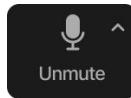


Nonpublic Schools Webinar



January 21, 2026

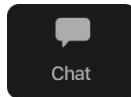
Zoom Meeting Preparation



- 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. Resources





Nonpublic Schools

2026-2027 BESE and Brumfield v Dodd

BESE and Brumfield v. Dodd Applications:

- All applications have been reviewed and presented at the January BESE meeting for approval. An email containing a PDF copy of the BESE approval list will be distributed in the upcoming week.

Remaining Schools:

- Communication has begun with the schools that did not submit all required documents, as well as with those having outstanding documents necessary for approval. Applications already submitted but needing additional documentation will be reviewed at the BESE meeting in March.



Edlink Contact Changes

We are excited to announce that the **EdLink Ops SPS Portal** will replace the Legacy Sponsor Site application. While the new portal maintains a similar layout to Sponsor Site, it introduces streamlined functionality and an enhanced user experience.

As an SPS District Data Analyst, you will now have the ability to edit or request updates directly within the application, eliminating the need to complete Jotform requests for opening or closing schools or making changes to existing sites.

Training Information

These training sessions will cover how new EdLink users create accounts to sign in to the EdLink Portal, link their staff ID, and request access to districts and schools. They will also cover how to complete a new school application, update an existing site, and close a site.

Nonpublic Schools Training - EdLink Ops SPS Portal

(The same training will be offered at different times – please choose one to attend):

- Thursday, **January 22, 2026**, from 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
- Tuesday, **January 27, 2026**, from 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Zoom link for all training sessions: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/94142635046>

Meeting ID: 941 4263 5046



Edlink Contact Changes

Key Resource

- EdLink Ops K12 User Guide:
<https://leads13.doe.louisiana.gov/lug/SPS/EdLink%20Ops%20User%20Guide.pdf>

Edlink Ops SPS Office Hours for Additional Support

- Thursday, **January 29, 2026**, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, **February 3, 2026**, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.
- Thursday, **February 12, 2026**, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.
- Thursday, **February 26, 2026**, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Zoom link for all Office Hours: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/94142635046>

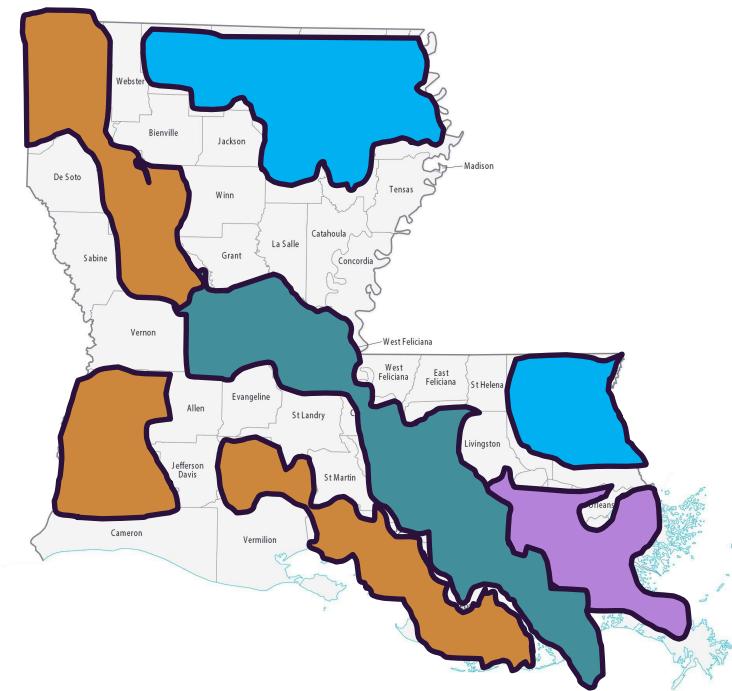
Meeting ID: 941 4263 5046





LA GATOR

LAGATOR Parishes/Schools by Regions



Region 1



- Jefferson
- Orleans
- Plaquemines
- St. Bernard
- St. Charles
- St. John the Baptist

Region 2

- Ascension
- Assumption
- Avoyelles
- East Baton Rouge
- Iberville
- Lafourche
- Livingston
- Pointe Coupee
- Rapides
- St. James
- West Baton Rouge

