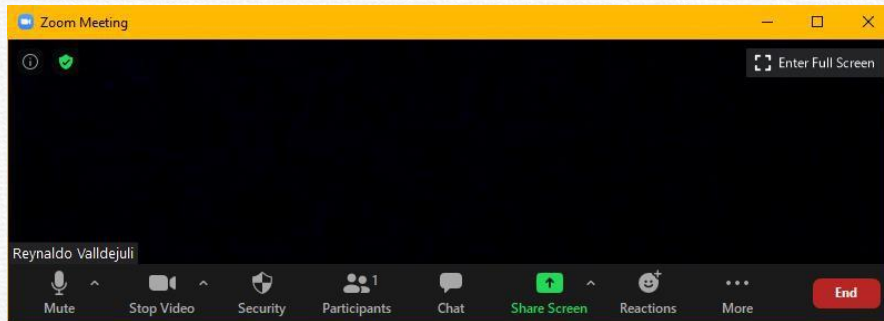


# Zoom Meeting Preparation

- 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](mailto:LDOEcommunications@la.gov).



# **VISION** for **SUCCESS**



**Nonpublic Programs Monthly Call  
July 19, 2023**

# Agenda

- Nonpublic Schools Seeking State Approval
- Tuition Donation Credit Program
- Home Study Program
- Louisiana Scholarship Program and School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities
- Annual Scholarship Survey
- Looking Ahead for 2023-24 School Year
- Communications



**Nonpublic Schools  
Seeking State Approval**



# Nonpublic Schools Annual Approval & Classification

- All nonpublic schools seeking BESE approval are required to apply each fall for approval the following year.
- Applications for the 2024-2025 school year will be accepted from **September 1 to October 15, 2023**.
- All schools must submit the application via JotForm which will be available on our [nonpublic schools webpage](#).
- Applications must be complete when submitted. Incomplete applications will be returned, which may cause a delay in moving through the BESE approval process.

**NOTE:** Schools interested in participating in the 2024-2025 LSP or SCP program must submit a Notice of Intent via Jotform, which will be available on the [webpage](#) between **October 1 - October 31, 2023**.



**Tuition Donation Credit Program**

**Scholarship Assistance Beyond the  
Louisiana Scholarship Program**



# Tuition Donation Credit Program

The [Tuition Donation Credit Program \(TDC\)](#) empowers Louisiana families with the financial resources to choose the school that will best prepare their child for college and career. This program provides tax credits to Louisiana taxpayers who donate to tax-exempt, not-for-profit organizations called **School Tuition Organizations (STO's)** that provide scholarships to K-12 students.

LDOE created a [Tuition Donation Participation Guide](#) to provide information and guidance to families, participating schools and STO's. This guide serves as a comprehensive tool designed to enhance understanding of the programmatic requirements and expectations outlined in [Bulletin 134](#).



# Tuition Donation Credit Program

**School Tuition Organizations (STO's)** play a critical role in the Tuition Donation Credit Program by:

- galvanizing Louisiana taxpayers to provide economic resources to Louisiana families; and
- conducting the scholarship award process to enable low-income children to attend the school they feel will best prepare their child for college or career success.





# Tuition Donation Credit Program

For schools seeking to participate in the TDC program, a list of the STOs currently participating in the program can be found on the [Tuition Donation Credit Program](#) landing page on the LDOE website.

At a minimum, [Bulletin 134](#) outlines the criteria that participating nonpublic schools must meet. STO's, however, may choose to use additional STO-specific criteria (e.g. academic performance) to determine the schools with which they partner.

Additional criteria exist in [Bulletin 134](#) for nonpublic schools that have been BESE approved for less than five years.



