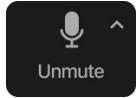


Nonpublic Schools Webinar

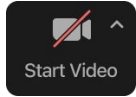
July 15, 2026



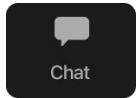
Zoom Meeting Preparation



- 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. Student Financial Services
2. Nonpublic Schools
3. Act 587
4. LA GATOR
5. Stacking Guidance
6. School Choice Program for Student with Exceptionalities
7. Resources
8. Q & A





Student Financial Services

Required Services Submission & Key Reminders

- **Required Services Forms and Guidelines** are available online
 - <https://doe.louisiana.gov/topic-pages/louisiana-school-choice/nonpublic-schools/nonpublic-schools-resources>
- **Important Date**
 - Submission Deadline: **September 30, 2026**
- **Support Services**
 - Office Hours available on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays**
 - Register at: <https://www.picktime.com/NonPublicHelpDesk>

NonpublicFinanceHelpDesk@LA.GOV



Required Services Submission & Key Reminders

- **Key Reminders**

- Convert all reported to hours before submission
- Only the new blue forms will be accepted
- Review all required documentation before submission
- Submit forms early to allow time for corrections, if needed
- Register for Office Hours for questions regarding requirements or documentation
- A total of 3 documents must be submitted:
 - Required Services Reimbursement Form (Excel)
 - Signed Required Services Reimbursement Form (PDF-wet signature or DocuSign only)
 - Summary Time Records (PDF)

NonpublicFinanceHelpDesk@LA.GOV



Common Errors to Avoid

- No Red Forms or previous versions of this document are allowed for submission.
- Entering minutes instead of hours
- Exceeding continuing education hour limits
- Combining multiple staff members on one row
- Mismatched site codes between tabs
- Missing signatures
- Part Time Teachers, Teacher Aides, and Support Staff must input the Hourly Rate.
- Save the entire workbook in Excel and save the Summary as a PDF.
- Reimbursement and summary totals must match.





Nonpublic Schools

Nonpublic School 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.

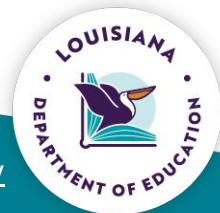
As an [SPS District Data Analyst](#), you will now have the ability to edit or request updates directly within the application, eliminating the need to complete Jotform requests for opening or closing schools or making changes to existing sites.

Please refer to the User Guide for further assistance.

Key Resource

- [EdLink Ops K12 User Guide](#)
- [EdLink Ops SPS Training Video](#)

If you have questions 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, 2026**.
- 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, 2026**.

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



2027-2028 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 2027-2028 school year will be submitted through [Edlink](#) starting **August 1, 2026**. This is a new transition for the BESE Applications, so please do not wait until the last day to submit your application.
- The [SPS District Data Analyst Role](#) is required to submit the BESE and Brumfield v Dodd Application.
- 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, 2026**.

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 2027-2028 school year.
- Any **NEW** nonpublic school seeking BESE approval for the 2027-2028 school year.

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



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, School Choice Program (SCP) for certain students with exceptionalities, and/or the Tuition Donation Credit(TDC) program.
- Nonpublic schools seeking Brumfield v. Dodd approval for the 2027-2028 school year.
- Current and new nonpublic schools desiring to partner with a School Tuition Organization (STO) such as ACE Scholarships, Arete Scholars, Aspiring Scholars, and/or Son of a Saint.
- Nonpublic schools desiring to receive state and federal services for the 2027-2028 school year.

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



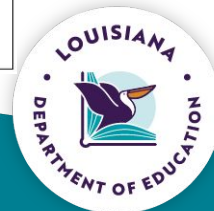
Nonpublic Schools Seeking State Approval