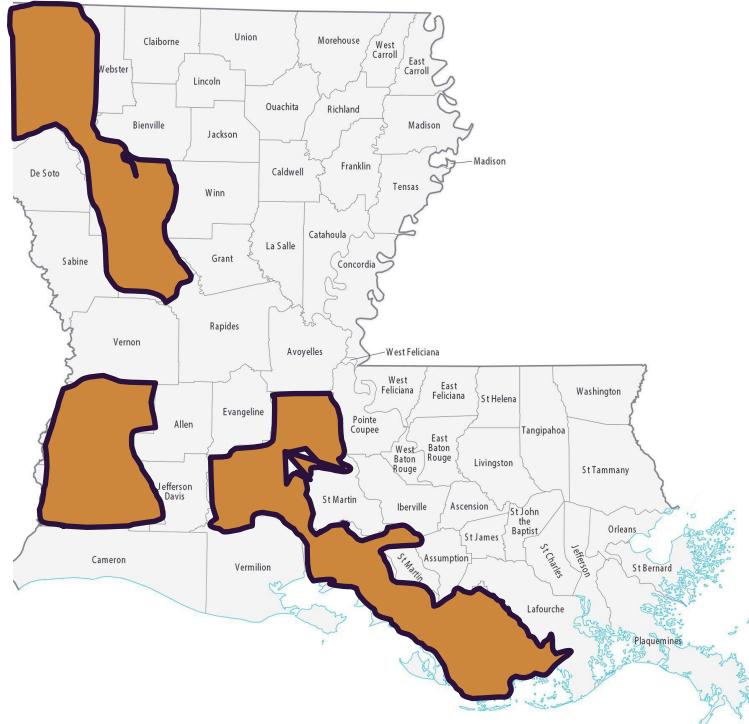


Mrs. Detra Gaulden
Detra.Gaulden2@la.gov



Region 3

- Acadia
- Beauregard
- Bossier
- Caddo
- Calcasieu
- Iberia
- Lafayette
- Natchitoches
- Red River
- St. Landry
- St. Mary
- Terrebonne



Ms. Deandra Narcisse
Deandra.narcisse@la.gov



Region 4



- Caldwell
- Claiborne
- East Carroll
- Franklin
- Lincoln
- Madison
- Morehouse
- Ouachita
- Tangipahoa
- St. Tammany
- Union
- Washington

Ms. Danesha Dumes
Danesha.dumes@la.gov



LAGATOR Team Contact Information

Topic	Email Support	Phone
LA GATOR Program	lagator@la.gov	
Darvell Edwards Region 1	Darvell.Edwards@la.gov	225-227-6768
Detra Gaulden Region 2	Detra.Gaulden2@la.gov	225-223-2413
Deandra Narcisse Region 3	Deandra.Narcisse@la.gov	225-418-9437
Danesha Dumes Region 4	Danesha.Dumes@la.gov	225-342-5297

Please contact lagator@la.gov with questions.



Round 3 Waitlist

- Schools and families are notified.
- School and families complete action steps (10 business days).
 - **Families:** Enroll in LA GATOR school of choice
 - **Families:** Select school of choice in Odyssey
 - **Schools:** Verify students' enrollment in Odyssey
 - **Families:** Withdraw from public school/home study upon verification notice
- LDOE runs public school and home study cross-enrollment checks
- Approved student accounts are funded.
- Families opt in to confirm participation.

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



Round 3 Waitlist

- Odyssey will continue to pull from the waitlist as students are verified.
- 50% of award funding for students enrolling in the LAGATOR program during the Q3 payment cycle

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



Q3 and Q4 Payments

Quarter 3 payments



January 30, 2026

Quarter 4 payments



April 30, 2026

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



Payment Verification

Individual Students

- Click on “**Tuition Fees**” (left panel) or “**Enter Tuition & Fees**”
- Select the tab for the quarter you’re seeking (example: “**Q3 Paid**”)
- Locate the student by scrolling, or via the search bar entering name, and press **Enter**
- Click down arrow to right
- The quarterly amount and payment date will be displayed under “**Tuition Payment Details**”

Bulk Students

- Click on “**Tuition Fees**” (left panel) or “**Enter Tuition & Fees**”
- Select the tab for the quarter you’re seeking (example: “**Q3 Paid**”)
- Click the “**Download Students CSV**” tab
- Review the information available
 - Students’ quarterly payment statuses, amounts, and payment dates are listed

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



Payment Verification Issues

Families

- (1) Must select your school
- (3) Confirms tuition
 - Student is approved
- (4) Must opt-in and confirm participation
 - Student is funded for the endurance of SY
- (5) Submits tuition for the quarter
 - LDOE reviews payment
 - Once approved, funds are cleared for release

Schools

- (2) Confirm enrollment & set tuition
 - Accept pending students in Odyssey by either clicking “**Deny Student Enrollment**” or “**Verify Student Enrollment**”
 - Click “**Enter Tuition & Fees**” or select “**Tuition Fees**” (sidebar) and set pending student’s total tuition & fees
 - Click “**Add**” to verify amount and student moves to “**Pending Tuition Confirmation**”
(can be done in bulk)
- (6) Funds are transferred

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



LA GATOR 2026 - 2027 Applications

Late February
all eligible students to
participate in
LA GATOR

LA GATOR Applications (2026-2027)

Mid-April
LA GATOR
student application
window closes.

