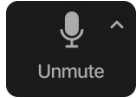


Nonpublic Schools Webinar

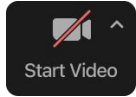
July 16, 2025



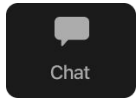
Zoom Meeting Preparation



- 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. LA GATOR
2. New Background Check Updates
3. Nonpublic Schools
4. LSP Wrap-up/Reminders
5. School Choice Program for Student with Exceptionalities
6. Resources
7. Q & A





LA GATOR

Next Steps for LA GATOR Schools

- All awarded students have been notified.
- Schools should make contact with all LSP students to ensure the student received an award letter.
- If you have a LSP student that did not receive an award letter, please contact Odyssey.
 - Help Desk Ticket: [Submit a Request](#)
 - Email Help Desk: help.la@withodyssey.com
 - Call Center: 225-422-1538
- Schools should make contact with families to discuss next steps in the enrollment process.

If you have questions regarding the LA GATOR Scholarship Program, email us at LAGATOR@la.gov.



LA GATOR Updates

- The previous 5,196 LSP families have been notified with award letters
- An estimated 800 additional scholarships will go to other high-priority Phase 1 applicants who are not currently in the LSP.
 - Families should check their Odyssey account and use the provided ID number to track student awards.
 - Schools that are having issues with Stripe will likely need to contact Stripe directly for customer support. Odyssey customer support is available at help.la@withodyssey.com or by calling (225) 422-1538.

If you have questions regarding the LA GATOR Scholarship Program, email us at LAGATOR@la.gov.





Nonpublic Schools

Louisiana Applicant Processing System (LAPS)

- The Louisiana Department of Education and Louisiana State Police are partnering together in implementing the new Louisiana Applicant Processing System (LAPS) to conduct federal and state, fingerprint-based background checks for all Louisiana Public and Non-Public Schools.
- These background checks will be conducted to determine suitability for any applicants who have been given or have applied to be considered for a position of supervisory or disciplinary authority over children, as required by and in accordance with LRS 15:587.1 (Louisiana Child Protection Act).

If you have questions regarding the annual enrollment report and/or Edlink,
email us at nonpublicschools@la.gov.



Louisiana Applicant Processing System (LAPS)

- In order to expedite the process and provide access to these background checks the Louisiana State Police will be conducting webinars on several dates in the coming weeks that you will have the opportunity to select from.
- Once you have attended the webinar you will be provided with the steps to onboard your school into the LAPS system. After you have been onboarded Louisiana State Police will provide training and access to the LAPS system.
- Contact Andrew.Murphy2@la.gov for more information.

If you have questions regarding the annual enrollment report and/or Edlink,
email us at nonpublicschools@la.gov.



Nonpublic School Act 409

- **Act 409 requires licensure of classrooms serving 3 and 4 year olds**
 - schools must apply for licensure no later than **January 1, 2026**
 - see [Chapter 7 of Bulletin 137 - Louisiana Early Learning Center Licensing Regulations](#) (Bulletin 137) and the [initial checklist](#) to help your site prepare to apply for a license
 - monthly webinars are available to learn more about the licensure process
 - visit the Early Childhood webpage for Frequently Asked Questions and additional information on navigating next steps.

If you have questions regarding the annual enrollment report and/or Edlink,
email us at nonpublicschools@la.gov.



Nonpublic School Act 409

- **Nonpublic Schools Not Requiring Act 409 Licensure**
 - a nonpublic school serving only students in kindergarten and above does not need a license
 - A nonpublic school whose pre-kindergarten program is accredited or provisionally accredited by the Louisiana Montessori Association will not need to obtain a license

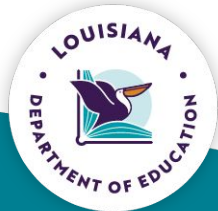
If you have questions regarding the annual enrollment report and/or Edlink,
email us at nonpublicschools@la.gov.



