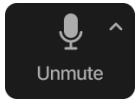
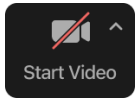
March Nonpublic Schools Webinar

March 19, 2025

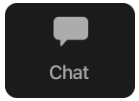
Zoom Meeting Preparation



- 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. Teacher Leader Summit
2. LA GATOR
3. Scholarship Programs
4. School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities
5. Resources

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

When: June 10-12, 2025

Task	Action Dates
Regular registration closes	4/18/2025

LA GATOR

Implementation Update

- Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) Family Engagement
- Public Engagement & Communications
- Support Information & Timeline
- Program Participation

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

Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) Family Engagement

Transfer of LSP Families to LA GATOR

LA GATOR Webinar - LSP Family Information

- Webinar was recorded and sent to LSP families on Monday, January 27th.
- Basic information was covered, including differences between LA GATOR & LSP, documentation needed for application, and the application process.
- All questions received were answered and are available in the FAQ sections of the Program's website: lagator.la.gov.
- Webinar information was also shared with LSP schools.

LSP Family and School Email Outreach

Email Date	Topic	Audience	Total Emails Sent	Open Rate*
January 16	LA GATOR introduction and resources available	**LSP Families**	4,366	84.6%
January 27	LA GATOR Parent Training Webinar, resources available	**LSP Families**	4,366	83.8%
February 4	LA GATOR supports and resources press release	**LSP Families + LSP Schools**	17,673	58.9%
February 11	LA GATOR School Communications Toolkit	**LSP Schools**	250	73.2%
February 14	How To Prepare for the LA GATOR Application Process	**LSP Families + LSP Schools**	4,366	78%
February 24	Application open soon	**LSP Families + LSP Schools**	4,366	68%
March 1	Application open	**LSP Families + LSP Schools**	250	TBD*
March 10	Application reminder and supports available	**LSP Families + LSP Schools**	4,616	TBD*

**Data updated: 3/11/25*

Public Engagement & Communication

Non-Public Stakeholder Engagement

- EdChoice LA GATOR Summit Sessions
- Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) Family Webinar
- Nonpublic Schools Council January 2025 Meeting
- Nonpublic Schools Monthly Call Presentations
- Baton Rouge Diocesan Schools Zoom Meeting
- New Orleans Diocesan Schools Zoom Meeting
- Support Zoom Meeting with Leaders of the 10 LSP Schools with Highest Enrollment

Public Engagement: LA GATOR Newsletter

The LDOE has created an opt-in LA GATOR Newsletter, available to all interested members of the public, currently totaling 4,000+ subscribers.

Email Date	Topic	Total Emails Sent	Open Rate*
January 22	LA GATOR Introduction: Program background, resources, Odyssey customer support	3,020	85.8%
February 4	LA GATOR supports and resources press release	17,673	58.9%
February 14	ESA 101: Program details, eligibility and prioritization, resources, etc.	TBD*	TBD*
February 24	Application open soon	TBD*	TBD*
March 1	Application open	TBD*	TBD*
March 10	Application reminder and supports available	TBD*	TBD*

Data updated: 2/11/25

Public Engagement: LA GATOR Social Media

The LDOE has used social media to share informative posts about the LA GATOR program and connect the public to resources, boosting them statewide.

Support Information & Timeline

LA GATOR Support

Odyssey will elevate questions to the LDOE as needed.

- **LDOE's Website**: LAGATOR.la.gov
  - FAQs, Program Policy, & Updates
  - Dedicated Pages by Participant Type
  - Application Links
- **Odyssey Support**
  - **Help Desk Ticket**: Submit a Request
  - **Phone**: (225) 422-1538
  - **Email**: help.la@withodyssey.com
  - **Instant Chat**: WithOdyssey.com (bottom right corner)

LA GATOR Milestones

February ‘25	March ‘25	April ‘25	June ‘25	July ‘25
Service Provider & Participating Public School Application Opened (*will remain open*) Pre-Eligibility Tool Launched	**Student / Family Application Opened March 1st** Parent School Selection Runs Concurrently with Application	**Student / Family Application Closes April 15th** Student / Family Application Verification Process Begins	**Schools Confirm Enrollments / Set Tuition** Parents Confirm Tuition	**Accounts Funded** (*subject to Legislative Appropriation*) Rank Order of Student Applications is Finalized Marketplace Opens as Accounts are Funded

LA GATOR Participation

Type	Amount
Total Students	23,259
Eligible Students	20,378
Pending & Under Review Students	1,311
Student Applications Received on First Day	6,000
Approved Nonpublic Schools	257
Registered Service Providers	196

Scholarship Programs

LSP & SCP Payment Adjustment Forms

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

- All Payment Adjustment Forms must be filled out completely by the school.
- Any Payment Adjustment Forms submitted after the deadline date 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.

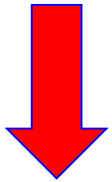
School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities

2025-2026 SCP Application Timeline

STEP	DATE
Last day for schools to upload verified demand report on FTP	March 21, 2025
SCP Award Notification Letters to Families	April 29, 2025
Send Final Roster to SCP Schools for Review	April 29, 2025
Final Day to Submit Upload Final SCP Roster to FTP	May 30, 2025
SCP Summer Transfer Window Opens	June 9, 2025
SCP Summer Transfer Window Closes	July 18, 2025

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 2025-2026 School Year?	Does the student currently participate in the School Choice Program for the 2024-2025 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
1/26/2024	Mickey	Mouse	111002222	1/1/2024	M	4th	Yes	Disneyland Academy							Returning SCP stud
1/26/2024	Donald	Duck	222001111	1/1/2024	M	5th	No		ABC Academy						Yes
1/26/2024	Minnie	Mouse	999001111	1/1/2024	F	5th	Yes	Disneyland Academy	ABC Academy						Returning SCP stud
1/26/2024	Daisy	Duck	888771111	1/1/2024	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:

- 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 2025-2026 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 2025-2026 School Year?	Does the student currently participate in the School Choice Program for the 2024-2025 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
1/26/2024	Mickey	Mouse	111002222	1/1/2024	M	4th	Yes	Disneyland Academy							Returning SCP stud
1/26/2024	Donald	Duck	222001111	1/1/2024	M	5th	No		ABC Academy						Yes
1/26/2024	Minnie	Mouse	999001111	1/1/2024	F	5th	Yes	Disneyland Academy	ABC Academy						Returning SCP stud
1/26/2024	Daisy	Duck	888771111	1/1/2024	F	8th	No		ABC Academy						No

Demand Reports

- 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 “2025-2026 SCP” folder.
- Schools will have until **March 21, 2025** to upload the final verified demand report to the FTP.

If you have any questions contact our office at studentscholarships@la.gov.

Resources

Helpful Links

- SCP Application Guide 2024-2025
- 2024-2025 School Choice Program Application
- SCP Family Participation Guide
- SCP School Participation Guide
- School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities webpage

Helpful Links

Name	Link
LEADS ● 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/
LDOE School Choice Library ● Resources for Home Study, Nonpublic and Charter schools ● Scholarship Programs Resources ● Annual Reports	https://doe.louisiana.gov/families-and-students

Nonpublic Team Contact Information

Topic	Email Support
Louisiana Scholarship Program	studentscholarships@la.gov
School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities	
Tuition Donation Credit Program	
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.