# TDC Participating Nonpublic Schools Minimum Criteria

Classification	Criteria
Bulletin 134	Conduct criminal background checks on its employees in compliance with <a href="#">R.S. 17:15</a> and exclude from employment any person not permitted by state law to work in a nonpublic school.
BESE Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Utilize “a curriculum of quality at least equal to that prescribed for similar public schools,” as required by the Louisiana Constitution.</li><li>● Submit information and documentation, which vary based on school characteristics, to the LDOE annually in order to obtain/renew BESE approval for the following school year.</li></ul>
Brumfield v. Dodd Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Be <a href="#">Brumfield v. Dodd</a> certified and compliant.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ The Brumfield v. Dodd certification process verifies that schools receiving state and federal funds are not racially discriminatory.</li></ul></li></ul>



# Tuition Donation Credit

## Criteria for “New” Nonpublic Schools

Classification	Criteria
BESE Approved for <5 Years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="363 390 1769 470">● If a school plans on receiving more than \$50,000 in scholarships from an STO, they must demonstrate their financial viability by:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="459 481 1783 561">○ filing a surety bond payable to the STO equal to the amount of donations expected to be received during the school year, prior to the start of the school year; or</li><li data-bbox="459 572 1763 740">○ providing financial information to the STO.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="556 615 1763 740">■ STO’s can determine what specific financial information they require in lieu of the surety bond, and should maintain documentation of a school’s fulfillment of this requirement.</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>

# Tuition Donation Credit Criteria for “New” Nonpublic Schools

Classification	Criteria
BESE Approved for <2 Years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="363 390 1304 423">● Meet the requirements for BESE approved &lt;5 years, AND:</li><li data-bbox="363 437 1727 514">● Maximum of 20% of the school’s enrollment can be scholarship students if the school takes part in both the Tuition Donation and Louisiana Scholarship Programs.</li></ul>

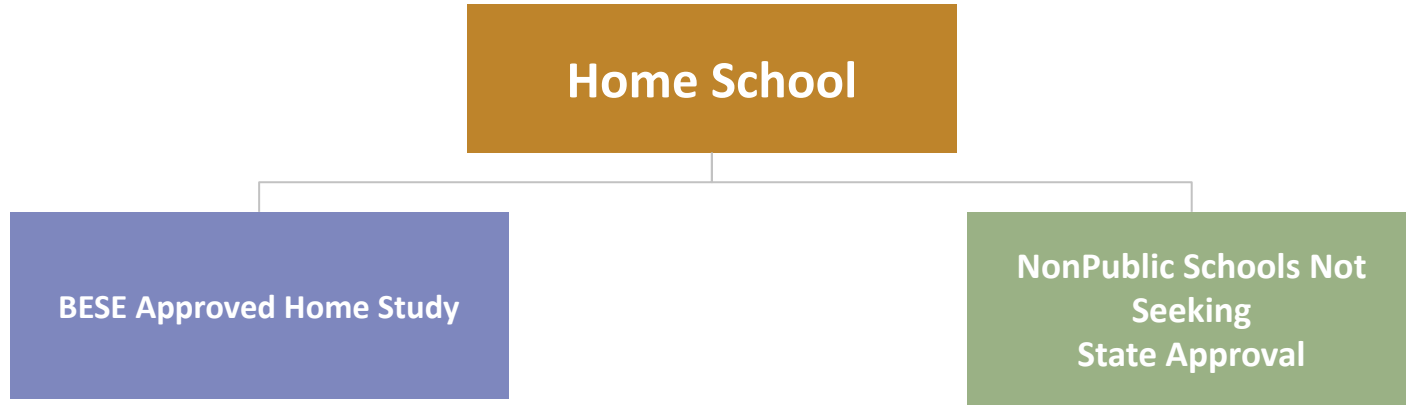


# Home School Programs

## Resources and Roles for Nonpublic Schools



# Program Overview



# Program Overview

Louisiana Families may choose to educate their children independently from the public or nonpublic school system. Louisiana families typically provide this independent education through a [Nonpublic School Not Seeking State Approval](#) or a [Board of Elementary and Secondary Education Approved Home Study Program](#).

Parents who enroll their child in an Approved Home Study Program are **solely responsible** for deciding the curriculum and providing instruction. Louisiana does not provide funding or resources for home study programs.

The collection of information on Nonpublic Schools Not Seeking State Approval by the Louisiana Department of Education does not serve as approval of a Home Study Program.



