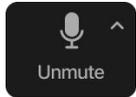


February Nonpublic Schools Webinar



February 25, 2026

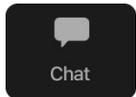
Zoom Meeting Preparation



- 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. Nonpublic Schools
2. LA GATOR
3. School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities
4. Helpful Links





Teacher Leader Summit

Teacher Leader Summit

Please sign up for the Teacher Leader Summit using the [this registration link](#).

Where: Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans, LA

When: May 26 - 28, 2026

Task	Action Dates
Early bird registration opens (\$249)	2/9/2026
Early bird registration closes	3/15/2026
Regular registration opens (\$299)	3/16/2026
Regular registration closes	4/12/2026





Nonpublic Schools

Nonpublic Schools

§303. Instructional Staff

A. Each member of the instructional staff teaching secular subjects, pre-kindergarten through 12, shall meet one of the following three options:

1. Hold a valid Louisiana teaching certificate for the courses he/she teaches; or
2. Qualify to teach in nonpublic schools by meeting all of the following criteria:
 - a. Have a bachelor's degree from an institution accredited in accordance with 34 CFR 602
 - b. Have a college major or the equivalent in the area of his/her teaching assignment; and
 - i. for teachers in self-contained classrooms in grades 1 through 8, the major shall be in elementary education;
 - c. Earn 12 semester hours of Knowledge of the Learner and the Learning Environment. A beginning teacher shall have a three-year period in which to meet this 12-semester hour standard.
 - d. Teachers in other fields (less than half the school day) may teach if they have a degree and at least 12 semester hours in that specific area
3. Teachers not meeting the requirements of Paragraphs 1 or 2 of this Section may obtain a Nonpublic Temporary Teaching Authorization (NTTA) issued by the DOE or a diocesan superintendent for schools within the diocesan system. The NTTA is valid for one year. To renew the NTTA, a teacher must complete six semester hours needed to complete the requirements of Paragraphs 1 or 2 of this Section.

For additional information school leaders should review [Bulletin 741 \(Nonpublic\)](#)



Nonpublic Schools

LA GOV Vendor Number

- In order to secure a vendor number the school will need to work with OSRAP to complete the necessary steps.
 - Check your inbox for an email from Nonpublics@la.gov
 - Follow the steps to secure your LA GOV Vendor Number.
- If your school did not receive an email, it indicates that your school has the necessary information.





LA GATOR

Action Required: 2026–2027 LA GATOR Participation

- Nonpublic schools must reapply to participate in the LA GATOR Scholarship Program for the 2026–2027 school year.
- Schools that have not yet reapplied should complete the process as soon as possible.
- All participating schools must be confirmed before the student application process can open.
- Delays in school reapplication may delay student access to scholarship opportunities.

Please submit your participation by 12:00 PM on Thursday, February 26, 2026 if you have not already done so.

For instructions, click here to [renew](#) or here for [new BESE-approved applicants](#).



LA GATOR Waitlist

- **Please contact all waitlisted students.**
 - Access Q3 waitlist via the Odyssey emails that were sent to schools on **Tuesday, January 20, 2026** and **Tuesday, January 27, 2026**.
 - Please follow the instructions within the email to accept or deny students.



Assessments

- Second assessments Jotform [link](#)
 - All submissions were originally due on Monday, February 23, 2026.
 - Remaining submissions are **now due**.
- State and BESE-approved norm-referenced assessments must be completed by **Friday, May 15, 2026**.
- District Test Coordinator (DTC) weekly meetings, held every **Tuesday at 3:00 PM** via this meeting [link](#) for LEAP testing coordinators
 - These sessions are an excellent opportunity to ask questions and address any LEAP-related concerns.

Assessments

Link to [Bulletin 133 §1525 Assessments](#)

- Participating LA GATOR schools and service providers must report the following to the LDOE by **June 30, 2026**, and each year that follows.
 - A list of participating students who took the required norm-referenced assessments and their results, and
 - For each applicable student:
 - The highest score on ACT, CLT, SAT, WorkKeys, or ASVAB
 - An updated transcript for grades 9th through 12th including dual enrollment and AP college credits earned

LA GATOR TOPS Eligibility

Pursuant to [R.S. 17:5029](#), LA GATOR students may qualify for **TOPS** if they meet the following eligibility requirements.

- Complete the twelfth (12th) grade at an approved LA GATOR high school (school entry no later than 10th grade)
- Meet TOPS requirements for citizenship, residency, academics, postsecondary institution enrollment, and other eligibility requirements
- Meet ACT and/or SAT score thresholds

Good Practice:
School administrators/counselors review TOPS with students individually



Parent Surveys

Wednesday, February 25, 2026
through
Monday, March 15, 2026



Please contact help.la@withodyssey.com or lagator@la.gov with questions.

