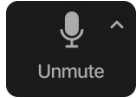


Nonpublic Schools Webinar

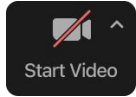
August 20, 2025



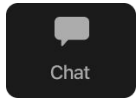
Zoom Meeting Preparation



- Please make sure your phone or computer is muted to minimize background noise.
 - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Mute.”



- Please make sure you have turned off your camera to save bandwidth and prevent any connectivity issues.
 - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Stop Video.”



- Please submit questions during the presentation in the “Chat” function located on the bottom of your screen.

If you require an interpreter or have other accessibility needs for future LDOE meetings, please contact LDOEcommunications@la.gov



Agenda

1. Application Information: BESE Approval
2. Application Information: Brumfield vs. Dodd Approval
3. Nonpublic Annual Enrollment (EdLink Access)
4. Important Dates and Deadlines
5. LA GATOR
6. School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities
 - a. Important Dates
 - b. Q1 Enrollment Timeline
 - c. Payment Adjustment Forms
 - d. Roster Verifications
 - e. Transfer Requests and Form
 - f. Declined Awards and Form
7. Resources



Nonpublic Schools



Nonpublic Schools Seeking State Approval

- The application for nonpublic schools seeking BESE (Board of Education & Secondary Education) approval for the 2026-2027 school year will be available on August 1, 2025 and will close on **October 15, 2025.**
- The applications are completed via [jotform](#), which is located on our [Nonpublic Schools](#) webpage.
- All applications should be complete upon submission. Providing incorrect documents may delay the BESE approval process.

Contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with questions.



Nonpublic Schools Seeking State Approval

Acceptable letters/certificates of accreditation:

- Review the [Accreditation Organizations](#) process to verify that your school's accreditation is acceptable.
- Accreditation letters and certificates are accepted.
- Expired accreditations **will not** be accepted.



OFFICE OF SCHOOL CHOICE

Nonpublic School Approval Process: Accreditation Organizations

[RS 17:402](#) lists accrediting agencies as Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) accreditation organizations; Cognia accreditation organizations; National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) accreditation organizations; Louisiana Montessori Association (LMA); and the Diocese and Archdiocese in which the school is located.

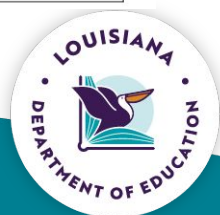
Bulletin 741 Nonpublic lists the following designations for BESE-approved schools:

1. **Accredited Approved:** The school is currently accredited by SACSCOC, Cognia, or NAIS and meets all other criteria for BESE approval;
2. **Non-Accredited Approved:** The school is not currently accredited by SACSCOC, Cognia, or NAIS, but has met all other criteria for BESE approval;
3. **Louisiana Montessori Accredited Approved:** The school meets LMA's accreditation requirements and all other criteria for BESE approval; and
4. **Louisiana Montessori Provisionally Accredited Approved:** The school is actively working towards meeting LMA's accreditation requirements, but has met all other criteria for BESE approval;

The table below outlines all accrediting agencies that qualify a school for the *Accredited Approved*, *Louisiana Montessori Accredited Approved*, or *Louisiana Montessori Provisionally Accredited Approved* designations:

Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) and Cognia Accreditation	National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS) Accreditation Organizations
Lead Partners: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)2. International Christian Accrediting Association (ICAA)3. National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA)4. International League of Christian Schools (ILCS)5. National Christian School Association (NCSA)6. Alabama Independent Schools Association (AISA)7. South Carolina Independent School Association (SCISA)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Independent School Association of the Southwest (ISAS)2. Southwestern Association of Episcopal Schools (SAES)3. Association of Waldorf Schools of North America (AWSNA)
	Louisiana Montessori Association (LMA)
	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Louisiana Montessori Association (LMA)
	Lumen Accreditation The Catholic University of America
Integrative Partners: <ol style="list-style-type: none">8. Christian Schools International (CSI)9. Southern Association of Independent Schools (SAIS)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Catholic Diocese of Lafayette (in process)2. The Catholic Diocese of Shreveport (in process)3. The Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge (in process)

Contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with questions.