Nonpublic School Annual Enrollment Report

- All BESE approved nonpublic schools will be required to submit their school's 2026-2027 annual enrollment report starting **August 1, 2025**.
- The Annual Enrollment Report is submitted through the [Edlink Website](#).
- Enrollment data is **required** and must be entered in **Edlink**.
- The NPS School Manager Role must be approved prior to submitting the annual enrollment report.
- The [NPS School Manager Annual Reporting User Guide](#) provides steps to assist with submitting the annual enrollment report.
- The deadline to submit your school's annual enrollment report is **October 15, 2025**.

If you have questions regarding the annual enrollment report and/or Edlink,
email us at nonpublicschools@la.gov.



2026-2027 BESE and Brumfield v. Dodd Application

- The BESE and Brumfield v. Dodd application for all nonpublic schools seeking BESE and/or Brumfield v. Dodd approval for the 2026-2027 school year will be submitted through **Jotform** starting **August 1, 2025**.
- The application must be completed in its entirety and all required documents must be uploaded in order to be considered for BESE approval.
- The deadline to submit your school's BESE application is **October 15, 2025**.

If you have questions regarding the BESE or Brumfield v. Dodd application, email us at nonpublicschools@la.gov.



Who Needs to Apply for the BESE Application?

- Current BESE approved nonpublic schools seeking to renew their BESE approval for the 2026-2027 school year.
- Any **NEW** nonpublic school seeking BESE approval for the 2026-2027 school year.

If you have questions regarding the BESE application, email us at nonpublicschools@la.gov.



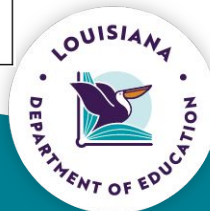
Nonpublic Schools Seeking State Approval

BESE and Brumfield v Dodd Checklist

ACCREDITED SCHOOLS	
New Nonpublic School	Returning Nonpublic School
<input type="checkbox"/> Brumfield v. Dodd Initial Application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete if your school is seeking Brumfield v. Dodd approval. It must be notarized. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Brumfield v. Dodd Annual Compliance Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete if your school is a returning BESE approved nonpublic school seeking Brumfield v. Dodd approval.
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 forms of verification that publicizes the school's nondiscriminatory admissions policy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide website screenshots of its announcements, including newspaper advertisements, and/or copies of any brochures or similar publications. (A typed nondiscriminatory statement on a Microsoft word document is NOT acceptable.) 	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 forms of verification that publicizes the school's nondiscriminatory admissions policy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide website screenshots of its announcements, including newspaper advertisements, and/or copies of any brochures or similar publications. (A typed nondiscriminatory statement on a Microsoft word document is NOT acceptable.)
<input type="checkbox"/> Accreditation letter or Certificate should be from one of the listed Nonpublic School Accreditation Organizations. Nonpublic School Approval Process: Accreditation Organizations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The expiration date must be visible on the accreditation letter or certificate. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Accreditation letter or Certificate should be from one of the listed Nonpublic School Accreditation Organizations. Nonpublic School Approval Process: Accreditation Organizations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The expiration date must be visible on the accreditation letter or certificate.
<input type="checkbox"/> Department of Health and Hospital (DHH) Inspection Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Building and Cafeteria Inspections If there is no cafeteria or the school is not providing meals, please submit in writing on letterhead. It cannot be dated prior to August 2024. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Department of Health and Hospital (DHH) Inspection Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Building and Cafeteria Inspections If there is no cafeteria or the school is not providing meals, please submit in writing on letterhead. It cannot be dated prior to August 2024.
<input type="checkbox"/> City or State Fire Marshal Inspection Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It cannot be dated prior to August 2024. 	<input type="checkbox"/> City or State Fire Marshal Inspection Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It cannot be dated prior to August 2024.
<input type="checkbox"/> Program of Study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For schools that serve 9th-12th grade 	<input type="checkbox"/> Program of Study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For schools that serve 9th-12th grade
	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual Enrollment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once enrollment has been submitted through EDLINK, submit a screenshot of the completion. If assistance is needed, submit a ticket through the Edlink Help Desk.

