



September 10 , 2020

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Important Dates for Nonpublic Schools

School Choice Program	Date	Action, Event, or Deadline	Owners
Nonpublics	9/18/20	Attend Reopening Roundtable	Diocesan Superintendents
All nonpublics	9/25/20	Submit Required Services items	School leaders or business managers
TDC	9/30/20	Submit Q1 enrollment to FTP	School Tuition Organizations

Louisiana Scholarship Program (LSP) News

New: Reopening Roundtable Series

Superintendents are invited to participate in a Reopening Roundtable virtual series hosted by Dr. Brumley to be held on **September 18 at 9 a.m.** During this call, a panel of superintendents and school leaders will share their experiences reopening and operating schools during the health crisis. It's important that the Department is a support agency during these uncertain times, and this series will help facilitate discussions of best practices. Information needed to join this call is included below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** September 18 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/99887442568>
- **Webinar Passcode:** #0*a2n
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312 626 6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 998 8744 2568

- Dial-in Passcode: 752932

System leaders are asked to enter their full name and school system name when logging in.

Reminder: Transfer Window Opened

If a family is interested in a transfer, please have the family complete the [transfer form](#) and submit it to a school representative. The representative at the school must then sign the form and email it to studentscholarships@la.gov. Forms submitted by parents will not be considered.

Transfers are at the discretion of the receiving school; however, schools may not exceed new student caps (if applicable) based on [accountability results](#) for the 2019 school year.

Please email studentscholarships@la.gov with any questions.

Reminder: For School and District Testing Coordinators

New: LEAP 2025 Grades 3-8 Spring Test Administration

- At the request of many school systems who have had especially difficult challenges to the opening of school, the LEAP 2025 spring testing for grades 3-8 has been rescheduled as follows:
 - April 26-May 26: CBT
 - April 28-30 ELA and Math: PBT
 - May 3-4 Science and Social Studies PBT
- The [2020-2021 Assessment Calendar](#) has been updated and additional key dates will be released in the coming months.

ACT

- **Update:** The ACT [Schedule of Events](#) has been updated on the [ACT State Testing](#) site
- September 7-October 6: Test coordinators verify, as needed, student information in PANext for initial test date of October 6
- September 7-25: Test coordinators order non-college reportable accommodations materials for the initial testing window, October 6-16 and additional standard time materials for the initial test date, October 6

Fall LEAP 2025 High School Assessment Administration

- Fall LEAP 2025 High School Assessments administration is currently scheduled for December 1-18. In response to delayed school openings, a second window has been scheduled for January 6-26. School systems will be asked to submit their choice of window to the Department from October 1-9 through DRC INSIGHT.
- Additional dates and reminders are forthcoming.

Assessment Administration Support and Training Office Hours

The next Assessment and Accountability **Monthly Call** will be on **September 15 at 3:45 p.m.** A password will now be required for office hours. Webinar details are listed below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** September 15 at 3:45 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/202189164>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
- **Meeting ID#:** 202 189 164
- **Password:** 2020202!

Tuition Donation Credit (TDC) Program News

Reminder: Q1 Count Due September 30th

All STO's must upload the [Q1 enrollment spreadsheets](#) to the FTP by **September 30**. The report should also include all students' LASIDs.

This spreadsheet is to be completed by the Student Tuition Organizations, not individual schools.

If you have any questions, please reach out to I indsey.rhodes@la.gov.

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- Fall LEAP 2025 High School Assessments administration is currently scheduled for December 1-18. In response to

... Full 2020 High School Assessments administration is currently scheduled for December 1-10. In response to delayed school openings, a second window has been scheduled for January 6-26. School systems will be asked to submit their choice of window to the Department from October 1-9 through DRC INSIGHT.

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Reminder: Frequently Asked Questions and Contact Information

Information about the Tuition Donation Credit Program can be found in the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) and [Scholarship Programs Comparison Chart](#). Currently, Louisiana has four School Tuition Organizations participating in the Tuition Donation Credit Program: ACE Scholarships Louisiana, Arete Scholars Louisiana, Aspiring Scholars, and Son of a Saint. Schools interested in participating in the TDC program should communicate directly with one or more School Tuition Organizations.