REMINDER

Please update
all school contact information
through the EdLink Ops SPS portal.



LA GATOR Support

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





School Choice Program for Certain Students with Exceptionalities

Payment Adjustment Forms



Payment Adjustment Forms

Schools have 30 days from the last day of the quarterly enrollment reporting period (February 6) to report any enrollment issues.

- This means all Payment Adjustment Forms for Quarter 3 must be submitted by **February 26**.
- All Payment Adjustment Forms must be filled out completely by the school.
- Any Payment Adjustment Forms for Quarter 3 submitted after February 26 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.



Important Reminder



- **All new and returning students must complete a new application each year.**
- Continuing students who do not submit an online application will **not be awarded funding** for the following year.
- Please ensure that parents are informed.
- **No exceptions will be made for the 2026-27 school year.**



2026-2027 Application Timeline

STEP	DATE
SCP Online Application Closes	March 6, 2026
Deadline for Families to submit all Documentation to Schools	March 13, 2026
Last day for schools to upload verified demand report on FTP	March 20, 2026
SCP Award Notification Letters to Families	April 30, 2026
Send Final Roster to SCP Schools for Review	April 30, 2026
Final Day to Submit Upload Final SCP Roster to FTP	May 29, 2026
SCP Summer Transfer Window Opens	June 8, 2026
SCP Summer Transfer Window Closes	July 17, 2026



2026-2027 Application Timeline

2026-2027 School Choice Scholarship Application opened on February 2, 2026.

1. Access the [online application](#) available on the LDOE website.
2. All online applications must be completed by **March 6, 2026**.
3. **New Applicants only:** Submit all eligibility documents **to the first choice school by March 13, 2026**.
4. Schools will have until **March 20, 2026** to upload a verified demand report to the FTP.
5. 2026-2027 award notifications from the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) will be sent to families by **April 30, 2026**.

***Failure to meet these deadlines will result in the application being marked incomplete and/or removal of the Scholarship award.**





Application

Application

2026-2027 School Choice Program Application opened on **February 2, 2026**.

- Families will be able to access the application using an online link that will be published on the LDOE website.
- An email will be sent to participating schools with a link to the [online application](#).
 - The application will be available online using Jotform.

Schools will receive weekly demand reports via the FTP with a list of students that have selected their school as their first choice.

- **Note:** Students listed on your demand report are not guaranteed to be awarded to your school.



Application

Both new and returning students must complete an application yearly to be considered for a scholarship award.

- A **new applicant** is a student who is **not** currently participating in the School Choice Program.
- Families applying for a scholarship for a student who is not currently enrolled as an SCP student in grades K-12 **must** confirm their eligibility.

All applications must be submitted by **March 6, 2026**.

- **New Applicants only:** Families must submit all eligibility documents to their first choice school by **March 13, 2026**.
- Families will be required to submit copies of the IEP or district-created service plan along with proof of residency during the completion of the application.
- Continuing students **are not required** to provide eligibility documentation.





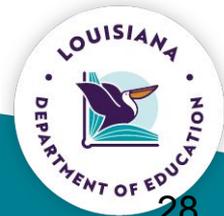
Application Process

Application Process

Applying for the School Choice Program is a two-step process.

Step 1: Complete the online application using the LDOE website.

Step 2: Submit the eligibility documentation to the first choice Scholarship school.



Application Process

The Office of School Choice will attempt to place as many applicants as possible at their preferred school choice.

- Not all applying students are eligible.
- Demand for some schools and/or grades may be greater than the availability.
- State funding determines the final number of awards made.





Demand Reports

Demand Reports

The LDOE will provide schools their demand reports at the end of each week during the application period.

- The report lists students who have applied and listed your school as their first choice.
- School should review their demand reports throughout the application period.

Demand Reports will be placed weekly in your school folder on the FTP.

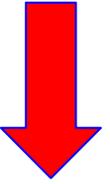
- The folder will be labeled “**2026-2027 SCP**”
- You can access the FTP using this [link](#).

****The demand report does not guarantee that a school will be awarded these students once the lottery process is complete.***



Demand Reports

- Schools **must** verify that the student information (e.g.,SSN, DOB, grade level, etc) is correct.
 - If corrections are needed, please update the information on the form.
- **Schools are required to collect eligibility documentation for new students and review it for eligibility.**
- All documentation must be kept on file at the school.
- **Column P (red arrow)** in the demand report will be used to indicate student eligibility.