NON-ACCREDITED SCHOOLS	
New Nonpublic School	Returning Nonpublic School
<input type="checkbox"/> Brumfield v. Dodd Initial Application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete if your school is seeking Brumfield v. Dodd approval. It must be notarized. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Brumfield v. Dodd Annual Compliance Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete if your school is a returning BESE approved nonpublic school, seeking Brumfield v. Dodd approval.
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 forms of verification that publicizes the school's nondiscriminatory admissions policy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide website screenshots of its announcements, including newspaper advertisements, and/or copies of any brochures or similar publications. (A typed nondiscriminatory statement on a Microsoft word document is NOT acceptable.) 	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 forms of verification that publicizes the school's nondiscriminatory admissions policy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide website screenshots of its announcements, including newspaper advertisements, and/or copies of any brochures or similar publications. (A typed nondiscriminatory statement on a Microsoft word document is NOT acceptable.)
<input type="checkbox"/> Nonpublic School Approval Questionnaire: New Applicant	<input type="checkbox"/> Nonpublic School Approval Questionnaire: Returning Applicant
<input type="checkbox"/> Department of Health and Hospital (DHH) Inspection Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Building and Cafeteria Inspections If there is no cafeteria or the school is not providing meals, please submit in writing on letterhead. It cannot be dated prior to August 2024. 	<input type="checkbox"/> Department of Health and Hospital (DHH) Inspection Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Building and Cafeteria Inspections If there is no cafeteria or the school is not providing meals, please submit in writing on letterhead. It cannot be dated prior to August 2024.
<input type="checkbox"/> City or State Fire Marshal Inspection Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It cannot be dated prior to August 2024. 	<input type="checkbox"/> City or State Fire Marshal Inspection Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It cannot be dated prior to August 2024.
<input type="checkbox"/> Program of Study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For schools that serve 9th-12th grade 	<input type="checkbox"/> Program of Study <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For schools that serve 9th-12th grade
	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual Enrollment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once enrollment has been submitted through EDLINK, submit a screenshot of the completion. If assistance is needed, submit a ticket through the Edlink Help Desk.


Checklist Link [NPS Approval Document Submission Process Checklist](#)
 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.


LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SCHOOL CHOICE
Nonpublic School Approval Process: Accreditation Organizations

BS.17.40(2) 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 74) 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)
	Luman Accreditation The Catholic University of America
	<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)
Integrative Partners: <ol style="list-style-type: none">8. Christian Schools International (CSI)9. Southern Association of Independent Schools (SAIS)	


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

 **State Fire Marshal**
Daniel H. Wallis
FIRE MARSHAL

Inspection Report
Report # [REDACTED]
No Deficient/Cautionary Codes cited.

Location Information			
Inspection Type	Compliance Building Inspection	Inspection Date	10/11/2022 1:58:16 PM
Structure ID	[REDACTED]	No. of Buildings	12
Capacity	[REDACTED]	Year Built	1900
Building/Trade Name	[REDACTED]	Address	[REDACTED]
Owner Information			
Owner Type	Private Project	Name	[REDACTED]
Contact Phone	[REDACTED]	Contact Email	[REDACTED]
Address			
[REDACTED]			
Tenant Information			
Name	Suite Number	Floor Number	Square Footage
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Occupancy Details			
Occupancy Type	Details		
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]		
Comments			
NO APPARENT DEFICIENCIES AT TIME OF INSPECTION. IN COMPLIANCE.			
Name:	Badge Number:	Inspector Signature:	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Person to whom requirements were explained			
Name:	Title: Maintenance	Signature:	
[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	

For questions regarding the contents of this report, please call: [REDACTED]

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.



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 06/15/2023	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.