# Program Overview

BESE Approved Home Study Program		Registered NonPublic Not Seeking State Approval
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students are eligible to apply for TOPS under certain requirements</li> </ul>	<p><b>TOPS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Are <b>not</b> eligible for Tuition Opportunity Program for Students (TOPS) scholarships</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diploma is comparable to a diploma by a state approved private school</li> </ul>	<p><b>Diploma</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Do <b>not</b> receive a diploma carrying the same weight as a state issued diploma</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual application renewal for the <b>student</b></li> <li>Parents/Legal guardians must submit the home study application</li> </ul>	<p><b>Enroll</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annually submit enrollment information for the <b>school</b> by using the online attendance submission form</li> </ul>





# Important Information

- **BESE Approved Home Study:**
  - Schools cannot submit applications for students on behalf of the parents
  - In order to be approved, the assurance statement must be completed by the parent/legal guardian
  - A diploma received in an Approved Home Study program does carry the same weight as a state issued diploma
- **Nonpublic Not Seeking State Approval:**
  - Schools will submit annual attendance
  - Students do not receive a diploma carrying the same weight as a state issued diploma. However, students may still receive a diploma in accordance with the nonpublic school not seeking state approval policies.



**Louisiana Scholarship Program  
and  
School Choice Program for  
Children with Exceptionalities**





**Thanks to all the schools  
that submitted Tuition and Fees  
on time!**



# Important Scholarship Program Reminders

## Income Eligibility

- Each applicant must have a total family household income that does not exceed 250% of the federal poverty guidelines, as established by the Federal Office of Management and Budget.
- Parents and/or guardians must provide this information when completing an initial application for the Louisiana Scholarship Program.
- Participating schools are responsible for verifying that each **new** student is eligible during the application process.
- Schools are responsible for collecting **up to date** eligibility information for every new Scholarship student when families complete registration at the awarded site.



# LSP and 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.
- Each applicant must have a total family household income that does not exceed 250% of the federal poverty guidelines, as established by the Federal Office of Management and Budget.

**September 1**

**Q1 Enrollment for LSP and SCP opens**

**September 7**

**Q1 Enrollment for LSP and SCP closes**

- If an enrollment error is discovered, schools will have 30 days from September 7th to submit a completed/signed Payment Adjustment Form for review to [studentscholarships@la.gov](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov).
- Requests received after 30 days will be reviewed but not may not be approved.



# Transfer Window Reopens

Date	Item	Participants
<b>August 1</b>	Transfer Window Reopens	LSP Schools
<b>August 1</b>	Review roster in LEADS for the upcoming year	LSP and SCP schools
<b>August 1</b>	Transfer window reopens	LSP schools
<b>August 16</b>	Nonpublic Monthly Call	LSP and SCP schools
<b>August 25</b>	All transfers must be completed for Q1	LSP and SCP schools





Transfer forms must be completed correctly and signed by the school.

Forms with incorrect or incomplete information will be returned.

Families seeking to transfer a Scholarship award from one Scholarship school to a different Scholarship school for the 2023-2024 school year should complete this form together with the school they would like their child to attend. In order to request a transfer, students must:

- Have an award issued by the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) for the 2023-2024 school year
- Be registered at a Scholarship school as of May 26th
- Not be assigned to a public school

Scholarship students who wish to transfer from one participating Scholarship school to another are required to submit a transfer request form signed by both the parent/guardian and a representative of the receiving school. Transfers are only allowed to schools that meet accountability standards and who have Department approved available Scholarship seats.

The receiving school should submit this form to the LDOE by emailing the completed form to [studentscholarships@la.gov](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov). You will receive a response within 2-5 business days. **Submission of this form does not guarantee transfer approval.**

<b>Student Name:</b>	<b>Last 4 Digits of SS# (NOT LASID):</b>	<b>Student Date of Birth</b>
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]
<b>Parent/Guardian Name:</b>	<b>Parent/Guardian Phone:</b>	<b>Parent/Guardian Email Address:</b>
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	[Redacted]

<b>2023-2024 School Placement and Grade:</b>	<b>Requested Transfer School Name and Site Code:</b>
[Redacted]	[Redacted]
<b>Briefly describe reason for transfer request:</b>	
[Redacted]	

**Parent Signature:**  
I understand that transfers are not guaranteed but will be considered on a case-by-case basis. I understand that if the transfer is approved my child loses his/her seat at his/her current Scholarship school. The information I have provided above is accurate, and I will supply additional documentation as requested.

