



STATE BOARD of ELEMENTARY and SECONDARY EDUCATION

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August 12, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO: Senator Cameron Henry, Senate President
Representative Phillip DeVillier, Speaker of the House
Senator Rick Edmonds, Chair, Senate Committee on Education
Representative Laurie Schlegel, Chair, House Committee on Education

FROM: Tavares A. Walker, Executive Director
Board of Elementary and Secondary Education

RE: Summary Report on Board of Elementary and Secondary Education Proposed Rulemaking

Pursuant to R.S. 49:968(D)(1)(b), the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education hereby submits to you this summary report and announces its plan to proceed with rulemaking by finalizing the July 20, 2025, Notice of Intent that was promulgated on pages 983-985 of the *Louisiana Register*.

The Board has received no public comments and has not conducted a hearing pursuant to R.S. 49:953(A)(2)(a).

The Board has made no change to the proposed Rule.

Subject to legislative oversight by either the House Committee on Education or Senate Committee on Education, the Board anticipates adopting the Notice of Intent as a final Rule in the October 20, 2025, issue of the *Louisiana Register*.

The following document is attached:

1. A copy of the Notice of Intent.

Please contact Shannon Rawson at (225) 342-5849 if the Board may be of any assistance to you concerning this Rule.

TAW:slr

Attachment (1)

Tavares A. Walker
Executive Director

Dr. Cade Brumley
State Superintendent

c: Caroline Tyler, Secretary, Senate Committee on Education
Elizabeth Borne, Legislative Analyst, House Committee on Education
Lisa Lovello, Legislative Analyst, House Committee on Education
Ashley Townsend, Policy Director, Louisiana Department of Education
Shannon Rawson, Education Administrator, BESE

Public Comments

Interested persons may submit written comments via the U.S. Mail until noon, August 9, 2025, to Tavares A. 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 A. 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.

Tavares A. Walker
Executive Director

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

RULE TITLE: **Bulletin 741—Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators—Remote School Registration for Military Families**

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

There are no anticipated implementation costs or savings to state or local governmental units due to the proposed rule change. The proposed rule change aligns policy with Act 512 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session, which provides that children of military personnel are not precluded from remote registration. The proposed rule change includes language ensuring the preclusion applies to all children of military personnel, including those: (1) with an IEP or family service plan under IDEA; (2) receiving or qualifying for special education courses or services; (3) diagnosed with an exceptionality as defined by R.S. 17:1942; and (4) receiving or qualifying for Section 504 accommodations or services.

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 NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

There are no anticipated costs or benefits to directly affected persons, small businesses, or nongovernmental groups as a result of the proposed rule change.

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
Deputy Superintendent
2507#041

Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer
Legislative Fiscal Office

NOTICE OF INTENT

Board of Elementary and Secondary Education

Civics Assessment
(LAC 28:X1.1901, 1903, and 6821)

In accordance with the provisions of R.S. 17:6(A)(10) and the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), R.S. 49:953(B)(1) *et seq.*, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) proposes to amend LAC 28:X1 in *Bulletin 111—The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System* and *Bulletin 118—Statewide Assessment Standards and Practices*. The revisions provide that the inclusion of the civics assessment score, for purposes of school and district accountability, will not apply to students who entered a freshman cohort prior to the 2024-2025 school year.

Title 28

EDUCATION

Part XI. Accountability/Testing

Subpart 1. Bulletin 111—The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System

Chapter 19. Inclusion in Accountability

§1901. State Assessments and Accountability

A. - H. ...

I. A student completing the third year in a high school cohort must have taken the Algebra I, English I, biology, and civics assessments or LEAP Connect. A student not meeting this requirement will be assigned a score of zero and be counted as a non-participant in high school testing. All students must be included in the assessment cohort regardless of course enrollment, grade assignment, or program assignment.

1. Notwithstanding Subsection I of this Section, the civics assessment score for a student entering traditional grade 9 prior to the 2024-2025 school year shall not be included in the calculation of the civics assessment cohort.

J. - J.3. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 17:6, R.S. 17:6.1, and R.S. 17:10.1.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 50:1632 (November 2024), LR 51:

§1903. Inclusion of Students

A. The test score of every student enrolled in any school in an LEA on October 1 of the academic year and who is eligible to take a test at a given school within the same LEA shall be included in the LEA district performance score (DPS).

1. Notwithstanding Subsection A of this Section, the civics assessment score for a student entering traditional grade 9 prior to the 2024-2025 school year shall not be included in the calculation of the civics assessment cohort for district or school performance scores.

B. - C. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 17:6, R.S. 17:6.1, and R.S. 17:10.1.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 50:1632 (November 2024), LR 51:

Title 28
EDUCATION

Part XI. Accountability/Testing

**Subpart 3. Bulletin 118—Statewide Assessment
Standards and Practices**

Chapter 68. LEAP 2025 Assessments for High School

§6821. High School Test Cohorts

[Formerly LAC 28:CXI.1821]

A. ...

B. Students who enter traditional grade 9 in 2017-2018 through 2023-2024 are required to score level 2 (approaching basic/fair) or above on English I or English II, algebra I or geometry, and biology or U.S. history to be eligible for a standard high school diploma.

1. - 1.d.ii. ...

