

Nonpublic School Council

July 22, 2025



Agenda

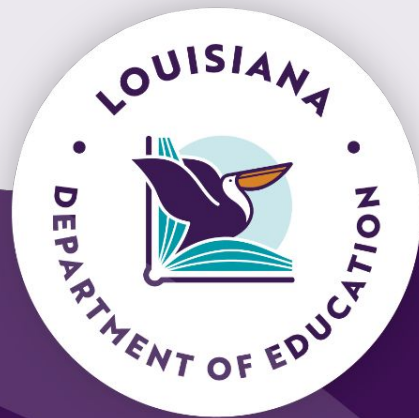
- Roll Call
- Recognition of Guests
- Approval of the minutes of the meeting held March 18, 2025
- Consideration of an update report regarding the LA GATOR Scholarship Program
- Consideration of an update report provided by the Nonpublic Schools Ombudsman
- Consideration of an update report regarding certification
- Consideration of revisions to bulletins in response to legislation of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session



Roll Call



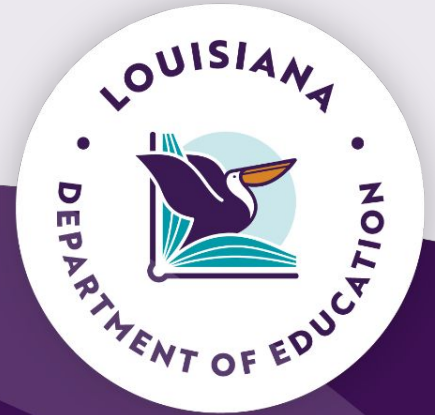
Recognition of Guests



Approval of the minutes of the meeting held March 18, 2025



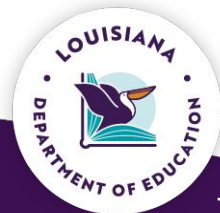
Consideration of an update report regarding the LA GATOR Scholarship Program



LA GATOR - Implementation Updates

- Important Steps for Families and Schools
 - Ensure that families are selecting schools and confirming tuition.
 - Schools should be entering tuition and supporting families as they make their school selections.
 - If school selection or tuition amounts need to be changed after confirmation, please submit an Odyssey Help Desk Ticket via lagator.la.gov.

Please contact LAGATOR@la.gov with questions.



LA GATOR - Student Opt In Process

- Students awarded LA GATOR Program account funding have had their statuses updated to “**Approved - Awaiting Opt In.**”
- Families need to log into their Odyssey Accounts to opt into the Program by **Thursday, July 31st, 2025.**
 - Failure to opt in by that date will move the student to an “opted-out” status and will forfeit their spot in the LA GATOR Program.
 - This process must be completed individually for each student in a family.



LA GATOR - Student Opt In Process

- Once a family completes the opt-in process, the student's status will update to "**Approved.**"
 - These changes will also be visible to schools in their Odyssey Accounts.
- All awarded families and LA GATOR schools have been emailed regarding this process and the deadline to complete.
 - Odyssey sends notifications to the email address used to create the Odyssey account.



LA GATOR - Award Visibility

- Funding balances will not be visible immediately after a family opts in.
- Scholarship funds will become available once the Odyssey Marketplace officially opens.
 - At that time, families will be able to use their funds to cover tuition and fees, as well as to make Marketplace purchases.
 - Odyssey will notify both families and schools once the Marketplace is live and funds are ready to use.
- Funding balance information will only be accessible to awarded families in their Odyssey profiles.



LA GATOR - Application Statuses

Status	What It Means
Approved - Awaiting Opt-In	Student is approved and must complete the opt in process.
Approved	Student has opted into the program and will be receiving funds.
Opted Out	Student has opted out of the program and will not be receiving funds for the program year.
Eligible	Student qualifies for the program but is on the funding waitlist. They'll receive funding only if it becomes available.
Ineligible	Student did not meet the requirements to qualify for the LA GATOR Program.
Closed	Family application was closed, typically due to an error.