BESE and Brumfield v Dodd Checklist

ACCREDITED SCHOOLS	
New Nonpublic School	Returning Nonpublic School
☐ Brumfield v. Dodd Initial Application Complete if your school is seeking Brumfield v. Dodd approval. It must be notarized.	☐ Brumfield v. Dodd Annual Compliance Report Complete if your school is a returning BESE approved nonpublic school seeking Brumfield v. Dodd approval.
☐ 2 forms of verification that publicizes the school's nondiscriminatory admissions policy. 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.)	☐ 2 forms of verification that publicizes the school's nondiscriminatory admissions policy. 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.)
☐ Accreditation letter or Certificate should be from one of the listed Nonpublic School Accreditation Organizations. Nonpublic School Approval Process: Accreditation Organizations The expiration date must be visible on the accreditation letter or certificate.	☐ Accreditation letter or Certificate should be from one of the listed Nonpublic School Accreditation Organizations. Nonpublic School Approval Process: Accreditation Organizations The expiration date must be visible on the accreditation letter or certificate.
☐ Department of Health and Hospital (DHH) Inspection Report - 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 2025.	☐ Department of Health and Hospital (DHH) Inspection Report - 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 2025.
☐ City or State Fire Marshal Inspection Report It cannot be dated prior to August 2025.	☐ City or State Fire Marshal Inspection Report It cannot be dated prior to August 2025.
☐ Program of Study For schools that serve 9th-12th grade	☐ Program of Study For schools that serve 9th-12th grade
	☐ Annual Enrollment - 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
☐ Brumfield v. Dodd Initial Application Complete if your school is seeking Brumfield v. Dodd approval. It must be notarized.	☐ Brumfield v. Dodd Annual Compliance Report Complete if your school is a returning BESE approved nonpublic school, seeking Brumfield v. Dodd approval.
☐ 2 forms of verification that publicizes the school's nondiscriminatory admissions policy. 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.)	☐ 2 forms of verification that publicizes the school's nondiscriminatory admissions policy. 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.)
☐ Nonpublic School Approval Questionnaire: New Applicant	☐ Nonpublic School Approval Questionnaire: Returning Applicant
☐ Department of Health and Hospital (DHH) Inspection Report - 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 2025.	☐ Department of Health and Hospital (DHH) Inspection Report - 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 2025.
☐ City or State Fire Marshal Inspection Report It cannot be dated prior to August 2025.	☐ City or State Fire Marshal Inspection Report It cannot be dated prior to August 2025.
☐ Program of Study For schools that serve 9th-12th grade	☐ Program of Study For schools that serve 9th-12th grade
	☐ Annual Enrollment - 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.



Brumfield v. Dodd Non Discriminatory Policy

TWO PROOFS OF YOUR SCHOOL'S NON DISCRIMINATORY EXAMPLES WITH THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:

“YOUR SCHOOL’S NAME HERE admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students of the organization. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship programs, and other organization-administered programs.”

- Microsoft Word Documents will not be accepted.
- Pictures without the ND policy listed is not accepted.

Acceptable Non Discriminatory Examples:

- The most current copies of your advertisements.
- Efforts made by the school to publicize your nondiscriminatory admissions policy.
- Include latest affidavits of publication of newspaper advertisements.
- The most current copy of your school’s brochures, flyers, school handbook etc.
- A description of other efforts to inform minorities of the school and its program.
- A print out of a webpage and/or social media screenshots, etc. (About or Bio Section)

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



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

[RS 17:4021](#) 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: 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)	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)
	1. Louisiana Montessori Association (LMA)
	Lumen Accreditation The Catholic University of America
	1. The Catholic Diocese of Lafayette 2. The Catholic Diocese of Shreveport 3. The Catholic Diocese of Baton Rouge
Integrative Partners: 8. Christian Schools International (CSI) 9. Southern Association of Independent Schools (SAIS)	

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

Page 1

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 2025 **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

 **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 # [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]	Construction Type	[REDACTED]
Address			

Owner Information

Owner Type	Name	Contact Phone	Contact Email
Private Project	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
Address			

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: [REDACTED] Badge Number: [REDACTED] Inspector Signature: [REDACTED]

Person to whom requirements were explained

Name: [REDACTED]	Title: Maintenance	Signature: [REDACTED]
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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 2025 **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
Signature/Title	Signature of Recipient

Contact nonpublic_schools@la.gov with questions.



2025-2026 Nonpublic Schools Timeline

Item	Role Needed	Where to Submit	Opens	Closes
NPS Annual Enrollment Report	NP School Manager	Edlink Website	August 1, 2026	October 15, 2026
BESE Application	SPS District Data Analyst	Edlink Website	August 1, 2026	October 15, 2026
Brumfield v. Dodd Application	SPS District Data Analyst	Edlink Website	August 1, 2026	October 15, 2026



Nonpublic Schools BESE Approval Meeting

We will be hosting a Nonpublic Schools BESE Approval Meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to prepare all schools for the upcoming submission of BESE and Brumfield v Dodd Application.