Nonpublic Schools Seeking State Approval

Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) Inspection Reports

- The details of the inspection report must be included.
- Inspection reports completed before August 2024 **will not** be accepted.

 STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF PUBLIC HEALTH

School
Notice of Violations

Routine/Renewal

Permit Number	Permit Name Louisiana Department of Education School Building	
Name of Establishment	Owner Name	
Address	Date 08/15/2023	Time 08:30 AM

LAC TITLE 51 PART XVII

NON-CRITICAL ITEMS: These items should be corrected by the next regular inspection or according to the compliance schedule (see below) established by this office.

Category	Code Reference	Description of Violations

Comments:
Faucet on left in downstairs boys restroom in elementary slightly loose.
A copy of the report has been emailed to _____

Number in Attendance
1340

Sanitarian Name/Print	Phone #	Sanitarian Signature	R.S. #
-----------------------	---------	----------------------	--------

The above mentioned violations were called to my attention and were explained to me in detail. I hereby agree to

Correct Critical Violations by	Correct Non-Critical Violations by
Name/Title	Signature of Recipient


Contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with questions.




Nonpublic Schools Seeking State Approval

State Fire Marshal Inspection Reports

- City and state fire marshal inspection reports are accepted.
- Inspection reports completed before August 2024 **will not** be accepted.

 **Office of State Fire Marshal**
8181 Independence Blvd. Baton Rouge, LA 70806
(225) 925-4911 (800) 256-5452 Fax (225) 925-4241

 **Inspection Report**
Report # _____
No Deficient/Cautinary Codes cited.

Location Information

Inspection Type	Compliance Building Inspection	Inspection Date	10/11/2022 1:58:16 PM
Structure ID	_____	No. of Buildings	12
Capacity	_____	Year Built	1900
Building/Trade Name	_____	Construction Type	_____
Address		_____	

Owner Information

Owner Type	Name	Contact Phone	Contact Email
Private Project	_____	_____	_____
Address			

Tenant Information

Name	Suite Number	Floor Number	Square Footage
_____	_____	_____	_____

Occupancy Details

Occupancy Type	Details
_____	_____

Comments

NO APPARENT DEFICIENCIES AT TIME OF INSPECTION.
IN COMPLIANCE.

Name: _____ Badge Number: _____ Inspector Signature: _____

Person to whom requirements were explained

Name: _____	Title: Maintenance	Signature: _____
-------------	--------------------	------------------

For questions regarding the contents of this report, please call:
R. S. 40: 1621 Whoever fails to comply with any order issued by the Fire Marshal or his authorized representative under any provision of Part III, Chapter 7, Title 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, R.S. 40:1569 excepted, shall be fined not more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned, for more than six months or both. Each day's

Contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with questions.



Brumfield v. Dodd Approval



Nonpublic Schools Seeking Brumfield v. Dodd Approval

In order to become eligible for state and federal funding, nonpublic schools must:

- Be approved by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and also comply with Brumfield v. Dodd, a federal court order that prohibits discrimination.

Schools that desire to participate in the SCP program are required to be BESE and Brumfield v. Dodd approved and complete the Notice of Intent (NOI), which will be available starting October 1, 2025.



Nonpublic Schools Seeking Brumfield v. Dodd Approval

- The application for nonpublic schools seeking to be Brumfield v. Dodd approved for the 2026-2027 school year is now available and will close on **October, 15 2025.**
- The [Brumfield v. Dodd Initial Application](#) or [Annual Compliance Report](#) must be complete in its entirety and attached to your school's BESE application via [ioteform](#), along with the school's nondiscriminatory policy and supporting documents.

Contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with questions.