LA GATOR - Helpful Links & Support

- **Support Link:** [Odyssey Help Desk](#)
- **Recent Odyssey FAQ Articles:**
 - **Families:** [How to Opt In/Opt Out the LA GATOR Scholarship Program](#)
 - **Schools:** [What do the different statuses on my account mean?](#)
- **Odyssey Support Resources:** [Odyssey FAQ Page](#)
- **LDOE Webpage:** lagator.la.gov

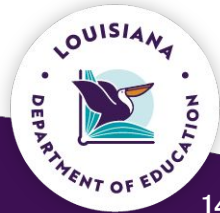


Consideration of an update report provided by the Nonpublic Schools Ombudsman



SEA Titles II and IV Educator Collaboratives

- The Nonpublic Educator Collaborative Sessions on Resilient Leadership, New Adventures with the Flying Classroom, and connecting with Inspir-Ed for the PD session on AI for educators received very positive reviews and a request for more sessions:
 - “Best STEM sessions to engage not just teachers but students as well.”
 - “School and instructional leaders need to participate in resilient leadership. Great information and leadership strategies!”
 - “I have a better feeling about using AI in my classroom and see the benefits. AI will be my instructional assistant next year!”



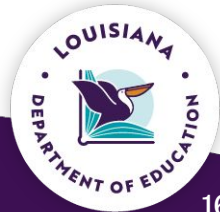
Titles II and IV Remaining Allocations, Rollover and Carryover

- LEAs and nonpublic schools are collaborating and making progress.
- LEAs are working with nonpublic administrators to determine the reason for the remaining allocations and possible solutions.
- Pooling is being considered within and across LEAs.
- Other options for professional development are:
 - On-site professional development sessions after school or during PD days; and
 - Participating in professional development webinars and online training and courses on evidence/research-based strategies and best practices for instruction and teacher effectiveness.



Annual LEA/Nonpublic Equitable Services Collaborative Meetings

- Jotform registration and information sent out Thursday, July 10, 2025.
- Meetings will be held in:
 - North Louisiana
 - South Louisiana
 - Locations that have requested individual meetings



SEA Titles II and IV Allocations Update

- SEA Titles II and IV allocations were sent to each LEA with participating non-profit nonpublic schools.
- LDOE held SEA Titles II and IV webinars with LEAs on July 8 and July 10 regarding how to complete the eGMS application budget and deliver the required equitable services.
- LEAs are conducting the meaningful consultation with each BESE approved non-profit nonpublic school(s).
- LEAs will upload the SEA Titles II and IV Intent to Participate, Affirmation of Consultation, Needs Assessment, and other documentation into the LDOE SEA Titles II and IV eGMS grant application to archive/support the implementation of the required equitable services.



Consideration of an update report regarding certification



Louisiana Educator Certification (LEC) Portal

Implementation Plan

- Alpha testing - Began June 16 (two weeks)
- Beta testing - Began July 7 (two weeks)
- Anticipated launch date - July 28

Authorized User Partnership Planning

- Training sessions for all authorized users will be announced on TeachLouisiana.net and TeachLALive! soon.
- Once LEC is launched, the window to submit any remaining PDF applications will be approximately two weeks.
 - Plan to submit any PDF applications quickly as the launch date for LEC approaches.



LEC Portal

Additional updates include:

- Requesting two or more areas on the CTTIE application will require a \$25 processing fee.
- Requests for course approval for more than four courses will also require an additional processing fee.
- All applications and follow-up submissions will be initiated by the educator.
 - HR and Prep can send a request to start the application.
 - Applications are sent automatically to HR and/or Prep for verification.
- Automated CBC/Clear Credential verification - Applicants will be unable to start an application unless a CBC/Clear Credential is on file.



Louisiana Educator Certification Portal

Nonpublic School 'Membership' - Optional process to connect your educators to your school/system to take advantage of tracking features in LEC:

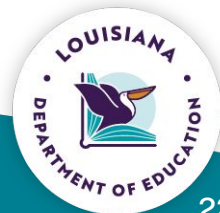
- HR sets a 'Membership Code' for the school.
 - Systems with multiple schools may set one code for the system or individual codes for each school, if desired.
- Provide the code to your educators.
- The educator requests 'membership' to be connected.
- HR reviews and approves or rejects membership requests to add educators to the tracking lists.