Who Needs to Apply for Brumfield v. Dodd?

- Current BESE approved nonpublic schools that desire to remain a participant in the LA Gator Scholarship Program, SCP (School Choice Program for certain students with exceptionalities), and/or the TDC (Tuition Donation Credit) program.
- Nonpublic schools seeking Brumfield v. Dodd approval for the 2026-2027 school year.
- Current and new nonpublic schools desiring to partner with a STO (School Tuition Organization) such as ACE Scholarships, Arete Scholars, Aspiring Scholars, and/or Son of a Saint.
- Nonpublic schools desiring to receive state and federal funding for the 2026-2027 school year.

If you have questions regarding the Brumfield v. Dodd application, email us at nonpublicschools@la.gov.



2025-2026 Nonpublic Schools Timeline

Item	Where to Submit	Opens	Closes
NPS Annual Enrollment Report	Edlink Website	August 1, 2025	October 15, 2025
BESE Application	Jotform	August 1, 2025	October 15, 2025
Brumfield v. Dodd Application	Jotform	August 1, 2025	October 15, 2025





LSP Reminders

LSP Reminders

- When your rosters are updated in the Odyssey system, please ensure that all former LSP students are listed. If you identify any discrepancies, send an email to studentscholarships@la.gov.
- Please make sure to verify each student's name, Social Security number, date of birth, address, and other relevant information are accurate in both the portal and on your rosters.
- If you have any questions regarding the Q4 payment reports, please email studentscholarships@la.gov.

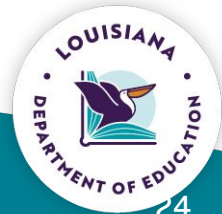




School Choice Program

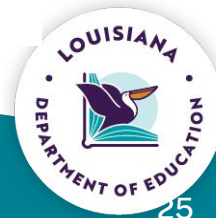
2025-2026 SCP Application Timeline

STEP	DATE
SCP Summer Transfer Window Closes	July 31, 2025



Roster Verification

- Once all rosters are uploaded to SCS please check for the following:
 - Name
 - Grade level
 - SSN (if changes are needed a copy of the SSN card will be required)
 - DOB
- Verify all current students are on the roster
- If a student needs to be dropped or transferred, please submit the appropriate form to studentscholarships@la.gov.
 - [Declined Award Form](#)
 - [Transfer Award Form](#)



SCP Q1 Enrollment Timeline

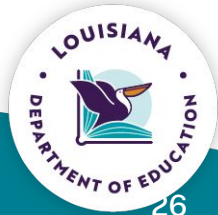
Reminders:

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

TBD Q1 Enrollment for SCP opens

TBD Q1 Enrollment for SCP closes

- If an enrollment error is discovered, schools will have 30 days 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.





Resources

Helpful Links

- [SCP Application Guide 2025-2026](#)
- [SCP Family Participation Guide](#)
- [SCP School Participation Guide](#)
- [School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities webpage](#)



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
- Mondays-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.	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 Enrollment Reports	https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/school-choice



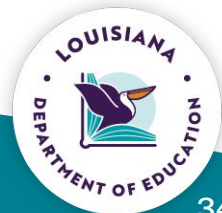
Helpful Links

Name	Link
<u>LDOE Weekly Newsletter</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Information regarding Nonpublic and Scholarship action itemsThe newsletter is released every Tuesday at 4:30 pm.	<u>https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?llr=rkyvy5eab&p=oi&m=rkyvy5eab&sit=urxao49fb&f=8d3c7b7c-7ae8-4bd3-8c83-c6e44e5e558c</u>



Nonpublic Team Contact Information

Topic	Email Support
LA GATOR	lagator@la.gov
School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities (SCP)	studentscholarships@la.gov
Tuition Donation Credit Program (TDC)	studentscholarships@la.gov
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!

If you have any additional questions, please
contact the Office of School Choice at:

studentscholarships@la.gov