In this meeting we will discuss the following:

- BESE and Brumfield v Dodd application submission
- Edlink Access Roles
- Acceptable Documents
- Deadlines

Zoom Link Below

[Nonpublic Schools BESE Approval Meeting](#)

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

10:00 am - 11:00 am

If you have questions email us at nonpublicschools@la.gov





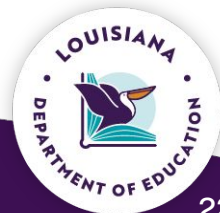
Act 587

Act 587: Program Monitoring

Except as otherwise provided by law, [Act 587](#) (2026) requires that all prekindergarten programs shall comply with the revised [Child Safety and Welfare Standards](#) provided for in R.S. 17:407.41 and that the LDOE shall conduct monitoring activities for compliance with those standards:

- Monitoring activities shall include an annual unannounced site visit and prompt response to reports of noncompliance with the child safety and welfare standards.
- In addition to what is observed on the site visit, monitoring specialists will also review the site's written procedures regarding the Act 587 child safety and welfare items.
- Any violation of the standards shall be documented by the LDOE.

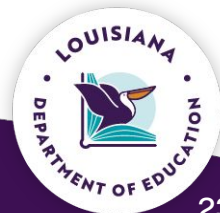
Please contact ldelicensing@la.gov with any questions.



Act 587: Information for Parents

[R.S. 17:407.41](#) still requires schools to distribute, at the beginning of each school year, an LDOE-provided informational document to the parents and legal guardians of all children enrolled in the prekindergarten program. The document may be distributed electronically.

Please contact ldelicensing@la.gov with any questions.

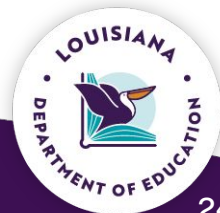


Act 587: Information for Parents

Act 587 (2026) also requires that any parent who chooses to enroll his/her child in an authorized prekindergarten program shall be provided the following information:

- The prekindergarten program is operated by a school.
- The prekindergarten program is not either of the following:
 - Subject to federal daycare regulations pursuant to 45 CFR 98, or its successor.
 - Licensed by the department as an early learning center in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 17:407.31 et seq.
- The monitoring and complaint processes as provided in R.S. 17:407.41 for compliance with the child safety and welfare standards.

Please contact ldelicensing@la.gov with any questions.



Act 587: Exemptions

- For the 2026-2027 school year, nonpublic schools register for exemptions via a Jotform.
- For subsequent school years, the exemption registration will be included in the annual nonpublic approval process.
- An attestation from the school and documentation from the accreditation organization will need to be uploaded.
- For questions regarding eligibility of a specific accreditation organization, contact EducationPolicy@la.gov.



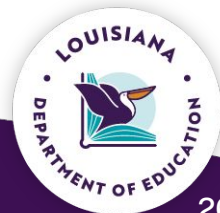
Act 587: Exemptions

Next Steps:

All nonpublic schools offering Pre-K3 and/or Pre-K4 must complete a [Jotform](#) for the 2026–2027 school year to receive a monitoring exemption.

- Provide accreditation status and, if accredited, list the accrediting agency.
- Upload the accreditation certificate or letter.
- Attest to compliance with all federal, state, and local statutes and regulations regarding child safety and welfare standards.
- The Jotform is due by August 14th

Please contact ldelicensing@la.gov with any questions.





LA GATOR

2025-26 Assessment Score Submissions

- Assessment scores submissions were due on **Tuesday, June 30, 2026.**
- Final assessment reviews are underway.
- Late submissions must be uploaded to the Nonpublic Schools SFTP.
 - *Send email notification to LAGATOR@la.gov*
- Students without the required assessments will have their accounts placed on hold pending submission.
- Notifications of non-compliance will be emailed to families.

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



2026-27 Assessments

Planning Ahead...

- Select BESE-approved ELA and math assessments for K through 12th grade.
- Order and confirm testing with your testing vendors.
- Finalize testing windows.
- Have assessment scores in and uploaded to the Nonpublic Schools SFTP by **June 30, 2027.**

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



2026-27 Onboarding and Student Enrollment

Family Opt-In is Required.

- “Approved” students are now “Approved – Awaiting Opt-In”.
- Families must log into Odyssey to opt-in.
- Opt-in must be completed by **Wednesday, July 29, 2026**.
- No opt-in = no participation or funding.