C. Students who enter traditional grade 9 during or after 2024-2025 are required to score level 2 (approaching basic/fair) or above on English I or English II, Algebra I or geometry, and biology or civics to be eligible for a standard high school diploma.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 17:24.4.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 36:977 (May 2010), amended LR 38:36 (January 2012), LR 44:470 (March 2018), LR 47:859 (July 2021), LR 48:2559 (October 2022), LR 51:

Family Impact Statement

In accordance with section 953 and 974 of title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a Family Impact Statement on rules proposed for adoption, repeal, or amendment. All Family Impact Statements will be kept on file in the state board office which has adopted, amended, or repealed rules in accordance with the applicable provisions of the law relating to public records.

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 a local government able to perform the function as contained in the proposed Rule? Yes.

Poverty Impact Statement

In accordance with section 973 of title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a Poverty Impact Statement on rules proposed for adoption, amendment, or repeal. All Poverty Impact Statements will be in writing and kept on file in the state agency which has adopted, amended, or repealed rules 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 100 percent of the federal poverty line.

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.

Small Business Analysis

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

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Tavares A. Walker
Executive Director

**FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
RULE TITLE: Civics Assessment**

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

There are no anticipated implementation costs or savings to state or local governmental units due to the proposed rule change. The proposed rule change provides that the inclusion of the civics assessment scores, for purposes of school and district accountability, will not apply to students who entered a freshman cohort prior to the 2024-2025 school year.

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Beth Scioneaux
Deputy Superintendent
2507#040

Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer
Legislative Fiscal Office

NOTICE OF INTENT

**Tuition Trust Authority
Office of Student Financial Assistance**

**START Saving Program
(LAC 28:VI.313 and 315)**

The Tuition Trust Authority announces its intention to amend its START Saving Program rules (LSA-R.S. 17:3091 et seq.).

This rulemaking amends Section 313 of the START Saving Program rules to allow for the transfer of ownership of an account when a court order requires it and to amend Section 315 to codify the interest rates to be applied to the Principal Protection investment option and Earnings Enhancements for year ending December 31, 2024. (ST25221NI)

**Title 28
EDUCATION**

**Part VI. Student Financial Assistance—Higher
Education Savings**

Chapter 3. Education Savings Account

§313. Substitution, Assignment, and Transfer

A. - A.3.c.iii. ...

B. Substitution/Transfer of Account Ownership. The ownership of an ESA is transferable only with the written approval of the LATTA and only as follows.

1. The account owner who is a natural person, other than a natural person classified as an account owner under §303.A.6, may designate a person who will become the substitute account owner in the event of the original account owner's death. Eligibility for EEs will be based on the substitute account owner's classification at the time of the original account owner's death.

2. In the event of the death of an account owner who is a natural person, other than a natural person classified as an account owner under §303.A.6, who has not named a substitute account owner, the account shall be terminated and the account shall be refunded to the beneficiary, if designated to receive the refund by the account owner, or the account owner's estate.

3. An account owner who is a natural person, other than a natural person classified as an account owner under §303.A.6, may request the transfer of ownership of an

account in his name if the account owner provides a valid order from a court of competent jurisdiction that requires such a transfer. The person to whom the account is to be transferred in accordance with an order from a court of competent jurisdiction may also request such a transfer. Eligibility for EEs will be based on the substitute account owner's classification at the time the transfer occurs.

4. An account owner who is a legal entity classified under §303.A.4 or 5 may indicate in the owner's agreement that the account shall be transferred to the beneficiary of the account upon his 18th birthday, or upon his enrollment in an eligible postsecondary institution full time, whichever is later. If the account owner transfers the account in accordance with this section, disbursements may only be made for payment of the qualified higher education expenses of the beneficiary.

5. In the event of the dissolution of an account owner who is a legal entity classified as an account owner under §303.A.4 or 5, the beneficiary shall become the substitute account owner. If the account owner who is a legal entity classified as an account owner under §303.A.4 or 5 is dissolved, the beneficiary designated to receive the refund has died, and there is no substitute beneficiary named, the refund shall be made to the beneficiary's estate.

6. In the event of the death or dissolution of another person classified as an account owner under §303.A.6, the beneficiary shall become the substitute account owner, provided that all the rights and restrictions provided in law and these rules regarding account owners classified under §303.A.6, including, but not limited to, use of the funds, refunds, terminations, designation of beneficiary, etc., shall be applicable to the beneficiary that becomes the owner of an account established under §303.A.6. If an account owner classified under §303.A.6 dies or is dissolved and the beneficiary has died or failed to enroll in an eligible educational institution by age 25, and no substitute beneficiary has been designated by the account owner, the LATTA shall designate a new beneficiary who must meet the requirements of §301.A.4 and §303.A.6.

C. - D.5. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 17:3091-3099.2.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Tuition Trust Authority, Office of Student Financial Assistance, LR 23:718 (June 1997), amended LR 24:1274 (July 1998), repromulgated LR 26:2266 (October 2000), amended LR 27:1883 (November 2001), LR 28:780 (April 2002), LR 30:791 (April 2004), LR 42:1081 (July 2016), LR 51:

§315. Miscellaneous Provisions

A. - B.48. ...

49. For the year ending December 31, 2024, the Louisiana Education Tuition and Savings Fund earned an interest rate of 2.00 percent.

50. For the year ending December 31, 2024, the Savings Enhancement Fund earned an interest rate of 3.00 percent.

C. - S.2. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with 17:3091-3099.2.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Tuition Trust Authority, Office of Student Financial Assistance, LR 23:718 (June 1997), amended LR 24:1274 (July 1998), LR 26:1263 (June 2000), repromulgated LR 26:2267 (October 2000), amended LR 27:1221 (August 2001), LR 27:1884 (November 2001), LR 28:1761