Nonpublic Annual Enrollment: EdLink Access and Reporting



EdLink Access

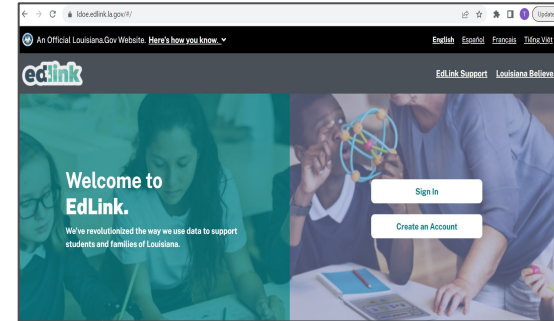
- Before submitting your school's NPS annual enrollment report, the responsible school administrator must create an EdLink account and request the "NPS School Manager Role."
- Please reference the [Nonpublic EdLink Manual](#) to create an account.
- Complete a [change request form](#) if there is an update in grade levels served and/or change in staff leadership who needs to access EdLink and receive ongoing notification from LDOE.
- If you encounter an error in the process, please contact us at nonpublicschools@la.gov.



EdLink Reporting

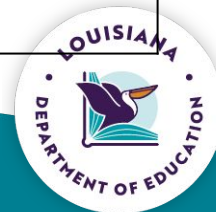
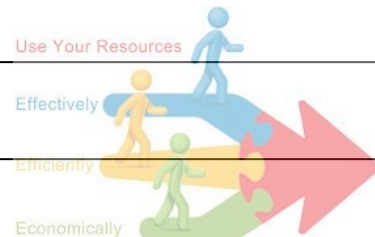
Each fall, all BESE approved nonpublic schools must submit a Nonpublic Annual Enrollment Data report to the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) by a specific deadline. The NPS reporting became available August 1, 2025 and will close on **October 15, 2025**. The following data will be required for the NPS reporting:

- Number of students by grade
- Students demographics (gender, ethnicity and grade)
- Number of Instructional days
- Number of Graduates (previous year)
- Number of Faculty



EdLink Resources

<u>Link Description</u>	<u>Link</u>
MYLA: Create a User ID and Password or reset a Password	https://my.la.gov/
Edlink Ops Portal: Complete Personal Profile, create an Edlink account	https://ldoe.edlink.la.gov/
EdLink Sign in: Complete NPS annual enrollment report	https://ldoe.edlink.la.gov/#/
Edlink Security: Request Permissions	https://registration.edlink.la.gov/
Edlink Support: Direct your questions	nonpublicschools@la.gov
Edlink Tech Support: Request Technical Support	https://edlink.supportsystem.com/



Important Dates and Deadlines

Date	Item	Where to Submit
August 1, 2025 - October 15, 2025	BESE and/or Brumfield v Dodd Approval Applications	Jotform
August 1, 2025 - October 15, 2025	Annual Enrollment	Edlink Website





LA Gator

LA GATOR Schools and Families

- To request a school visit for technical assistance
 - Email LAGATOR@la.gov. Please detail provide details for your request.
- Understanding Tuition Payments
 - [How to Verify if You've Received a Student's Tuition Payment](#)
This article details the two ways schools can check for tuition payments: via their Odyssey School Account and their Stripe dashboard.
 - [Overview: Steps Required to Receive Tuition Payments Through Odyssey](#)
This article provides a brief step-by-step breakdown of the full tuition payment process, including the actions required from both parents and schools.

Please contact help.la@withodyssey.com with questions.



Implementation Update

- Prior LSP schools should:
 - Conduct cross checks with your Quarter 4 report and current student roster from Odyssey to ensure that all students are listed.
 - **The deadline to verify all former LSP students on your new LA GATOR student roster is September 2, 2025.**
 - Issues with student rosters, tuition rates and student transfers should be forwarded to Odyssey and also send an email to studentscholarships@la.gov.
 - Changes in student data, e.g. name, birth date or grade level should be forwarded to Odyssey via a help desk ticket.

