE. The LDOE reviews these applications and grants BESE approval if the applications contain all of the required information and documentation.

Families must submit an initial application no later than 15 days after the beginning of the home study program. It is suggested, when possible, that families apply for home study before withdrawing from school. Families wishing to withdraw their students from a public school to pursue a BESE Approved Home Study option may do so prior to receiving Louisiana Department of Education approval. A school cannot refuse to let a parent withdraw their child from public school, but if a child between the ages of 5 and 18 (unless the child has graduated) is not enrolled in a public or nonpublic school or is not participating in a BESE Approved Home Study program for at least 180 days in the school year, then the parents of that child could be in violation of the Compulsory Attendance Law. Upon receipt of a home study approval letter, it is suggested, when possible, that families provide a copy to their prior school. In addition, in compliance with [R.S. 17:3913](#), all school districts are provided a copy of their district's home study approval letters monthly. If additional information is needed, schools can email homestudy@la.gov

Home study program applications are valid for one year from the approval date for the grade level indicated on the application. Once initially approved, families must submit a renewal application to maintain their child in an Approved Home Study program by the first of October of the school year, or within 12 months of approval of the initial application, whichever is later, or when the student is ready to advance to the next grade level. Families must submit complete applications with all required information and documentation to receive approval.

Families must submit a home study application through the online system. Completing the application through this system allows families to receive an automatic email as verification that the application has been successfully submitted. It also will allow families to track the progress of their application, edit their application during the pre-approval process, reprint approval letters, apply for a renewal more easily, and receive other pertinent alerts and notifications*. Parents will receive an official Approval Verification letter once their application is approved within 1-2 weeks. If the application is rejected/denied, the LDOE will follow up with additional questions/next steps within 1-2 weeks via the online system*.

In limited circumstances, parents may submit a paper application for a BESE Approved Home Study Program if they are unable to access the online application or do not have internet access. Parents submitting applications via mail should receive official approval letters within 2-3 weeks. If the application is rejected/denied, the LDOE will follow up via postal mail with additional questions/next steps within 2-3 weeks.

NOTE: During peak periods from July through October, it may take up to a month to receive the approval verification letters due to the volume of applications received during this time. However in most cases, online applications are able



Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

to be processed at a faster rate than mailed-in paper applications.

APPLICATION REQUIRED INFORMATION

Both Initial and Renewal applications ask families to submit the following information:

Section	Section Description:
Student Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Name ● Grade level ● Date of birth
Family Contact Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Name of parent/legal guardian ● Telephone number ● E-mail address (optional – enhances communication with families) ● Address (physical and mailing address) ● Parish or City/Community School District
School Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Type of school previously attended <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ BESE approved/Approved Home Study (i.e. district public school, public charter school, private/nonpublic school) ○ Not BESE approved (i.e. Nonpublic School Not Seeking State Approval) ○ Out of state ● Name of school previously attended ● Address ● Telephone number ● Parish/School district
Immunization Statement	<p>Students who are 11 years old need to indicate one of three options that address their immunization status for the meningococcal disease:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The student has proof of immunization against meningococcal disease; 2. The student was not immunized against meningococcal disease for religious or other personal reasons; or, 3. The student has a written statement from a physician stating that the immunization is contraindicated for medical reasons, including shortage of supply of vaccine. No documentation of meningococcal immunization needs to be provided to the LDOE.
Assurance Statement	<p>The person completing the application acknowledges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● he/she/they are the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of the child ● the information provided in the application is true and correct ● he/she/they have read and agree to comply with all requirements of the Home Study program as outlined in R.S. 17:236:1



Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

INITIAL APPLICATION REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

Initial applications also require the following documentation:

Documentation	Documentation Description:
Birth Certificate Copy	Please upload a clear certified copy of the child's birth certificate to the online application system. If submitting the application via mail, please do not send an original birth certificate. The LDOE is not responsible if the original birth certificate is lost or damaged.



Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

RENEWAL APPLICATION REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

For renewals, documentation that provides satisfactory evidence that the home study program offered a sustained curriculum of quality at least equal to that offered by public schools at the same grade level must be submitted to the LDOE.

Parents have three options for the type of evidence they can provide. Parents only have to provide documentation for one of these options when they submit their renewal application.