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



LA GATOR 2026 - 2027 Applications

New LA GATOR Applicants

- State ID or Driver's License and two (2) of the following:
 - Utility bill (electric, water, gas)
 - Mortgage statement from the past year
 - Bill of sale
 - Lease Agreement
- (Any combination is acceptable, including two (2) different utility bills.)
- Most current 1040 Tax Form or Form 1099
- Military: Active duty order for LA;
Two (2) proofs of address in LA (from list above); and 1040 Tax Form

Returning LA GATOR Students

- Submit documents if ID changed
- Most current 1040 Tax Form or Form 1099

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



LA GATOR Assessments

- **LEAP Assessment Dates:**

- LEAP Connect (Students with Significant Disabilities): February 23 – March 27, 2026.
- ELA & Math
 - 3rd -8th Grades:
 - PBT: 3rd Grade only (April 15th-17th)
 - CBT: 3rd -8th Grade (April 1 – May 15, 2026)
 - 9th -12th Grades:
 - 12th grade retest (March 30th - May 15th)
 - All HS students (April 1st - May 15th)
 - Summer (June 22nd - 26th)

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



LA GATOR Assessments

District Testing Coordinators (DTC) Weekly Meeting

Tuesdays at 3:00 PM

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



LA GATOR Assessments

- LA GATOR students who are home-based or from neighboring schools may need testing sites for norm-referenced assessments.
- LA GATOR schools and service providers may serve as BESE-approved testing sites once approved as a vendor in the Marketplace.
- Nonpublic schools schools must offer LAGATOR BESE-approved norm-referenced assessments.

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



LA GATOR Assessments

To become an approved service provider in the Marketplace, you must:

- Register or log in [here](#)
- Click “Start Application”
- Enter primary contact information
- Provide school/organization information
- Select type of service provider from drop menu
- Upload required documentation
- Carefully read and review each attestation for the service type
- Click the checkbox to acknowledge each attestation
- Enter contact and support preferences
- Provide additional information (e.g., hours of operation, grades served, languages spoken, etc.)
- Review and acknowledge each vendor attestation by clicking the corresponding checkboxes
- Electronically sign the application
- Click “Submit”
- Once submitted, it will be reviewed, and notification of its status will be emailed

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



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 Students with Certain Exceptionalities

Quarter 3 Enrollment



Quarter 3 Enrollment

- Quarter 3 Enrollment February 2nd - 6th
- Make sure when completing enrollment to check the checkboxes for all current students
- Check your Username and Password to make sure you can access LEADS
- If your account is locked please make sure to send an email to studentscholarships@la.gov with your school code and username
- Remember if the report is not submitted on-time your payment will be delayed



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.



2026-2027 Application Timeline

STEP	DATE
Parent Application Webinar	January 30, 2026
SCP Online Application Opens	February 2, 2026
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



School and Parent Webinars

The Office of School Choice will host two informational webinars for the School Choice Program for Certain Students with Exceptionalities for the 2026-2027 application cycle, one for schools and one for families.

Participating Schools Webinar: This webinar is for schools participating in the School Choice Program.

- Webinar Date and Time: **January 29 at 2 p.m.**
- Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97553450195>
- Meeting ID#: 975 5345 0195

Parents and Families Webinar: This webinar is for parents of continuing and prospective students who are participating in or interested in the School Choice Program.

- Webinar Date and Time: **January 30 at 2 p.m.**
- Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98381384003>
- Meeting ID#: 983 8138 4003

Please contact studentscholarships@la.gov with questions.



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.**



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.
- Schools should review their demand reports throughout the application period.

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

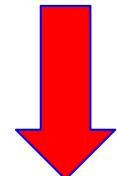
- The folder will be labeled “**2026-2027 SCP**”
- You can access the FTP using this [link](#).

****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 2025-2026 school year?	Please select the student's current SCP school.	Please select up to three (3) participating schools below this... >> 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 contact our office at studentscholarships@la.gov.





Helpful Links

Helpful Links

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



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



Nonpublic Team Contact Information

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





Email questions to:
studentscholarships@la.gov

**School Choice Program for Certain Students
with Exceptionalities**

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