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



2026-27 Onboarding and Student Enrollment

What Does Opting In Mean?

- Confirms participation in LA GATOR.
- Agrees to follow program policies in [LA Bulletin 133](#).
- Allows future funding eligibility.
- Opting out forfeits the student's place in the program.

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



Funding Dates

Using 2025–2026 Remaining Funds

- Remaining 2025–2026 balances available **July 15, 2026**.
- 2026–2027 funds will not be released immediately after opt-in.

Thursday, August 27	Thursday, October 29	Thursday, January 28	Thursday, April 29
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- Additional information will be shared soon.

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



Funding Preparation

Before Students Can Use 2026–2027 Funds

- Annual awards are now visible in Odyssey Wallet.
- Awards are **not yet available for use**.
- Families **must select** a 2026–2027 **educational setting**.
- Schools must verify enrollment and set tuition.
- Funds cannot be used until these steps are complete.

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



School Roster Maintenance

Keep Your Odyssey Roster Accurate (Odyssey)

- Remove students who never attended or are no longer enrolled.
- Review and update your Odyssey roster regularly.
- Initial roster review due **Thursday, August 13, 2026**.
- Continue updating throughout the school year.
- Update “Eligible” (waitlisted) student statuses as needed.

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



School Roster Maintenance

Keep Your Odyssey Roster Accurate (Office of School Choice)

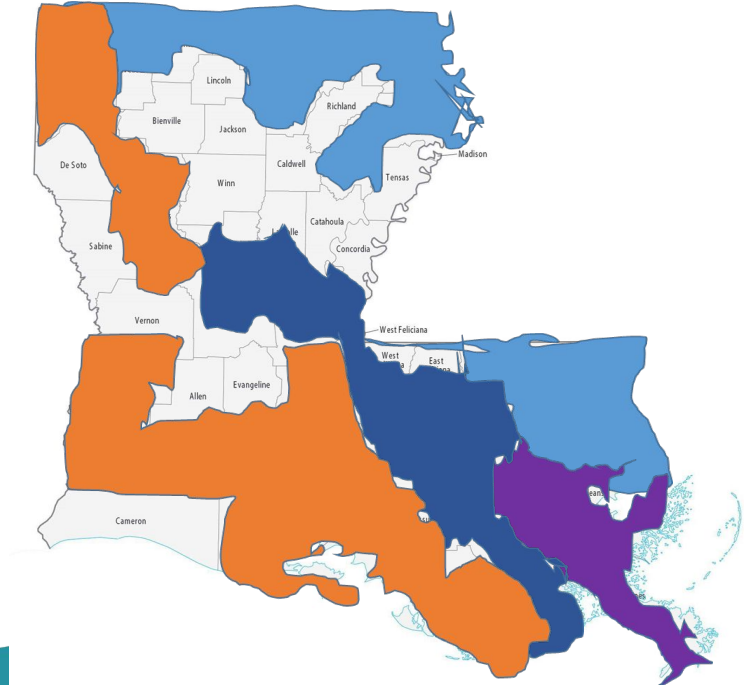
- Upload all current LA GATOR rosters to the Nonpublic Schools SFTP
 - Document all student enrollments, no-shows, withdrawals, transfers, etc. as needed.

August 6th - 13th	October 1st - 8th	January 4th - 13th	April 6th - 13th
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If you have questions regarding the LA GATOR Scholarship Program, email us at LAGATOR@la.gov.