School Tuition Organization	Regional Focus	STO Website	Email	Phone
ACE Scholarships Louisiana	Statewide	www.acescholarships.org	TDR@acescholarships.org	504-491-1813
Arete Scholars Louisiana	Statewide	www.aretescholars.org	maryhw@aretescholars.org	225-245-3610
Aspiring Scholars	New Orleans Archdiocese	https://aspiringscholarsla.org/	info@aspiringscholarsla.org	504-513-4140
Son of a Saint	Orleans	www.sonofasaint.org	hello@sonofasaint.org	504-561-7508

School Choice Program

Reminder: SCP Transfer Window Open

Students wishing to transfer SCP awards from one school to another participating school for the 2020 school year can complete the [SCP transfer form](#). The form must also be signed by a representative of the receiving school.

Please send completed form to nonpublicschools@la.gov.

All Nonpublics

New: Disaster Recovery Guidance

The Department has released [disaster recovery guidance](#). Please continue to check [this link](#), as the guidance will be updated as new information becomes available. The document includes guidance and resources on the following topics:

- Enrollment of displaced students
- Damage to facilities and supply needs
- Staffing capacity
- Issues related to the start of the school year
- Charter school specific guidance

Please contact systemrelations@la.gov with questions.

New: Strong Start Reopening Office Hours Extended Through September

The Department will continue to offer Strong Start reopening office hours through the month of September. These office hours will be rolled into the [Career and Readiness Office Hours](#) and will be held weekly on **Thursdays at 3 p.m.** Information needed to join this call is included in the [Career and College Readiness Office Hours entry below](#).

For more information, please visit [COVID-19 Resources for Schools](#).

Please contact LDOECOVID19support@la.gov with questions.

New: Career and College Readiness Office Hours

Please share with school system supervisors, administrators and counselors.

The Office of Career and College Readiness will hold weekly office hours each Thursday at 3 p.m. **Throughout the month of September, the focus will be on school reopening.** Office hours provide an opportunity for school system leaders to receive updates on reopening guidance and support documents.

On the September 3 office hours, topics included:

- The [proclamation](#) regarding vision and hearing screening updates
- LDH resources for schools to navigate the early warning system:
 - [Guide for School Reporting](#)
 - [COVID Schools Worksheet](#)
 - [Contact Tracing Guide](#)
 - [Contact Tracing Worksheet for Parents](#)
- **Webinar Date and Time:** Thursdays at 3 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/94130675139>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 301-715-8592
- **Meeting ID#:** 941 3067 5139
- **Meeting Passcode:** 573243

Please contact LDOECOVID19support@la.gov for reopening questions or highschooladacemics@la.gov for career and college readiness with questions.

New: NCCER Updates for School System and School Leadership

Please share with career and technical education (CTE) supervisors/coordinators and school leadership.

On September 16, the Department will host a webinar to review the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) updated [guidelines](#) for the 2020-2021 school year. In addition to reviewing the [guidelines](#), the Department will share expectations and responsibilities, including the assurance letter, craft instructor requirements, Department processes, testing guidelines, facility visits, trainings and the [registry](#). There will be two opportunities to attend.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** September 16 at 10 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95397520753>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
- **Meeting ID#:** 953 952 0753
- **Webinar Passcode:** nccer1
- **Webinar Date and Time:** September 16 at 2 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95397520753>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
- **Meeting ID:** 953 952 0753
- **Webinar Passcode:** nccer1

Please contact martha.moore@la.gov with questions.

New: Teacher Preparation Program Website Launch

On September 9, the Department - in collaboration with the Board of Regents - launched a new website, LouisianaTeacherPrep.com, that allows prospective educators to explore teacher preparation programs. The website includes information on Louisiana's 29 teacher preparation programs, including certification areas offered, testimonials, as well as the demographics of program completers and retention data. Each provider's performance on Louisiana's [Teacher Preparation Quality Rating System](#) will be added to the

website this winter. Prospective educators can use the website to select teacher preparation programs that best meet their needs, and school systems can use the information to address their educator workforce needs.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

New: Strong Start 2020 Instructional Material and PD Vendor Guide Updates

Please share with Chief Academic Officers, curriculum coordinators, professional development coordinators and purchasing directors.

The Strong Start 2020 plan includes [Instructional Materials Guidance](#) and [Professional Development Guidance](#), and the Department continues to work with publishers and vendors to update each guide as they build and refine their supports. New or updated information will be highlighted in yellow within the document.

This week, the following entries have been significantly **updated**:

Instructional Materials Guidance	Professional Development Guidance
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Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

New: New Teacher Induction Survey

In order to be successful, new teachers need support. Support can take on many forms including but not limited to:

- Individual mentoring
- Targeted professional development sessions
- PLCs
- Sheltered schedules

The Division of Educator Development is interested in learning from school systems across the state who provide support to early career teachers. School systems are encouraged to complete this brief [New Teacher Induction Survey](#) by **September 18** to help the Department understand where best practices are already happening and what supports may be needed to further develop new teacher induction programs. The survey should be completed by the leader in each school system who supports new teachers.