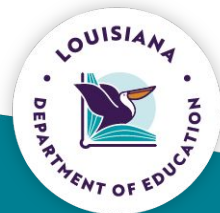
Please contact help.la@withodyssey.com with questions.



LA GATOR Support

- **LDOE's Website:** LAGATOR.la.gov
 - All FAQs and Program Policy
 - Dedicated Pages by Participant Type
 - Program Updates
 - Application Links
 - Communications Resources
- **Odyssey Support**
 - **Phone:** (225) 422-1538
 - **Email:** help.la@withodyssey.com
 - **Instant Chat:** WithOdyssey.com (bottom right corner)

Please contact help.la@withodyssey.com with questions.



Next Steps

- Students declining awards.
 - Keep track of all declines and transfers. A document will be emailed to you to submit student information to LDOE.
- Stacking Protocols for TDC and LAGATOR
 - [Stacking: LA GATOR and the Tuition Donation Tax Credit \(TDC\) Program](#)
 - Schools will have to set the tuition and fees to the amount left after the TDC scholarship is applied.

Please contact help.la@withodyssey.com with questions.





School Choice Program for Certain Students with Exceptionalities

September: Important Dates and Deadlines

Date	Item	Participants
September 2	Q1 Enrollment Opens	SCP Participating Schools
September 8	Q1 Enrollment Closes	SCP Participating Schools



October: Important Dates and Deadlines

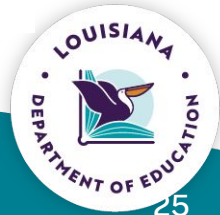
Date	Item	Participants
October 1	Notice of Intent (NOI) School Choice Program Opens	Nonpublic schools actively participating or wishing to participate in SCP
October 8	Last Day to submit Payment Adjustment Forms for Q1	SCP Participating Schools
October 31	Notice of Intent (NOI) for School Choice Program Closes	Nonpublic schools actively participating or wishing to participate in SCP



SCP Stacking with TDC

General Protocol

- SCP Scholarship funds must be applied to tuition and fees only.
- SCP Scholarship funds must be applied to tuition and fees first.
- Remaining tuition and fees must then be covered using TDC scholarship funds.
- Families are responsible for any remaining tuition and fee balance after all scholarship funds have been applied.
- SCP cannot be stacked with LA GATOR.
- New SCP students can stack with TDC due to prior public school enrollment.



SCP Stacking with TDC

Scenario	How Tuition is Paid	Use of TDC Funds	School's Role	Family's Role	Key Point for STOs to Communicate to Families
TDC/STO Scholarships Cover Part of Tuition & Fees	SCP scholarship is applied first to tuition and fees. TDC/STO scholarship is applied next to the remaining tuition balance, up to the award amount.	TDC funds apply only to tuition (up to the award amount). If the award does not cover the entire remaining balance, the family must pay the difference.	Apply SCP scholarship first, then apply TDC scholarship to the remaining balance, and confirm the updated tuition amount.	Pay any tuition not covered after SCP and TDC funds are applied, and keep the student enrolled in a BESE-approved nonpublic school to maintain both awards.	SCP pays first, TDC covers the rest up to the award amount; families pay remaining fees.

SCP Q1 Enrollment Timeline

Reminders:

- Transfers must be complete before Q1 enrollment period.
- Schools will check account access and alert the Office of School Choice if needed.

September 2 Q1 Enrollment for SCP opens

September 8 Q1 Enrollment for SCP closes

- If an enrollment error is discovered, schools will have 30 days from September 8th to submit a completed/signed Payment Adjustment Form for review to studentscholarships@la.gov.
- Requests received after 30 days will be reviewed but not may not be approved.



Payment Adjustment Forms

Schools have 30 days from the last day of the quarterly enrollment reporting period (September 8) to report any enrollment issues.

- All Payment Adjustment Forms for Quarter 1 must be submitted by **October 8**.
- Any Payment Adjustment Forms for Quarter 1 submitted after October 8 will be considered on an individual basis and must include an explanation of the late submission.
- Please note that late submissions are not guaranteed payment.