LA GATOR Regions



Region 1



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

Ms. Darvell Edwards

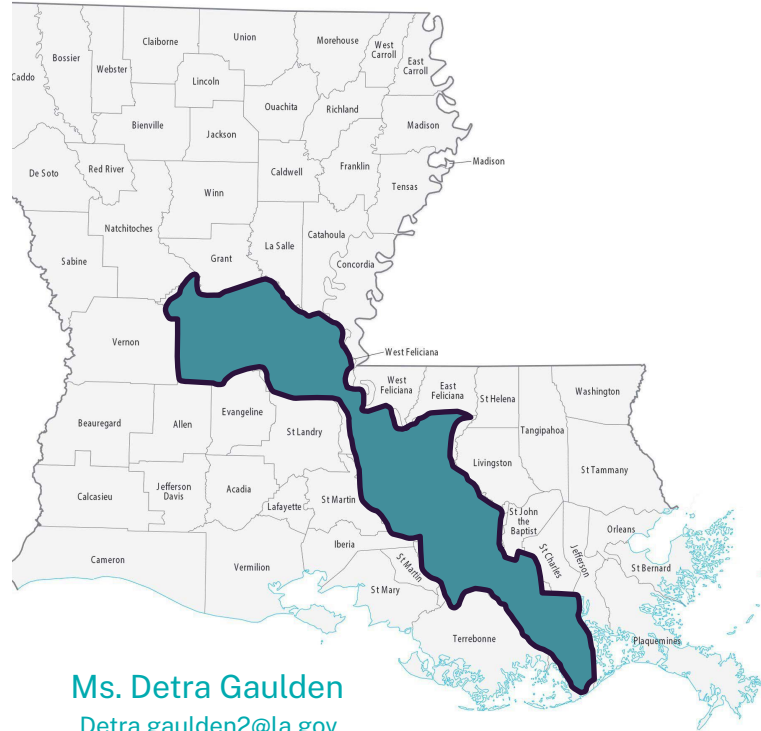
Darvell.Edwards@la.gov

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



Region 2

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



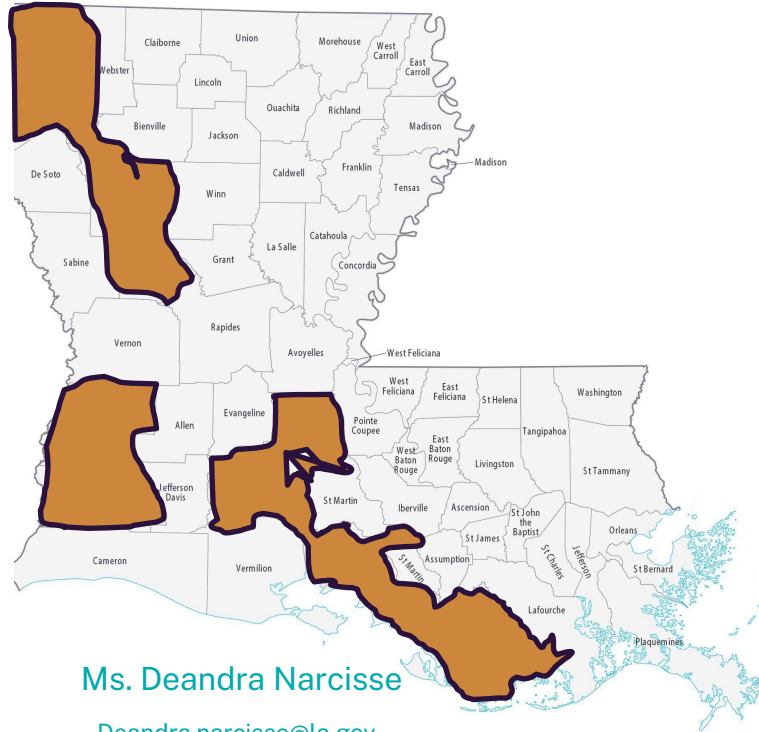
Ms. Detra Gaulden
Detra.gaulden2@la.gov

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



Region 3

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



Ms. Deandra Narcisse

Deandra.narcisse@la.gov

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



Region 4



Ms. Danesha Dumes

Daneasha.dumes@la.gov

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



LAGATOR Team Contact Information

Topic	Email Support
LA GATOR Program	lagator@la.gov
Darvell Edwards Region 1	Darvell.Edwards@la.gov
Detra Gaulden Region 2	Detra.Gaulden@la.gov
Deandra Narcisse Region 3	Deandra.Narcisse@la.gov
Danesha Dumes Region 4	Danesha.Dumes@la.gov



Site Visits

Site Visits will continue for the 26-27 school year.

A team or team member may visit:

- Check in or provide assistance
- Compliance: Scholarship Participating schools are expected to be in compliance with the requirements outlined in the Participation Guide, Bulletin 133, and Bulletin 741.
- A formal complaint may be received from a parent, student, or other interested party.



