

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

<b>Person Preparing Statement:</b>	<u>Ashley Townsend</u>	<b>Department:</b>	<u>Louisiana Department of Education, Board of Elementary and Secondary Education</u>
<b>Phone:</b>	<u>225.342.3446</u>	<b>Office:</b>	<u>Governmental, Administrative, and Public Affairs</u>
<b>Return Address:</b>	<u>P.O. Box 94064 Baton Rouge, LA 70804</u>	<b>Rule Title:</b>	<u>Part CXV. <i>Bulletin 741— Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators</i> (LAC 28: CXV.2317)</u>
		<b>Date Rule Takes Effect:</b>	<u>Upon final adoption by BESE</u>

**SUMMARY**  
(Use complete sentences)

In accordance with Section 961 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a fiscal and economic impact statement on the rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment. THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS SUMMARIZE ATTACHED WORKSHEETS, I THROUGH IV AND WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE LOUISIANA REGISTER WITH THE PROPOSED AGENCY RULE.

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

The proposed rule change establishes the Freedom Framework diploma endorsement to recognize students scoring mastery and above on the LEAP civics assessment. The civics assessment will be administered for the first time at the end of the 2025-2026 school year. The rule change also provides that, along with a seal, students are eligible to receive red, white, and blue honor cords. The seal will be provided by LDOE and is not anticipated to result in a significant increase in expenditures. Purchase of the honor cords is not required to add the seal to the diploma. The LDOE will provide a list of vendor options for school districts, who typically already use a vendor for graduation regalia. As a reference, similar cords purchased for another project in 2023 cost \$150 for 300 cords. The cost of an individual cord could be paid by the school, school district, or family.

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)

There is no anticipated effect on the revenue collections of state or local governmental units as a result of the proposed rule change.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

Costs to directly affected persons as a result of the proposed rule change are dependent on whether a school or family purchases a cord. These are estimated to cost very little and are not required to receive the diploma endorsement.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

There is no anticipated effect on competition and employment as a result of the proposed rule change.

Beth Scioneaux  
Signature of Head or Designee

Beth Scioneaux, Deputy Superintendent for Management and Finance

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Typed Name & Title of Agency Head or Designee

5.6.2025  
Date of Signature

Patrice Thomas, Deputy Fiscal Officer

Legislative Fiscal Officer or Designee

5/07/2025  
Date of Signature

#### **Small Business Statement**

The impact of the proposed Rule on small businesses as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act has been considered. It is estimated that the proposed action is not expected to have a significant adverse impact on small businesses. The agency, consistent with health, safety, environmental and economic welfare factors has considered and, where possible, utilized regulatory methods in the drafting of the proposed rule that will accomplish the objectives of applicable statutes while minimizing the adverse impact of the proposed rule on small businesses.

#### **Provider Impact Statement**

The proposed Rule should not have any known or foreseeable impact on providers as defined by HCR 170 of 2014 Regular Legislative Session. In particular, there should be no known or foreseeable effect on:

1. the effect on the staffing level requirements or qualifications required to provide the same level of service;
2. the total direct and indirect effect on the cost to the providers to provide the same level of service; or
3. the overall effect on the ability of the provider to provide the same level of service.

#### **Public Comments**

Interested persons may submit written comments via the U.S. Mail until noon, June 10, 2025, to Tavares Walker, Executive Director, Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, Box 94064, Capitol Station, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9064. Written comments may also be hand delivered to Tavares Walker, Executive Director, Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, Suite 5-190, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802 and must be date stamped by the BESE office on the date received. Public comments must be dated and include the original signature of the person submitting the comments.

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES**

The following information is required in order to assist the Legislative Fiscal Office in its review of the fiscal and economic impact statement and to assist the appropriate legislative oversight subcommittee in its deliberation on the proposed rule.

- A. Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption, or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment). Attach a copy of the notice of intent and a copy of the rule proposed for initial adoption or repeal (or, in the case of a rule change, copies of both the current and proposed rules with amended portions indicated).

The proposed rule change amends LAC 28: CXV in *Bulletin 741—Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators*. The revisions establish the Freedom Framework diploma endorsement to recognize students scoring mastery and above on the LEAP civics assessment. The revisions also provide that, along with the seal, students are eligible to receive red, white, and blue honor cords.

- B. Summarize the circumstances, which require this action. If the Action is required by federal regulation, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.

The proposed rule change recognizes and promotes academic proficiency in civics.

- C. Compliance with Act 11 of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session

- (1) Will the proposed rule change result in any increase in the expenditure of funds? If so, specify amount and source of funding.

The proposed rule change does not necessitate an increase in the expenditure of funds unless a school or individual chooses to purchase an honor cord. Purchase of the honor cords is not required to add the seal to the diploma. The LDOE will provide a list of vendor options for school districts, who typically already use a vendor for graduation regalia. As a reference, similar cords purchased for another project in 2023 cost \$150 for 300 cords. The cost of an individual cord could be paid by the school, school district, or family.

- (2) If the answer to (1) above is yes, has the Legislature specifically appropriated the funds necessary for the associated expenditure increase?

(a) \_\_\_\_\_ YES. If yes, attach documentation.

(b) \_\_\_\_\_ NO. If no, provide justification as to why this rule change should be published at this time

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT  
WORKSHEET**

**I. A. COSTS OR SAVINGS TO STATE AGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED**

1. What is the anticipated increase (decrease) in costs to implement the proposed action?  
The proposed rule change will have no effect on costs or savings to state agencies.