Parent/Guardian Signature: [Redacted] Date: [Redacted]

**Receiving School Representative Signature:**  
I understand that transfers are not guaranteed and acknowledge that I have a seat and will enroll this student in the grade listed.

School Representative Name: [Redacted] Date: [Redacted]

School Representative Signature: [Redacted]





# Louisiana Scholarship Program Declined Awards



# Declined Awards

Scholarship students who no longer wish to participate in the program must complete a [Declined Award form](#).

- **This form is NOT to be used for families requesting a transfer.**
- Once a family declines the award, the student will no longer be eligible to receive a scholarship for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year.



# Declined Awards

- **Once the award has been removed, it cannot be reinstated.**
- The family must sign the form acknowledging:
  - They are willingly choosing not to participate in the LSP program.
  - They must reapply if they would like to be considered for any future scholarship awards.
- A school representative must also sign the form acknowledging that they have informed the family of the stipulations of declining a scholarship award.



Families seeking to decline a Scholarship award for the 2023- 2024 school year must complete this form together with the awarding school. In order to request to decline an award, students must:

- Complete the current form provided by the school for the 2023-2024 school year
- Once a family declines the award, they will no longer be eligible to receive a scholarship for the remainder of the 2023-24 school year.

Once the award has been removed for the 2023-24 school year, it cannot be reinstated or transferred to another participating school. If a family declines an award, they must re-apply in the fall in order to be eligible for any scholarships awarded in the upcoming years. **The family must sign this form acknowledging that they understand they are willingly choosing not to participate in the LSP program for the current school year and must reapply if they would like to be considered for any future scholarship awards.** A school representative must also sign the form acknowledging that they have informed the family of the stipulations of declining a scholarship award.

<b>Student Name:</b>	<b>Student DOB / Last 4 Digits of SS#:</b>	<b>Grade for 2023-2024 school year:</b>
<b>Parent/Guardian Name:</b>	<b>Parent/Guardian Phone:</b>	<b>Parent/Guardian Email Address:</b>

<b>2023-2024 School Placement:</b>	<b>School Site Code:</b>
<b>Briefly describe reason for declining award:</b>	

**Parent Signature:**

I understand that by declining this award, I am willingly opting out of the Louisiana Scholarship Program for the remainder of the current school year, and I will need to re-apply for the scholarship in order to be considered for scholarships awarded in the upcoming years. The information I have provided above is accurate, and I understand the scholarship terms above.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**School Representative Signature:**

School Representative Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

School Representative Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Declined Award forms must be completed correctly and signed by the school.

Forms with incorrect or incomplete information will be returned.



# Annual Scholarship Survey



# Annual Scholarship Survey

- The purpose of this survey is to measure program satisfaction with the training and support currently available to all participating schools.
- These results will be gathered and shared within the Office of School Choice **ONLY**, meaning that your individual information and feedback shared will not be publicly reported. Only an overall summary of these results may be included in Department presentations and calls for informative purposes.

Please access the survey [link](#) here.



# Looking Ahead for the 2023-24 School Year



# New and Continuing Resources

In order to provide better support for all participating scholarship schools, the NP (Nonpublic) Team will be adding and implementing the following resources for the upcoming school year beginning in July and August:

## Program Calendar

- An annual calendar with all the important dates for the upcoming school year.
- A monthly version of the calendar will be included in every newsletter.

## School Participation Guide and Family Participation Guide

- Updates to the participation guide and the FAQs to provide more clarity for schools and families.



# Looking Ahead

## Website Updates

- The website will be easier to navigate and find resources. New forms, links and reference documents will be easy to locate.

## Form Updates

- Expulsion, Payment Adjustment, Declined Award, and many other forms are being updated.

## Program Calendar for 2023-24

- Will be available soon in the [School Choice Library](#)

## Site Visits

- Site visits will begin in September. Schools will be notified prior to the visits.