For questions, please contact studentscholarships@la.gov.




Roster Verification

- Check all rosters for accuracy for the current school year
 - Name
 - Grade level
 - SSN (if changes are needed a copy of the SSN card will be required)
 - DOB
- Verify all current students on the roster
- If a student needs to be dropped send in a [Declined Award Form](#)



Transfer Form

- Transfer forms must be completed correctly and signed by the school.
- Forms with incorrect or incomplete information will be returned.
- Use this [Transfer Form](#).



Office of School Choice

School Choice Program Transfer Form

Families seeking to transfer their educational certificate should complete this form together with the receiving school.

Submission of this form is not a guarantee that a transfer will be approved.

- Students must have been awarded an educational certificate to qualify for a transfer.
- This form must be signed by the parent/guardian and a representative of the receiving transfer school.
- The receiving school should submit this form to the Office of School Choice at studentscholarships@la.gov.

Student and Parent Information

Student Name:	Student Date of Birth:	Grade:	Last 4 Digits of SSN:
Current SCP School:		Site Code:	
Requested Transfer School:		Site Code:	
Parent/Guardian Name:	Parent/Guardian Phone Number:	Parent/Guardian Email:	

Reason for Transfer Request

☐ Location/Transportation Issues

☐ Health and Safety Concerns *(Please briefly explain in the space below)*

☐ Other *(Please briefly explain in the space below)*

Signatures

I understand that transfers are not guaranteed but will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The information I have provided above is accurate, and I will supply additional documentation as requested.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

I understand that transfers are not guaranteed but will be considered on a case-by-case basis. I acknowledge that I have a seat for this student in the grade level listed above and will enroll him/her.

School Representative Signature: _____ Date: _____

Louisiana Department of Education


doe.louisiana.gov | P.O. Box 94064 • Baton Rouge, LA • 70804-9064

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Declined Award Form

- Declined Award forms must be completed correctly and signed by the school.
- Forms with incorrect or incomplete information will be returned.
- Use this [Declined Award Form](#).

 **LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**
Office of School Choice

School Choice Program Decline Award Form

Families seeking to decline a Scholarship award must complete this form together with the awarding school. In order to decline an award, families must:

- Complete and sign this form acknowledging that they understand:
 - the student's scholarship award will be removed, and
 - their student will no longer be eligible to participate in the School Choice Program for the remainder of the school year
- Submit this form to their current SCP school. The current SCP school will submit the completed form to LDOE at student@scholarships@la.gov.

Once the award has been removed it cannot be reinstated or transferred to another participating school. **If a family declines an award, they must re-apply in the fall in order to be eligible for any scholarships awarded in the upcoming years.**

The family must sign this form acknowledging that they understand they are willingly choosing not to participate in the SCP program for the current school year and must re-apply if they would like to be considered for any future scholarship awards. A school representative must also sign the form acknowledging that they have informed the family of the stipulations of declining a scholarship award.

Student Name:	Student Date of Birth:	Last 4 Digits of SSN:
Parent/Guardian Name:	Parent/Guardian Phone:	Parent/Guardian Email:
Current School Placement:	School Site Code:	Grade:
Reason for Declining Award:		

Parent Signature:
I understand that by declining this award, I am willingly opting out of the School Choice Program for the remainder of the current school year, and I will need to re-apply for the scholarship in order to be considered for scholarships awarded in the upcoming years. The information I have provided above is accurate, and I understand the scholarship terms above.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

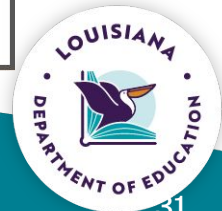
School Representative Signature:

School Representative Name: _____ Date: _____

School Representative Signature: _____

Louisiana Department of Education
doe.louisiana.gov | P.O. Box 94064 • Baton Rouge, LA • 70804-9064

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Resources

Sign Up for Weekly Newsletters

How to receive weekly LDOE Newsletters - Go to <https://www.louisianabelieves.com/newsroom/newsletters> to sign up for newsletters important for your role and to find archived newsletters.