Access Requirements

LEC will be integrated into the [Louisiana Educator Portal](#) (LEP).

- Educators who have used LEP for evaluation should not need any additional access or accounts to start applications.
- Educators who have not used LEP will only need a [MyLA](#) account.
- Nonpublic HR personnel and Preparation Providers will need:
 - An eScholar Staff ID;
 - A [MyLA](#) account; and
 - Request permissions for the application portions.
- Instructions to request authorized permissions will be provided when the system launches.



Requesting a Staff ID

HR authorization will require an eScholar Staff ID.

- Nonpublic HR personnel may need to request a Staff ID before access to LEC can be granted.
 - Sign in to the [EdLink Ops Portal](#).
 - Select your account type.
 - **Nonpublic Personnel:** I am a PK-12 nonpublic school employee.
 - Enter the requested name, contact, and personal information.
 - Save and submit.



Consideration of revisions to bulletins in response to legislation of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session



Act 479: Seclusion and Restraint

Bulletin 1706 - Regulations for Implementation of the Children with Exceptionalities Act

- Updates definition of *physical restraint* and adds definition of *sensory room*.
- Includes monitoring, after incident care, training, and reporting.
- Requires crisis intervention training for certification.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.



Act 463: Nutrition

- Pertains to all nonpublic schools receiving state funds.
- Prohibited ingredients pertain to all food and beverages served by the school at breakfast and lunch or at aftercare.
- Food should be purchased from within Louisiana to the extent practicable.
- Effective beginning with the 2028-2029 school year.

Please contact childnutritionprograms@la.gov or call 225-342-9661 with questions.



Act 409: Child Welfare

- *Bulletin 741 (Nonpublic) - Louisiana Handbook for Nonpublic School Administrators*
- *Bulletin 137 - Louisiana Early Learning Center Licensing Regulations*
 - Nonpublic prekindergarten licensure
 - DCFS clearance for employment
 - Mandatory reporter training and procedural updates
 - Montessori prekindergarten
 - Minimum safety standards for prekindergarten

For more information contact ldelicensing@la.gov.



Preparing for the Transition to Licensure

LDOE will be offering the following training opportunities to nonpublic schools offering programs for 3- and 4-year-old children, to assist sites with the submission of the application for licensure by January 1, 2026:

- *Bulletin 137* New Provider Orientation
- Initial Licensure Process Guidance
- EdLink New User Account Set-Up and Access

These webinars can be taken in any order and will be repeated at least monthly through December.

Webinar: *Bulletin 137* New Provider Orientation

Bimonthly the LDOE will offer [Bulletin 137](#) New Provider Orientation trainings.

Providers can access the orientation webinars on the second Wednesday and fourth Thursday of each month, July-December, using the information below:

- | | |
|--|--|
| ● Webinar Date: Second Wednesday | ● Webinar Date: Fourth Thursday |
| ● Webinar Time: 10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. | ● Webinar Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. |
| ● Webinar Link: https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/99265064302?pwd=dKarZtmFatKQNTnHbpaC51ipFifFx5.1 | ● Webinar Link: https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98370205822?pwd=SMhxzzf5XaaLkNt7eiVMbbWuSk5lma.1 |
| ● Phone Number: 312 626 6799 | ● Phone Number: 312 626 6799 |
| ● Meeting ID: 992 6506 4302 | ● Meeting ID: 983 7020 5822 |
| ● Passcode: 862567 | ● Passcode: 890320 |

Webinar: Initial Licensure Process Guidance

The LDOE will offer a bimonthly webinar, August-December 2025, providing information about how to apply for licensure, what information and documentation is needed to apply, and what to expect during initial inspection.