LA GATOR Support

- **LDOE's LA GATOR Page:** 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)

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

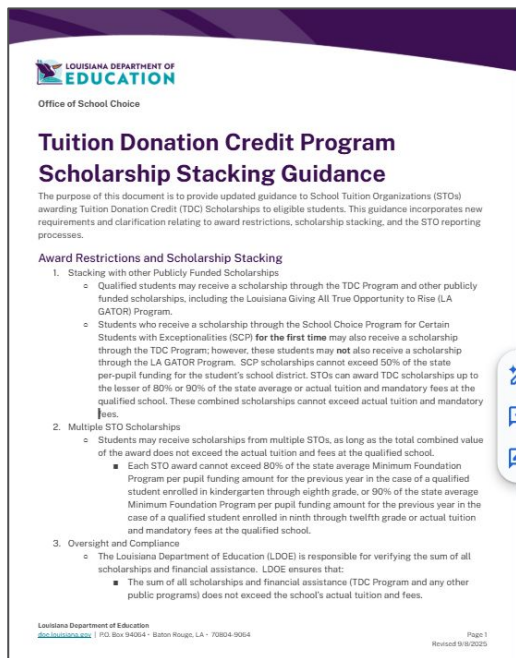




Stacking Guidance

Scholarship Stacking Guidance

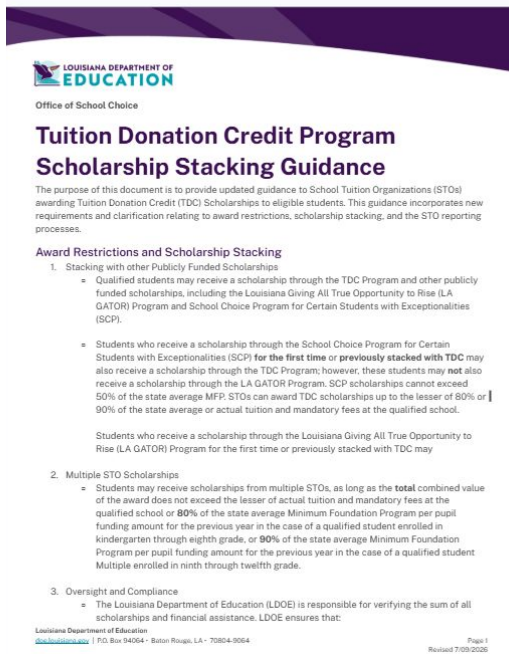
- Students may receive scholarships from multiple School Tuition Organizations (STOs), as long as the total combined value of the award does not exceed 80% of the MFP for K-8 and 90% of the MFP for 9-12.



Please contact LAGATOR@la.gov with questions.



Scholarship Stacking Guidance

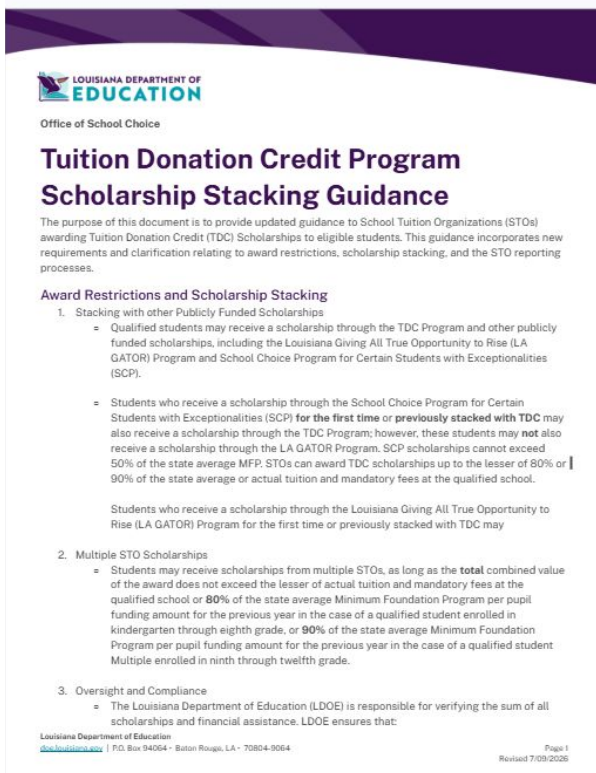


- Qualified students may receive a scholarship through the Tuition Donation Credit (TDC) program and other publicly funded scholarships.
- First time School Choice Program (SCP) recipients and participating students who previously stacked with TDC may also receive a scholarship through the TDC Program.

Please contact LAGATOR@la.gov with questions.