- This [form](#) applies to system, charter and nonpublic newsletters.
- Important notices and materials are posted in these weekly newsletters.



Newsletter Sign-Up

Thanks for your interest in joining our mailing list. Please complete the information below.

* Email

* First Name

* Last Name

* Job Title

* District/Parish

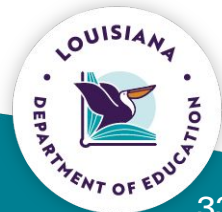
* Email Lists

- ☐ Counselor Connect
- ☐ Early Childhood Newsletter
- ☐ Educator Certification News and Updates
- ☐ LA GATOR - Education Savings Accounts
- ☐ LDOE Weekly Newsletter
- ☐ LEADS Educator Newsletter
- ☐ Louisiana Tutoring Initiative
- ☐ News Releases
- ☐ Preparation Provider
- ☐ Principal's Newsletter
- ☐ Teacher Leader Newsletter

By submitting this form, you are consenting to receive marketing emails from Louisiana Department of Education, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA, 70802, US, <https://www.louisiana.gov>. You can revoke your consent to receive emails at any time by using the [Unsubscribe](#) link. For more information on our privacy policy, please visit our [Privacy Policy](#) page.



Sign up!



Office Hours

Office hours are provided to offer one-on-one assistance for any questions you have.

- Available each week for school administrators and other school system employees
- Tuesday & Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Booking: <https://www.picktime.com/LDNonpublicschools>

- In order to make sure that every school gets an opportunity to schedule a call, each call will be limited to 15 minutes.



Office Hours

- When booking, include a description of what you'd like to discuss during the call in the “booking notes” section of the form. This will ensure that our staff is prepared ahead of the call and can effectively use the time to address your concerns.
- If you miss your scheduled time, book a new appointment time.
- If you have any questions about Office Hours, please reach out to us at studentscholarships@la.gov for assistance.

***This service is not available to families.*

Families can email questions to studentscholarships@la.gov.



Username, Passcodes, and the Unlocking Process

- If you are having a problem with your account, please always include your username and school code in the email.
- Please remember to only send one email request stating problem to studentscholarships@la.gov.



Helpful Links

Name	Link
<u>LEADS</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Passwords expire every 60 days and must be reset. If you are having a problem with your account include your username and school code in the email sent.	<u>https://leads5.doe.louisiana.gov/ptl</u>
<u>LDOE School Choice Library</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities	<u>https://doe.louisiana.gov/topic-pages/louisiana-school-choice/school-choice-program-for-certain-students-with-exceptionalities</u>



Helpful Links

Name	Link
<p><u>LDOE Weekly Newsletter</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Information regarding Nonpublic and Scholarship action itemsThe newsletter is released every Tuesday at 4:30 pm.	<p><u>https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?llr=rkyvy5eab&p=oi&m=rkyvy5eab&sit=urxao49fb&f=8d3c7b7c-7ae8-4bd3-8c83-c6e44e5e558c</u></p>
<p><u>School Choice Program for Student with Exceptionalities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Information and resources for the Louisiana Scholarship Program	<p><u>https://doe.louisiana.gov/topic-pages/louisiana-school-choice/school-choice-program-for-certain-students-with-exceptionalities</u></p>



Nonpublic Team Contact Information

Topic	Email Support
LA Gator Program	lagator@la.gov
School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities (SCP)	studentscholarships@la.gov
Tuition Donation Credit Program (TDC)	
Operations/BESE Approval/Brumfield v. Dodd Approval	nonpublicschools@la.gov
Approved Home Study Program & Nonpublic Schools Not Seeking State Approval	homestudy@la.gov





**Thank You For
Joining Today's
Call!**

|