<b>COSTS</b>	<b>FY 25</b>	<b>FY 26</b>	<b>FY 27</b>
PERSONAL SERVICES	\$0	\$0	\$0
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$0	\$0	\$0
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$0	\$0	\$0
OTHER CHARGES	\$0	\$0	\$0
EQUIPMENT	\$0	\$0	\$0
MAJOR REPAIR & CONSTR.	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>POSITIONS (#)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

2. Provide a narrative explanation of the costs or savings shown in "A. 1.", including the increase or reduction in workload or additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.) anticipated as a result of the implementation of the proposed action. Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these costs.

Not applicable.

3. Sources of funding for implementing the proposed rule or rule change.

Not applicable.

<b>SOURCE</b>	<b>FY 25</b>	<b>FY 26</b>	<b>FY 27</b>
STATE GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$0	\$0
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED	\$0	\$0	\$0
DEDICATED	\$0	\$0	\$0
FEDERAL FUNDS	\$0	\$0	\$0
OTHER (Specify)	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

4. Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

Not applicable.

**B. COST OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED.**

1. Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements. Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

To the extent a local school opts to purchase the honor cords for eligible students, there will be a minimal increase in expenditures; however, the proposed rule change does not necessitate such an expense.

2. Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit, which will be affected by these costs or savings.

Not applicable.

**II. EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS**

- A. What increase (decrease) in revenues can be anticipated from the proposed action?

There is no anticipated effect on the revenue collections of state and local governmental units as a result of the proposed rule change.

REVENUE INCREASE/DECREASE	FY 25	FY 26	FY 27
STATE GENERAL FUND	\$0	\$0	\$0
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED	\$0	\$0	\$0
DEDICATED	\$0	\$0	\$0
FEDERAL FUNDS	\$0	\$0	\$0
LOCAL FUNDS	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

\*Specify the particular fund being impacted.

- B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenues shown in "A." Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these increases or decreases.

Not applicable.

III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS, SMALL BUSINESSES, OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

- A. What persons, small businesses, or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effect on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.), they may have to incur as a result of the proposed action.

Purchase of the honor cords is not required to add the seal to the diploma. The LDOE will provide a list of vendor options for school districts, who typically already use a vendor for graduation regalia. As a reference, similar cords purchased for another project in 2023 cost \$150 for 300 cords. The cost of an individual cord could be paid by the school, school district, or family.

- B. Also provide an estimate and a narrative description of any impact on receipts and/or income resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

Not applicable.

IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

Identify and provide estimates of the impact of the proposed action on competition and employment in the public and private sectors. Include a summary of any data, assumptions and methods used in making these estimates.

There is no anticipated impact on competition and employment as a result of the proposed rule change.





**BOARD OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION  
FAMILY IMPACT STATEMENT  
(LA R.S. 49:953 and 972)**

**Person Preparing**


**Statement:** Ashley Townsend  
**Phone:** 225.342.3446  
**Division:** Governmental, Administrative, and Public Affairs

**Rule Title:** Part CXV. Bulletin 741— Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators (LAC 28: CXV.2317)

In accordance with Section 953 and 974 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a Family Impact Statement on the rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment. All Family Impact Statements shall be kept on file in the State Board Office which has adopted, amended, or repealed a rule in accordance with the applicable provisions of the law relating to public records.

PLEASE RESPOND (YES, NO, OR LACKS SUFFICIENT INFORMATION TO DETERMINE) TO THE FOLLOWING:

1. Will the proposed Rule affect the stability of the family? No
2. Will the proposed Rule affect the authority and rights of parents regarding the education and supervision of their children? No
3. Will the proposed Rule affect the functioning of the family? No
4. Will the proposed Rule affect family earnings and family budget? No
5. Will the proposed Rule affect the behavior and personal responsibility of children? No
6. Is the family or local government able to perform the function as contained in the proposed Rule? Yes

Signature of Contact Person:   
Date Submitted: 4/17/2025

**POVERTY IMPACT STATEMENT  
(LA R.S. 49:973)**

**Person Preparing**

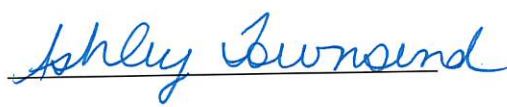
**Statement:** Ashley Townsend  
**Phone:** 225.342.3446  
**Division:** Governmental, Administrative, and Public Affairs

**Rule Title:** Part CXV. Bulletin 741—Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators (LAC 28: CXV.2317)

In accordance with Section 973 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a Poverty Impact Statement on the rule proposed for adoption, amendment, or repeal. All Poverty Impact Statements shall be in writing and kept on file in the state agency which has adopted, amended, or repealed a rule in accordance with the applicable provisions of the law relating to public records. For the purposes of this Section, the word "poverty" means living at or below one hundred percent of the federal poverty line.

PLEASE RESPOND (YES, NO, OR LACKS SUFFICIENT INFORMATION TO DETERMINE) TO THE FOLLOWING:

1. Will the proposed Rule affect the household income, assets, and financial authority? No
2. Will the proposed Rule affect early childhood development and preschool through postsecondary education development? No
3. Will the proposed Rule affect employment and workforce development? No
4. Will the proposed Rule affect taxes and tax credits? No
5. Will the proposed Rule affect child and dependent care, housing, health care, nutrition, transportation, and utilities assistance? No

Signature of Contact Person:   
Date Submitted: 4/17/2025