Documentation	Documentation Description:
<p>Option 1: Curriculum "Packet"</p>	<p>Families may submit a packet of materials which demonstrates that the home study program offered a sustained curriculum of quality at least equal to that offered by public schools at the same grade level.</p> <p>This packet of materials may include such documents as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. A complete, but simple, outline of the subjects taught during the previous year; B. A complete, but simple, list of books and materials that were used; C. A statement from a 3rd party (e.g. relative, friend) observing the student's progress; D. Copies of a small sampling of the student's work from the previous year. <p style="text-align: center;">Please send only 1-2 pages per core subject area taught (i.e. Math, English, Social Studies, Science);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> E. A report card and/or copies of standardized tests. <p>Please submit copies of these documents. Mailed documents may not be returned.</p>
<p>Option 2: Standardized Test Scores</p>	<p>Families may submit verification that the child has taken a standardized examination and scored at or above the grade level or the child has progressed at a rate equal to one grade level for each year in the home study program.</p> <p>Standardized exams may include, but are not limited to, any of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. iLEAP English Language Arts and Math tests for grades 3, 5, 6, 7, and 9; B. Louisiana LEAP for grades 4 and 8; C. End of Course Exams for grades 9-12; D. ACT; E. The California Achievement Test (CAT) or Stanford Test F. Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS); G. or SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test).



Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

<p>Option 3: Teacher Statement</p>	<p>A statement from a teacher certified to teach at the child's grade level that the teacher has examined the program being offered and that, in their professional opinion, the child is being taught in accordance with a sustained curriculum of quality at least equal to that offered by public schools at the same grade level, and/or in the case of children with mental or physical disabilities, a curriculum at least equal to that offered by public schools to children with similar disabilities. Any such teacher evaluation provided for in this Subsection shall be subject to review and approval of the State Board of Education.</p>
---	--

SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION: ONLINE AND MAIL-IN

How to Submit a Home Study Application

Families may submit their home study application in two ways:

1. using the [online system](#); or
2. mailing a paper application and required documentation to the LDOE - **ONLY in the case of limited circumstances/hardships** (i.e. unable to access the online application or do not have internet access).

Submitting an application online has the following benefits:

- Easily submit a home study application
- Receive automatic emails once the online form is completed
- Experience a reduction in wait-time for application status updates
- Receive an emailed approval letter the moment LDOE approves the application
- Track the progress of the application*
- Edit the application during the pre-approval process*
- Reprint approval letters*
- Apply for a renewal more easily*
- Receive pertinent alerts and notifications*

** Added features of new EdLink Home Study Online System effective Fall 2023*

To learn more about how to submit an application using the online system, please review the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) on the LDOE's Home Study website.

Submitting Online Applications:

1. Go to the [Home Study](#) section of the LDOE's website.
2. Click on the link that says: "Click here to submit a home study application online".
3. Complete the online application form.
 - a. This form asks for the same information requested in the paper application.
 - b. Provide your email address; while optional, this allows the LDOE to communicate with families (see step 5).
 - c. One question will ask you to upload any required documentation. See [Section II: Application Instructions](#).
4. At the end of the application, click "Submit".
5. If an email address was provided, an automatic email will be sent confirming the successful submission of the home study application.
 - a. The LDOE will review the application and any uploaded documentation and either approve the application or deny the application and follow up with additional questions/next steps.



Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

- b. If an email was provided, the official approval letter will be sent via email the moment the LDOE approves the application.
- c. If an email was not provided, the LDOE will mail the official approval letter to the address provided in the application.

Submitting Paper Applications:

1. Complete the paper application. See [Appendix A: Home Study Paper Application](#).
2. Attach certified **copies** of all of the required documentation. See [Section II: Application Instructions](#).
3. Mail the completed application and required documentation to:

ATTN: Approved Home Study Program
Louisiana Department of Education
P.O. Box 94064
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

III. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS, BORROW/PURCHASE TEXTBOOKS, SAMPLE CURRICULUM RESOURCES

Topic	Topic Description:
<p>How to Participate in Interscholastic Athletics</p>	<p>In accordance with ACT 715; A public school shall not disqualify a student from participating in extracurricular activities or interscholastic athletics solely because the student is enrolled in an approved home study program, so long as the student lives in the attendance zone of the public school.</p> <p>A student who is enrolled in an approved home study program shall try out or apply for extracurricular activities or interscholastic athletics at the public school in the same manner, time, and place as the students who attend the public school.</p> <p>After the try out or application, should the approved home study student meet the qualification for an extracurricular activities club or an interscholastic athletics team, the approved home study student shall be required to maintain all requirements for participation that a public school student would have to meet in order to participate in the extracurricular activity or the interscholastic athletics activity, including but not limited to maintaining a minimum grade point average and complying with disciplinary standards. Failure to meet the requirements with respect to a minimum grade point average or failure to adhere to the disciplinary standards shall be grounds for the school to remove the approved home study student from participation in the extracurricular activities club or the interscholastic athletics team.</p> <p>Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, no public school may be a member of, or participate in any competition sponsored by any interscholastic extracurricular athletic</p>



Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

	<p>association or organization that denies eligibility to a student solely on the basis of the student's enrollment in an approved home study program</p>
<p>How to Borrow / Purchase Textbooks</p>	<p>Parents who have been approved by BESE to provide a home study program to their children and who wish to inquire about state-approved textbooks for their student(s) have these options:</p> <p>To borrow textbooks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact the administrator at your local public school and request to borrow or check out one set of books for each student at the appropriate grade level. Be prepared to present a copy of your approval for home study and to pay a deposit on the books. • Contact the textbook or curriculum supervisor at the local school board office and request to borrow or check out one set of books for each student at the appropriate grade level. Be prepared to present a copy of your approval for home study and to pay a deposit on the books. <p>For more information on textbooks, please visit: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/academics/ONLINE-INSTRUCTIONAL-MATERIALS-REVIEWS</p>
<p>How to Find Sample Curriculum Resources</p>	<p>Parents have complete control in selecting the curriculum for their child's home study program. To help parents meet this obligation, the LDOE provides numerous free resources on its website that can be used for curriculum development and as measure of program comparability. You can find the LDOE's library of academic standards here: https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/academic-standards</p> <p>In addition to the above sample resources, parents may choose to instead use curriculum provided by other resources. Please note that the LDOE does not maintain a list of approved home study curriculum programs nor recommend the use of one particular program or strategy or the other.</p> <p>Parents who are new to the process may want to start with an internet search using keywords such as home study program, home school, or distance learning. Parents can select a program that best fits the goals they have set for their own child. Generally, accredited private programs purchased by the parent will include all the necessary instructional resources (e.g., textbooks with the teacher's edition, workbook, lesson plans, tests, answer keys, etc.). In these cases, the use of additional curriculum and textbooks from the public school district would not be recommended.</p>



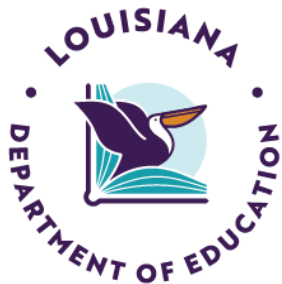
Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

ADMITTANCE/READMITTANCE INTO A SCHOOL SYSTEM HISET EXAM

Topic	Topic Description:
<p>How to be Admitted (or Readmitted) into a School System</p>	<p>Parents who choose to enter their children in nonpublic or public schools after having been enrolled in a BESE Approved Home Study Program are responsible for all educational documentation and/or verification required by the local school system. Students entering a school system must comply with all school or district requirements.</p> <p>The local public school system is required to have a written policy included in its Pupil Progression Plan for the admission or readmission of home study students to the public schools. Contact the child welfare and attendance supervisor at the local school board office for the procedures outlined in the Pupil Progression Plan. For admission or readmission procedures to a nonpublic school, contact the nonpublic school directly.</p> <p>Administrators responsible for the BESE Approved Home Study Program located at the Louisiana Department of Education will not offer an opinion as to the student's grade level, achievement level, or appropriate academic placement. In addition, a receiving nonpublic or public school, i.e. local school system, must conduct testing or evaluation of the student(s) to determine the student's proper grade level or Carnegie credits.</p> <p>For students testing in order to enter the public school system, testing fees shall be refunded upon the student's enrollment in that public school system the semester immediately following the testing.</p>
<p>How to Take the HiSET (if applicable)</p>	<p>Students who wish to earn a diploma from their BESE Approved Home Study program are not required to take the HiSET.</p> <p>The HiSET is available for students below the age of eighteen and beyond sixteen years of age who seek to exit their home study program. Parents must complete the age waiver request form and verify that the child meets one of the allowable criteria found in Bulletin 741 Section 1103 to exit school and have it approved by the local school district before enrolling at a Louisiana Community and Technical College System approved adult education program. Parents must submit an approved age waiver to the adult education or vocational education site director at a site that is approved through the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, Office of the WorkReadyU.</p> <p>For more information, please visit http://hiset.ets.org/.</p> <p>Adults seeking a high school diploma should contact the Louisiana Community and Technical College System's Adult Education/WorkReady U Office at 225-922-2800, or online at: http://www.lctcs.edu/.</p> <p>Previously, the GED was the test used to qualify for a High School Equivalency Diploma in Louisiana. A High School Equivalency Diploma is now based upon passing the HiSET Test.</p>



Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

APPENDIX A: HOME STUDY PAPER APPLICATION

Families must submit a home study application through the [online system](#). In limited circumstances, parents may submit a paper application for a BESE Approved Home Study Program if they are unable to access the online application or do not have internet access.

Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education
HOME STUDY PROGRAM APPLICATION
 In Accordance with R.S. 17:236, and 17:236.1.
 Valid for One Year from Approval Date for the Indicated Grade Level

Section 1: Student Information

For each student listed, please check whether registration is **INITIAL** or **RENEWAL**

FIRST/MIDDLE/LAST NAME and SUFFIX (if applicable)	GRADE LEVEL (REQUIRED)	DATE OF BIRTH (REQUIRED)	INITIAL APPLICANT MUST ATTACH Certified Copy of Birth Certificate	RENEWAL APPLICANT MUST ATTACH Packet, Test Scores, or Letter from Certified Teacher

FAILURE TO ENCLOSE THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION WILL SLOW DOWN APPROVAL PROCESS AND APPLICATION WILL BE RETURNED

Section 2: Parent/Legal Guardian Contact Information

Name of Parent/Legal Guardian

Telephone Number

Email Address (Optional) *Provide an email address if you prefer to receive your official approval letter via email instead of by mail.*

Physical Address (City, State, Zip Code)

Parish/County

Mailing Address - *If different than above* (City, State, Zip Code)

Parish/County

Section 3: School Information

The Louisiana Department of Education collects information about previous attendance to ensure school systems and districts are reporting accurate information. Please indicate where your student was previously enrolled prior to applying for the Home Study Program.

- My student previously attended a BESE approved school (i.e. district public school, public charter school, private/nonpublic school)
- My student previously attended a BESE Approved Home Study
- My student has not previously attended a BESE approved school (i.e. Nonpublic School Not Seeking State Approval)
- My student attended school in another state



Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

Name of Previous School

Phone Number

Parish/School District

Physical Address (City, State, Zip Code)

Section 4: Required Documentation

- Initial Application - Birth Certificate
- Renewal Application - Packet, Test Scores, or Letter from Certified Teacher

Section 5: Immunization Assurance Statements

If your child is 11 years old or entering 6th grade, please check one of the following to denote that you have satisfactory documentation addressing meningococcal disease.

- I have medical records for students who are 11 years old that denote proof of immunization against meningococcal disease.
- My child(ren) shall not be immunized against meningococcal disease for religious or other personal reasons.
- I have a written statement from a physician stating that the immunization is contraindicated for medical reasons, including shortage of supply of vaccines.
- My child is not 11 years old.

Section 6: Assurance Statement

By checking the box below, I, the parent or legal guardian of the child(ren) noted above, hereby attest that the provided on this form is true and correct. I have read and agree to comply with all requirements of the Home Study Program as indicated in R.S. 17:236:1.

- I Agree

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

Date

Note: Program Approval does not address custody issues

IMPORTANT: Parents should contact the [Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance \(LOSFA\)](#) at 800-259-5626, extension 1012 concerning any questions they may have about Taylor Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) eligibility.

PLEASE RETURN APPLICATION TO: ATTN: BESE Approved Home Study Program Louisiana Department of Education P.O. Box 94064 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804	Official State Use ONLY
	DATE APPROVED _____

- By checking this box, I am notifying the Department **not** to disclose directory information without prior written consent.



Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

APPENDIX B: LAWS AND POLICIES

Law/Policy	Law/Policy Description:
<p>Compulsory Attendance Laws</p>	<p>Every parent, guardian or other person having custody or control of a child between the ages of five and eighteen has the primary responsibility of ensuring that the child regularly attends school. Louisiana law provides for parent, state, and school district responsibilities' regarding compulsory attendance laws:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● R.S. 17:221. A.1-4. School attendance, compulsory ages, and duty of parents: http://legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?p=y&d=80276 ● R.S. 17:230. Powers and duties of visiting teachers, or supervisors of child welfare and attendance: http://legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?p=y&d=80322; and ● R.S. 17:232.C. and D. Attendance records, principals' and teachers' duty to furnish; penalty for violation; pupil absence upon own authority prohibited; notice http://legis.la.gov/Legis/Law.aspx?d=80324.
<p>Special Education Laws</p>	<p>Students attending a BESE Approved Home Study program or Nonpublic Not Seeking State approval program do not qualify for special education and related services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 U.S.C. §1400, et seq., nor do those students in such programs qualify for modifications and/or accommodations under §504 of the Rehabilitation Act or the Americans with Disabilities Education Act. (Adopted by the BESE on November 15, 1984. Revised April 2002.)</p> <p>For additional information regarding educating students with exceptionalities, please visit the Students with Disabilities section of the LDOE's website: http://www.louisianabelieves.com/academics/students-with-disabilities</p>
<p>Due Process Policies</p>	<p>The due process procedures for resolution of disagreements at the local level pertaining to the application and reauthorization of the home study plan shall follow the procedures established by the BESE in Bulletin 741: Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators</p>



Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

APPENDIX C: SAMPLE HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA TEMPLATE

The LDOE recommends that a diploma from your home study program provide the name of your program and a statement that certifies completion in accordance with laws established by the State of Louisiana. A seal with the home study program name may be affixed, but is not required.

For those not obtaining a diploma from a nationally-accredited home study program, below is a recommended sample diploma:

Name of Home Study Program
High School Diploma
This Certifies That

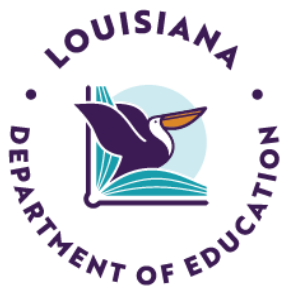
Name of Student

has completed a home study program approved by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education in accordance with laws established by the State of Louisiana and is hereby awarded this diploma as evidence of graduation from (Name of Home Study Program).

Given this ____ day of ____ A.D. 20____

Approval Signature(s)

Please be aware that home study program diplomas **are not** awarded by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education or by the Louisiana Department of Education. Therefore, depiction, reproduction, or duplication of state seals or wording which implies implementation of the prescribed course of study required for public schools is unauthorized.



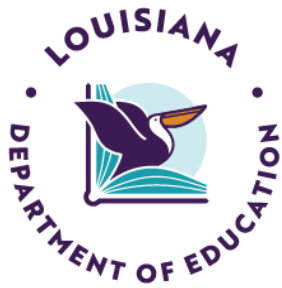
Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

APPENDIX D: LOCAL SCHOOL BOARD OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

District/Parish	Street Address	City/ Zip Code	Telephone	Fax Number
Acadia	2402 N. Parkerson Avenue	Crowley, LA 70526	(337) 783-3664	(337) 783-3761
Allen	1111 West Seventh Ave.	Oberlin, LA 70655	(337) 639-4311	(337) 639-2346
Ascension	42211 N. City Parc Drive	Sorrento, LA 70778	(225) 391-7000	(225) 473-3539
Assumption	4901 Highway 308	Napoleonville, LA 70390	(985) 369-7251	(985) 369-2530
Avoyelles	221 Tunica Drive West	Marksville, LA 71351	(318) 240-0201	(318) 253-5178
Beauregard	202 West Third Street	DeRidder, LA 70634	(337) 463-5551	(337) 463-6735
Bienville	1956 First Street	Arcadia, LA 71001	(318) 263-9416	(318) 263-3100
Bossier	316 Sibley Street	Benton, LA 71006	(318) 549-5000	(318) 549-5044
Caddo	1961 Midway	Shreveport, LA 71108	(318) 603-6300	(318) 631-5241
Calcasieu	3310 Broad Street	Lake Charles, LA 70615	(337) 217-4010	(337) 217-4001
Caldwell	7112 Highway 165	Columbia, LA 71418	(318) 649-2689	(318) 649-0636
Cameron	510 Marshall Street	Cameron, LA 70631	(337) 775-5784	(337) 775-5097
Catahoula	200 Bushley Street	Harrisonburg, LA 71340	(318) 744-5727	(318) 744-9221
Claiborne	415 East Main Street	Homer, LA 71040	(318) 927-3502	(318) 927-9184
Concordia	4358 Highway 84 West	Vidalia, LA 71373	(318) 336-4226	(318) 336-5875
DeSoto	201 Crosby Street	Mansfield, LA 71052	(318) 872-2836	(318) 872-1324
East Baton Rouge	1050 S. Foster Drive	Baton Rouge, LA 70806	(225) 922-5400	(225) 922-5499
East Carroll	514 Third Street	Lake Providence, LA 71254	(318) 559-2222	(318) 559-3864
East Feliciana	12732 Silliman Street	Clinton, LA 70722-0397	(225) 683-8277	(225) 683-3320
Evangeline	1123 Te Mamou Road	Ville Platte, LA 70586	(337) 363-6651	(337) 363-8086
Franklin	7293 Prairie Road	Winnsboro, LA 71295	(318) 435-9046	(318) 435-3392