Please reach out to believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Rescheduled: Quest for Success Webinar

Please share with career and technical education leaders and Quest for Success instructors.

A [Quest for Success Curriculum crosswalk](#) has been created to help facilitate virtual and hybrid learning. The guide includes alternate face-to-face activities that may be challenging to complete in a virtual environment or while maintaining social distancing. The tips included provide suggestions for both synchronous and asynchronous learning and alternative activities for virtual environments.

A webinar is scheduled to provide an overview of the Quest for Success Unit 2 resources and answer questions pertaining to these resources. This webinar has been rescheduled from August 31 and will now occur on September 14 at 4 p.m.

- Webinar Date and Time: September 14 at 4 p.m.
- Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98206897192>
- Webinar Passcode: quest1
- Webinar Phone Number: 646-876-9923
- Webinar Phone Passcode: 714594
- Meeting ID#: 982 0689 7192

Please contact ted.holmes@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: 2019-2020 P-EBT Benefits

Louisiana is reopening the Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) program for families who did not apply in May and June. Families of children who receive free or reduced-price school meals are eligible to receive financial benefits for meals missed in 2019-2020 when schools closed due to the pandemic. This includes all students attending a [Community Eligibility Provision \(CEP\) school](#).

The [application portal is open](#) until **September 29 at 5 p.m.** A link to P-EBT information and the application portal is available on the [Department's COVID-19 webpage](#). The Department will publicize the eligibility of these benefits. Schools can use [this toolkit](#) for sample messages to share with families.

This new application window is only for eligible families who did not apply in May and June . To receive these benefits, families must complete an application. Without the requested information, the Department of Children and Family Services cannot issue the Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card and provide benefits. Please note that the information families enter in the application must exactly match what is on file in the student information system.

Please contact LDOECOVID19support@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Vaccination Update

The Louisiana Department of Health annually updates fact sheets to inform students and their families of the danger of [influenza](#)(Flu) and [Human Papillomavirus](#) (HPV). Vaccinated students protect themselves, their families, schools, communities and healthcare workers.

Flu vaccination is more important than ever during the COVID-19 pandemic. Vaccination is the best way to prevent the flu and its potential [danger to students](#).

Please share these fact sheets with students and parents.

Please contact stacy.hall@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Required Services for FY2020-21

Please share with business managers.

The 2019-2020 Required Services collection is currently ongoing. All guidelines and forms for submission are available on the Department's [Nonpublic Schools Finance](#) webpage. Please note that the Reimbursement Request Form, Time Log and Summary Time Record Form with backup must be for the 2019-2020 school year, and all forms must be emailed no later than the close of business (4:30 p.m.) on **September 25**.

A [W-9 form](#) must be submitted to the Department for all school addresses that have changed, indicating the new address. Schools must be both academically approved and Brumfield v. Dodd approved to be eligible to participate in the Required Services Program.

For questions regarding the submission of the reimbursement request forms or guidelines, please contact nonpublicfinancehelpdesk@la.gov or 225-342-3617.

Reminder: Learning Environment and Connectivity Tool for Systems

The Department has developed a tool for systems and schools to easily track student learning environments as well as device and connectivity data. This tool will also help the Department and systems identify where additional student connectivity supports are needed. System leaders will receive an email from LDOE next week with system specific access information needed to complete a brief survey.

School systems are encouraged to add current data as soon as possible. This will help ensure access to the system well before initial data is pulled for BESE on September 18.

Data submitted to this survey will automatically populate dashboards for systems, charter schools and non-public schools. Links to these dashboards will be added to the "School Reopening Resources" section of the [Strong Start](#) page on August 31. LDOE will pull data on **September 18 at 5 p.m.** to create an initial report for BESE and other stakeholders. Systems should update their dashboard throughout the school year as new information becomes available. The most current data will appear on the dashboard as soon as it is submitted through the survey.

Please contact kim.nesmith@la.gov with questions.

Other Department Newsletters

To view the **September 8th District Newsletter** or the **September 3rd Nonpublic Newsletter**, please [visit the LDOE Newsroom](#).

To be added to the newsletter distribution list, please send an email to nonpublicschools@la.gov.

LDOE Contacts

Dr. Cade Brumley
State Superintendent of Education
877.453.2721 (toll-free)
Twitter @LouisianaSupe

LDOE Links

[LDOE Website](#)

[Contact Us](#)

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