Providers can access this webinar using the information below:

- **Webinar Date:** First and Third Tuesday
- **Webinar Time:** 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93975346847?pwd=RE8CuUMbRef8cDDj35lSaHP38UUgOL>
- **Phone Number:** 312 626 6799
- **Meeting ID:** 939 7534 6847
- **Passcode:** 564123

The LDOE is also creating an FAQ document regarding Nonpublic School licensure.

Webinar: EdLink Account Set-Up for Application

The LDOE will be offering a weekly webinar, on Mondays from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., providing instructions on establishing an EdLink account and subsequently securing access to your site's EdLink account, so that your site can submit a licensing application.

Pre-registration is required and is quick and easy. After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing the link to attend your upcoming webinar session. Same-day registration is allowed up to 30 minutes before a session begins.

Providers can register for a webinar using the information below:

- [July Registration Link](#)
- [August Registration Link](#)
- [September Registration Link](#)
- [October Registration Link](#)
- [November Registration Link](#)
- [December Registration Link](#)

Implementing Act 409



Ongoing LDOE Resources

The LDOE provides regular updates regarding licensing regulations or procedures via each of the following communications:

- Early Childhood Monthly Provider Updates Webinar is held the first Thursday of most months at 1 p.m.
 - Access the monthly webinar using the information below:
Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93597745872>
Meeting ID: 935 9774 5872
Passcode: 641464
- Early Childhood Newsletter is sent the second Thursday of each month.
 - Subscribe to the Early Childhood Connection Newsletter by [completing this form](#).
- Blast emails are sent to licensed providers.

LDH Sanitarian Inspection for Licensing

The following are resources and contacts for LDH Sanitarian Services, to ensure compliance required for licensing:

- [Title 51 PUBLIC HEALTH—SANITARY CODE: Part XXI. Day Care Centers and Residential Facilities](#) (See page 543 within the document.)
- [LDH Sanitarian Services Review Questionnaire:](#)
 - The packet is submitted to the local Sanitarian Office when a site seeks early childhood licensing. Completed questionnaires should be submitted to the local sanitarian office for the parish where the early learning site is located.
- [OPH - Public Health Inspectors | Louisiana Department of Health](#): List of local sanitarian offices statewide.
- [Bureau of Sanitarian Services | Louisiana Department of Health](#)
 - [Building and Premises Program | Louisiana Department of Health](#)

Act 353: Foundational Numeracy

Bulletin 746 - Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel

- Nonpublic math educators may access the [Louisiana Numeracy Excellence \(LANE\) Professional Learning](#) through the [Louisiana Professional Learning Platform](#).

math@la.gov



Act 356: 10 point grading scale

Bulletin 741(Nonpublic) - Louisiana Handbook for Nonpublic School Administrators

- Act 356 of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session requires schools, including nonpublic schools, to use a 10-point scale for assigning grades used to calculate the minimum cumulative GPA for TOPS awards for grades earned during the 2024-2025 school year and beyond.
- This requirement applies only to grades for TOPS core curriculum courses and does not mandate changes to a school's local grading policies for other purposes, such as report cards or class rank.
- A [support document](#) is available for data managers and registrars.

Please contact systemsupport@la.gov with questions.



Act 268: Computer Science

Brief Summary

- Act 268 provides relative to implementation dates for computer science as a requirement for high school graduation.

Key Dates & Information

- BESE policy consideration in August
- Middle and high schools must offer computer science in the 2026-2027 school year; elementary schools must incorporate computer science into regular instruction in the 2027-2028 school year.
- Graduation requirement becomes effective with the 2027-2028 freshman cohort.
- The Louisiana Computer Science Education Plan and the Computer Science System Support Guidance are now available.

For more information contact highschoolacademics@la.gov.



Act 48: Financial Literacy

Brief Summary

- Act 48 requires instruction in financial literacy to include information about options for obtaining financial aid for postsecondary education.

Key Dates & Information

- Effective date: 8/1/2025
- The Financial Literacy Course Description and Financial Literacy Clearinghouse guidance document has now been updated on the LDOE website.

For more information contact highschoolacademics@la.gov or math@la.gov.



NPSC

The next meeting of the Nonpublic School Council is scheduled to convene on
September 16, 2025.