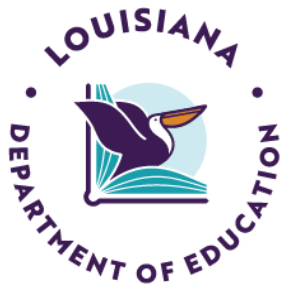


Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

District/Parish	Street Address	City/ Zip Code	Telephone	Fax Number
Grant	512 Main Street	Colfax, LA 71417	(318) 627-3274	(318) 627-5931
Iberia	1500 Jane Street	New Iberia, LA 70560	(337) 365-2341	(337) 365-6996
Iberville	58030 Plaquemine Street	Plaquemine, LA 70764	(225) 687-4341	(225) 687-5408
Jackson	315 Pershing Highway	Jonesboro, LA 71251	(318) 259-4456	(318) 259-2527
Jefferson	1901 Manhattan, Suite	Harvey, LA 70058	(504) 349-7600	(504) 349-7960
Jefferson Davis	203 E. Plaquemine Street	Jennings, LA 70546	(337) 824-1834	(337) 824-9737
Lafayette	113 Chaplin Drive	Lafayette, LA 70508	(337) 521-7000	(337) 233-0977
Lafourche	805 East 7th Street	Thibodaux, LA 70301	(985) 446-5631	(985) 446-0801
LaSalle	3012 N. First Street	Jena, LA 71342	(318) 992-2161	(318) 992-8457
Lincoln	410 S. Farmerville Street	Ruston, LA 71270	(318) 255-1430	(318) 255-3203
Livingston	13909 Florida Boulevard	Livingston, LA 70754	(225) 686-7044	(225) 686-3052
Madison	301 South Chestnut Street	Tallulah, LA 71282	(318) 574-3616	(318) 574-3667
Morehouse	4099 Naff Avenue	Bastrop, LA 71220	(318) 281-5784	(318) 283-3430
Natchitoches	310 Royal Street	Natchitoches, LA 71457	(318) 352-2358	(318) 352-8138
Orleans	2401 Westbend Parkway	New Orleans, LA 70114	(504) 304-5680	(504) 309-2865
LaSalle	3012 N. First Street	Jena, LA 71342	(318) 992-2161	(318) 992-8457
Ouachita	100 Bry Street	Monroe, LA 71201	(318) 432-5000	(318) 432-5320
Plaquemines	1484 Woodland Highway	Belle Chasse, LA 70037	(504) 595-6400	(504) 392-4973
Pointe Coupee	337 Napoleon Street	New Roads, LA 70760	(225) 638-8674	(225) 638-3237
Rapides	619 Sixth Street	Alexandria, LA 71301	(318) 487-0888	(318) 449-3167
Red River	1922 Alonzo Street	Coushatta, LA 71019	(318) 932-4081	(318) 932-3081
Richland	411 Foster Street	Rayville, LA 71269	(318) 728-5964	(318) 728-6366



Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

District/Parish	Street Address	City/ Zip Code	Telephone	Fax Number
Sabine	695 Peterson Street	Many, LA 71449	(318) 256-9228	(318) 256-0105
Ouachita	100 Bry Street	Monroe, LA 71201	(318) 432-5000	(318) 432-5320
St. Bernard	200 E. St. Bernard Highway	Chalmette, LA 70043	(504) 301-2000	(504) 301-2010
St. Charles	13855 River Road	Luling, LA 70070	(985) 785-6289	(985) 785-1025
St. Helena	354 Sitman Street	Greensburg, LA 70441	(225) 222-4349	(225) 222-6419
St. James	1876 West Main Street	Lutcher, LA 70071	(225) 258-4500	(225) 869-8845
St. John the Baptist	118 West 10th Street	Reserve, LA 70084	(985) 536-1106	(985) 536-1109
St. Landry	1013 Creswell Lane	Opelousas, LA 70570	(337) 948-3657	(337) 942-0204
St. Martin	600 Corporate Boulevard	Breaux Bridge, LA 70517	(337) 332-2105	(337) 332-6628
St. Mary	474 Highway 317	Centerville, LA 70522	(337) 836-6047	(337) 836-5461
St. Tammany	321 N. Theard Street	Covington, LA 70433	(985) 892-2276	(985) 898-3267
Tangipahoa	59656 Puleston Road	Amite, LA 70422	(985) 748-2502	(985) 748-8587
Tensas	512 Plank Road	St. Joseph, LA 71366	(318) 766-3269	(318) 766-3634
Terrebonne	201 Stadium Drive	Houma, LA 70360	(985) 876-7400	(985) 872-0054
St. James	1876 West Main Street	Lutcher, LA 70071	(225) 258-4500	(225) 869-8845
St. John the Baptist	118 West 10th Street	Reserve, LA 70084	(985) 536-1106	(985) 536-1109
St. Landry	1013 Creswell Lane	Opelousas, LA 70570	(337) 948-3657	(337) 942-0204
St. Martin	600 Corporate Boulevard	Breaux Bridge, LA 70517	(337) 332-2105	(337) 332-6628
Union	1202 Marion Highway	Farmerville, LA 71241	(318) 368-9715	(318) 368-1012
Vermilion	220 South Jefferson	Abbeville, LA 70510	(337) 740-5910	(337) 898-0939
Vernon	201 Belview Road	Leesville, LA 71446	(337) 239-3401	(337) 238-5777
Washington	800 Main Street	Franklinton, LA 70438	(985) 839-3436	(985) 839-5464



Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

District/Parish	Street Address	City/ Zip Code	Telephone	Fax Number
Webster	1442 Sheppard Street	Minden, LA 71055	(318) 377-7052	(318) 377-4114
West Baton Rouge	3761 Rosedale Road	Port Allen, LA 70767	(225) 343-8309	(225) 387-2101
West Carroll	314 East Main Street	Oak Grove, LA 71263	(318) 428-2378	(318) 428-3775
West Feliciana	4727 Fidelity Street	St. Francisville, LA 70775	(225) 635-3891	(225) 635-0108
Winn	304 East Court Street	Winnfield, LA 71483	(318) 628-6936	(318) 628-2582
Central Community	10510 Joor Road, Suite 300	Central, LA 70818	(225) 262-1919	(225) 262-1989
City of Baker	14750 Plank Road	Baker, LA 70714	(225) 778-2362	(225) 774-5797
City of Bogalusa	1705 Sullivan Drive	Bogalusa, LA 70427	(985) 281-2110	(985) 735-8828
City of Monroe	2006 Tower Drive	Monroe, LA 71201	(318) 325-0601	(318) 812-3604
Zachary Community	3755 Church Street	Zachary, LA 70791	(225) 658-4969	(225) 658-5261
Recovery School (LDOE)	1201 N Third Street	Baton Rouge, LA 70802	(318) 841-7634	(318) 485-4535
Special School	2888 Brightside Lane, Bld F	Baton Rouge, LA 70820	(225) 757-3220	(225) 763-5525



Dr. Cade Brumley
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

Claiborne Building | 1201 N 3rd St. | Baton Rouge, LA 70802

BESE Approved Home Study Program Guidelines

APPENDIX E: REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION TO OBTAIN A DRIVER'S LICENSE OR LEARNER'S PERMIT

Pursuant to [LA R.S. 32:431.1](#), Louisiana students enrolled in a BESE Approved Home Study program must certify that they meet required school attendance for the purposes of obtaining a driver's license or a learner's permit.

To certify the required attendance, please keep a copy of the official approval letter sent to you upon approval of the BESE Approved Home Study program. If you applied using the online system, then this official approval letter will be sent to the email provided in the application.

You must use this official approval letter as documentation of required school attendance to the Department of Motor Vehicles for the purpose of obtaining a driver's license or learner's permit.

For more information regarding driver's license or learner's permit requirements, please contact your [local Department of Motor Vehicles Office](#).