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
Submission Date	First Name	Last Name	Please enter Student's Social Security Number (no dashes)	Student's Date of Birth	Student's Gender	What grade is your child entering for the 2026-2027 School Year?	Does the student currently participate in the School Choice Program for the 2026-2026 school year?	Please select the student's current SCP school.	Please select up to three (3) participating schools below th... >> First Choice >> School	Parent/Guardian Full Name (First Name)	Parent/Guardian Full Name (Last Name)	Parent/Guardian Email Address	Parent/Guardian Home Phone	Parent/Guardian Alternate Phone	Eligible
1/26/2025	Mickey	Mouse	111002222	1/1/2011	M	4th	Yes	Disneyland Academy							Returning SCP student
1/27/2025	Donald	Duck	222001111	1/2/2011	M	5th	No		ABC Academy						Yes
1/28/2025	Minnie	Mouse	999001111	1/3/2011	F	5th	Yes	Disneyland Academy	ABC Academy						Returning SCP student
1/29/2025	Daisy	Duck	888771111	1/4/2011	F	8th	No		ABC Academy						No



Demand Reports

Families applying as **new applicants** must provide the following eligibility documents to their first choice scholarship school by **March 13, 2026**:

- Copy of student's **current** Individualized Education Program (IEP) or district-provided service plan
- Proof of residency documentation
 - Acceptable documents to verify residency must include one of the following:
 - Rental agreement or mortgage statement
 - Landline telephone bill
 - Cable or internet service bill
 - Sewerage or water bill
 - Electricity or gas bill
 - Current property tax notice
 - Official Letter from a Government Agency such as the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) or Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH)

Continuing students do NOT need to provide eligibility documentation

Note: Documentation must be in the parent and/or guardian's name and must match the student's address listed on the application.

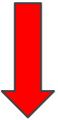


Demand Reports

Schools will have a dropdown in **Column P (red arrow)** with 3 options to select from:

- **Yes** (for students who are eligible)
- **No** (for students who are ineligible)
- **Returning SCP student** (for students currently in SCP)

Column H (green box) indicates if a student is currently participating in the SCP program for the 2026-2027 school year. For students that have “Yes” in column H, select the “Returning SCP student” option.



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P
Submission Date	First Name	Last Name	Please enter Student's Social Security Number (no dashes)	Student's Date of Birth	Student's Gender	What grade is your child entering for the 2026-2027 School Year?	Does the student currently participate in the School Choice Program for the 2025-2026 school year?	Please select the student's current SCP school.	Please select up to three (3) participating schools below th... >> First Choice >> School	Parent/Guardian Full Name (First Name)	Parent/Guardian Full Name (Last Name)	Parent/Guardian Email Address	Parent/Guardian Home Phone	Parent/Guardian Alternate Phone	Eligible
1/26/2025	Mickey	Mouse	111002222	1/1/2011	M	4th	Yes	Disneyland Academy							Returning SCP student
1/27/2025	Donald	Duck	222001111	1/2/2011	M	5th	No		ABC Academy						Yes
1/28/2025	Minnie	Mouse	999001111	1/3/2011	F	5th	Yes	Disneyland Academy	ABC Academy						Returning SCP student
1/29/2025	Daisy	Duck	888771111	1/4/2011	F	8th	No		ABC Academy						No



Demand Reports

- **New Applicants only:** Families must submit all eligibility documents **to the first choice school** by **March 13, 2026**.
- Once a school has completed the demand report, it should be uploaded to the FTP.
 - Completed reports should be saved as “Verified_ **Report Name**” and placed in the “2026-2027 SCP” folder.
- Schools will have until **March 20, 2026** to upload the final verified demand report to the FTP.

If you have any questions or issues with your demand report, please contact our office at studentscholarships@la.gov for assistance.





Helpful Links

Helpful Links

- [School Choice Program Application Guide](#)
- [School Choice Program Application](#)
- [SCP Family Participation Guide](#)
- [SCP School Participation Guide](#)
- [School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities webpage](#)



Helpful Links

Name	Link
<p><u>LEADS</u></p> <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.	<p><u>https://leads5.doe.louisiana.gov/ptl</u></p>
<p><u>LDOE School Choice Library</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Resources for Home Study, Nonpublic and Charter schools● Scholarship Programs Resources● Annual Reports	<p><u>https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/school-choice</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





Email questions to:
studentscholarships@la.gov
**School Choice Program for Certain Students
with Exceptionalities**

Email questions to:
LAGATOR@la.gov
LA GATOR Program