## Webinars

- Geared toward Navigating Application Process for both families and schools
- More “**How To**” webinars to address every day items/actions related to programs
  - [How to Complete Quarterly Enrollment - August 23](#)



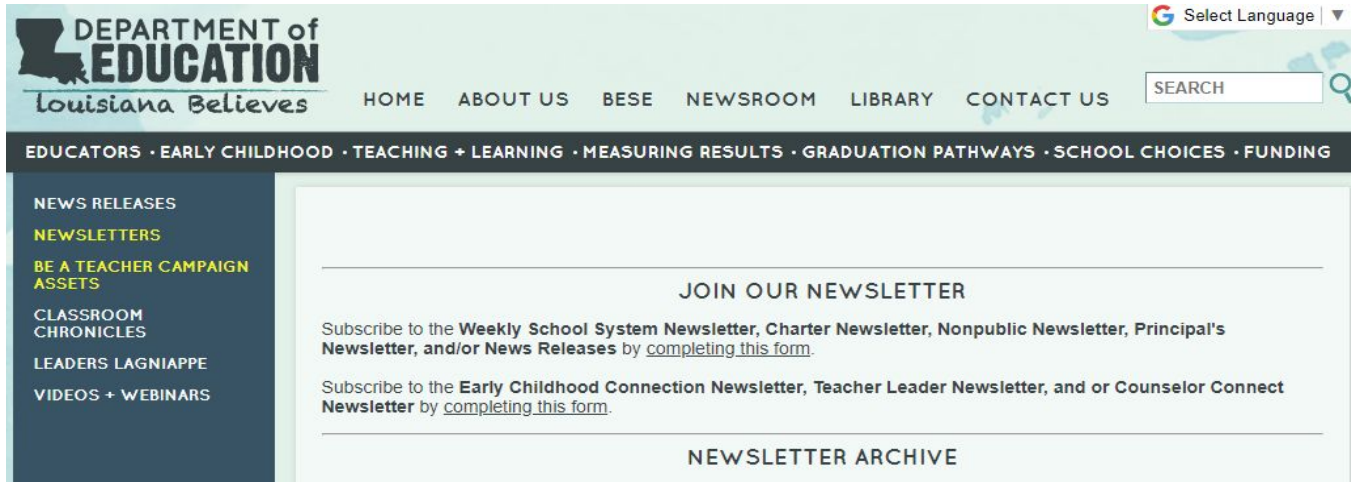




# Communications

# Weekly Communications - Newsletters

How to receive weekly LDOE Newsletters - Go to <https://www.louisianabelieves.com/newsroom/newsletters> to sign up for newsletters important for your role and to find archived newsletters.



The screenshot shows the Louisiana Department of Education website. The header includes the logo "DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION Louisiana Believes" and a "Select Language" dropdown. The main navigation menu contains links for HOME, ABOUT US, BESE, NEWSROOM, LIBRARY, and CONTACT US. A search bar is located on the right. Below the navigation is a dark banner with categories: EDUCATORS · EARLY CHILDHOOD · TEACHING + LEARNING · MEASURING RESULTS · GRADUATION PATHWAYS · SCHOOL CHOICES · FUNDING. On the left, a dark sidebar lists menu items: NEWS RELEASES, NEWSLETTERS (highlighted in yellow), BE A TEACHER CAMPAIGN ASSETS, CLASSROOM CHRONICLES, LEADERS LAGNIAPPE, and VIDEOS + WEBINARS. The main content area features a "JOIN OUR NEWSLETTER" section with two subscription options: "Weekly School System Newsletter, Charter Newsletter, Nonpublic Newsletter, Principal's Newsletter, and/or News Releases" and "Early Childhood Connection Newsletter, Teacher Leader Newsletter, and or Counselor Connect Newsletter". Below this is a "NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE" link.



# Sign Up for Weekly Newsletters

This [form](#) applies to system, charter and nonpublic newsletters.

Important notices and materials are posted in these weekly newsletters.



Sign up to stay in touch!

Thanks for your interest in joining our mailing list. Please complete the information below and click Sign Up.