Scholarship Stacking Guidance



- The LDOE is responsible for verifying the sum of all scholarships and financial assistance.

Any other publicly funded scholarship, voucher, or other form of financial assistance specific to that student for the purposes of attending a nonpublic school does not exceed the actual tuition and mandatory fees at the qualified school

Please contact LAGATOR@la.gov with questions.



Award Restrictions and Scholarship Stacking

Program	Can Stack With	Cannot Stack With	Max Award	Notes
TDC	TDC	----	Not to exceed actual tuition and mandatory fees at the qualified school; STO award(s) cannot exceed a combined 80% of state avg. MFP (K-8) or 90% of state avg. MFP (9-12)	 Students may receive multiple STO awards with proportionate reduction to remain within the 80%/90% of state avg. MFP or actual tuition and mandatory fees. The sum of the scholarships cannot exceed tuition and mandatory fees.
	SCP	LA GATOR	50% of state avg. MFP awarded through SCP; Remaining STO award(s) cannot exceed a combined 80% of state avg. MFP (K-8) or 90% of state avg. MFP (9-12).	
	LA GATOR	SCP	STO award(s) cannot exceed 80% of state avg. MFP (K-8) or 90% of state avg. MFP (9-12) The combined LA GATOR award is not to exceed actual tuition and mandatory fees at the qualified school.	

Please contact LAGATOR@la.gov with questions.



LA GATOR Support

- **LDOE's LA GATOR Page:** 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)

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





School Choice Program

2026-2027 SCP Attestation



Scholarship Attestation

School Choice Program for Certain Students with Exceptionalities

Parent/Guardian Attestation and Acknowledgment (Declining SCP)

By signing below, I acknowledge that the school has informed me of the differences between the SCP Award and the LA GATOR Award, including the changes in scholarship eligibility, requirements, and program expectations associated with accepting the LA GATOR Award.

I acknowledge that I am voluntarily declining the SCP Award on behalf of my child in order for my child to be considered for the LA GATOR Award.

I understand that eligibility for the LA GATOR Award requires that students in grades K-12 complete a BESE-approved norm-referenced assessment or the applicable grade level assessment associated with the Louisiana Accountability System. I further understand that completion of this assessment is a requirement for continued participation in the LA GATOR program. Additionally, I understand that by declining the SCP Award, I am responsible for completing all requirements and next steps associated with receiving and maintaining the LA GATOR award.

By signing this acknowledgement, I certify that I have read and understand the information provided above and that:

- The school has explained the scholarship changes associated with declining the SCP Award and accepting the LA GATOR Award.
- The school has informed me that completion of a required norm-referenced assessment is a condition of eligibility for the LA GATOR Award.
- I understand the differences between the SCP Award and the LA GATOR Award and have had the opportunity to ask questions.
- I knowingly and voluntarily choose to decline the SCP Award in order for my child to be considered for the LA GATOR Award.

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name (Printed): _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____

•By, signing the document, the parent is acknowledging that they understand the difference between the SCP Award and the LA GATOR Award

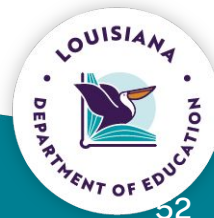
•They are voluntarily declining the SCP Award to accept the LA GATOR Award

•They understand the eligibility and assessment requirements for the LA GATOR Award



2025-2026 SCP Application Timeline

STEP	DATE
Waitlist Award Notifications Mail to Parents	July 10, 2026
Rosters Uploaded in SCS	July 13, 2026
Parish Amounts will be sent to Schools	July 15, 2026
Verify Rosters in SCS (advise of any changes)	July 22, 2026
SCP Summer Transfer Window Closes	July 31, 2026



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](#)
 - [Attestation 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.

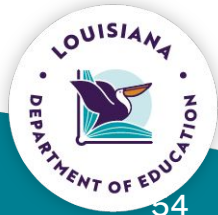
September 1st

Q1 Enrollment for SCP opens

September 6th

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

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
- Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

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

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

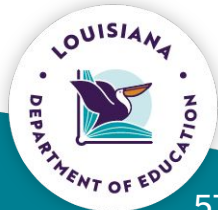


Office Hours

- 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

- [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
<u>LEADS</u> • 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> • Resources for Home Study, Nonpublic and Charter schools • Scholarship Programs Resources • Annual Reports	<u>https://doe.louisiana.gov/families-and-students</u>



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