- \* Email Address
- \* First Name
- \* Last Name
- \* Job Title
- \* District/Parish

Email Lists

- Charter Newsletter
- News Releases
- Nonpublic Newsletter
- Principals Newsletter
- Weekly System Leaders Newsletter



- Newsletters include information by different LDOE Offices
- Items will specifically mention the school staff who would benefit from the information provided
- Entries and reminders draw attention to important timelines

### In This Issue

- Important Dates for School Systems
- [School Choice](#)
  - [Monthly Call](#)
  - [Office Hours](#)
  - [Quarterly Enrollment Reporting](#)
  - [Upcoming Dates](#)
- [Louisiana Scholarship Program](#)
  - [2023-24 Tuition and Fee Certification Worksheets](#)
- Operations
- Assessments, Accountability and Analytics
- Career and College Readiness
- Teaching and Learning



Click School Choice link to go directly to the relevant entries.



- Special section addresses dates, times and links to monthly calls, office hours and webinars

## Important Dates for School Systems

### Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call: [June 20 at 3:45 p.m.](#)
- Nonpublic Monthly Call: [June 21 at 2 p.m](#)
- School System Financial Support (SSFS) Monthly Call: [June 21 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [August 1 at 1 p.m.](#)



# Nonpublic Equitable Services Support and Technical Assistance

Please feel free to contact the State Ombudsman for any assistance or clarification regarding the federal non-public equitable services program.

The Federal Programs and Grantee Relations Monthly Call is every 3rd Thursday of each month. Please feel free to join us for equitable services updates.

All the BEST! Keep Soaring!

State Ombudsman  
Daphne Flentroy @ [daphne.flentroy@la.gov](mailto:daphne.flentroy@la.gov)



# 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/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, you will need to book a new appointment time.
- If you have any questions about Office Hours, please reach out to us at [studentscholarships@la.gov](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov) for assistance.

***This service is not available to families.***

***Families can email questions to [studentscholarships@la.gov](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov).***





# Username, Passcodes, and Unlocks

- 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](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov).



# Helpful Links

Name	Link
<p><u><a href="#">LEADS</a></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 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.</li></ul>	<p><a href="https://leads5.doe.louisiana.gov/ptl">https://leads5.doe.louisiana.gov/ptl</a></p>
<p><u><a href="#">LDOE School Choice Library</a></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Resources for Home Study, Nonpublic and Charter schools</li><li>• Scholarship Programs Resources</li><li>• Annual Reports</li></ul>	<p><a href="https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/school-choice">https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/school-choice</a></p>
<p><u><a href="#">LDOE Weekly Nonpublic Newsletter</a></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information regarding Nonpublic and Scholarship action items</li><li>• The newsletter is released every Thursday at 4:30 pm.</li></ul>	<p><a href="https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?llr=rkyvy5eab&amp;p=oi&amp;m=rkyvy5eab&amp;sit=urxao49fb&amp;f=8d3c7b7c-7ae8-4bd3-8c83-c6e44e5e558c">https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/d.jsp?llr=rkyvy5eab&amp;p=oi&amp;m=rkyvy5eab&amp;sit=urxao49fb&amp;f=8d3c7b7c-7ae8-4bd3-8c83-c6e44e5e558c</a></p>
<p><u><a href="#">Louisiana Scholarship Program</a></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information and resources for the Louisiana Scholarship Program</li></ul>	<p><a href="https://www.louisianabelieves.com/schools/louisiana-scholarship-program">https://www.louisianabelieves.com/schools/louisiana-scholarship-program</a></p>



# Nonpublic Team Contact Information

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT	EMAIL
Louisiana Scholarship Program	<a href="mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov">studentscholarships@la.gov</a> To ensure a timely response, send one email with your questions.
School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities	
Tuition Donation Credit Program	
Operations/BESE Approval/Brumfield v Dodd Approval	<a href="mailto:nonpublicschools@la.gov">nonpublicschools@la.gov</a> To ensure a timely response, send one email with your questions.
Approved Home Study Program Nonpublic Schools Not Seeking State Approval	<a href="mailto:nonpublicschools@la.gov">nonpublicschools@la.gov</a> To ensure a timely response, send one email with your questions.



# VISION for SUCCESS



Questions?