



STATE BOARD of ELEMENTARY and SECONDARY EDUCATION

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December 17, 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 November 20, 2025, Notice of Intent that was promulgated on pages 1906-1909 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 February 20, 2025, issue of the *Louisiana Register*.

The following document is attached:

1. A copy of the Notice of Intent.

Please contact Max Dupuy at (225) 342-5840 if the Board may be of any assistance to you concerning this Rule.

TAW:med

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
Max Dupuy, Records Management Administrator, BESE

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, December 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.

Tavares A. Walker
Executive Director

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

RULE TITLE: Bulletin 746—Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel—Certification Endorsement

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 change amends LAC 28:CXXXI in Bulletin 746—Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel to expand opportunities for professional advancement in special education by removing the requirement that special education experience be in a “properly certified area” and instead may be in any special education environment.

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)

The proposed rule change may lead to an increase in duly certified and qualified professionals available to serve students with exceptionalities. The proposed rule change broadens the definition of professional experience needed to earn the educational diagnostician endorsement by removing the requirement that experience be in a “properly certified area” of special education.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

The proposed rule change may increase competition and employment as the expanded definition of professional experience may increase opportunities for educator advancement in the field of special education.

~~Beth Scioneaux
Deputy Superintendent
2511#056~~

~~Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Officer
Legislative Fiscal Office~~

NOTICE OF INTENT

Board of Elementary and Secondary Education

Comprehensive Assessments
(LAC 28:XI.1707, 1903, 5107, 5701, 6803,
6821, 6827, and 6829, LAC 28:CXV.323 and 2316)

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:XI in *Bulletin 111—The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System, Bulletin 118—Statewide Assessment Standards and Practices*, and LAC 28:CXV in *Bulletin 741—Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators*. The proposed revisions establish comprehensive exams for incoming freshmen in the 2026-2027 school year and beyond. In spring 2028, tenth grade students would take comprehensive ELA and math assessments at the end of the school year. Students would continue taking LEAP 2025 Biology and Civics. The shift to comprehensive exams reduces the number of statewide standardized assessments while ensuring that quality information about student performance is available.

Title 28

EDUCATION

Part XI. Accountability/Testing

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

Chapter 1. General Provisions

§1707. Student Growth Methodology

A. - C. ...

D. For students taking a first LEAP 2025 assessment in high school in a subject area, the eighth grade assessment taken in the same subject will be used as the prior-year assessment for determining growth. The student must grow by one achievement subcategory from eighth grade to the comprehensive exam. If the student scored at mastery in eighth grade, the student must improve one scale point per year since the prior test. The high school assessment need not be taken in the school year directly following the examination counted as the prior-year assessment.

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 50:1630 (November 2024), amended LR 52:

Chapter 19. Inclusion in Accountability

§1903. Inclusion of Students

A. - C. ...

D. When eighth grade students only participate in the Algebra I test, the Algebra I test results shall be used in the middle school assessment index in the numerator and the denominator.

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), amended LR 52:

Subpart 3. Bulletin 118—Statewide Assessment Standards and Practices

Chapter 51. General Provisions

§5107. Assessment Programs

[Formerly LAC 28:CXI.107]

A. - B.1. ...

2. The assessments will be administered to high school students enrolled in and/or receiving credit for a high school course having a LEAP assessment or retesting for the purposes of graduation, as well as for students in the third-year assessment cohort as defined in Part XI, Subpart 1, §409. Comprehensive exams must be taken in the second year of the cohort.

C. - H. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 17:24.4 and R.S. 17:391.11.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Education, Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 31:1526 (July 2005), amended LR 32:233 (February 2006), LR 33:255 (February 2007), LR 36:477 (March 2010), LR 40:2509 (December 2014), LR 44:462 (March 2018), LR 47:566 (May 2021), LR 49:44 (January 2023), LR 49:645 (April 2023), LR 52:

Chapter 57. Assessment Program Overview

§5701. Louisiana Assessment Programs

A. - C.1. ...

2. LEAP 2025 English I, English II; fall 2017 to spring 2029.

3. LEAP 2025 Algebra 1, Geometry; fall 2017 to spring 2029.

4. - 6. ...

7. Comprehensive high school exam in English language arts; beginning spring 2028.

8. Comprehensive high school exam in mathematics; beginning spring 2028.

D. - I.10. ...

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

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 31:1534 (July 2005), amended LR 32:235 (February 2006), LR 34:66 (January 2008), LR 34:1352 (July 2008), LR 35:218 (February 2009), LR 36:967 (May 2010), LR 37:858 (March 2011), LR 38:34 (January 2012), LR 39:74 (January 2013), LR 39:1019 (April 2013), LR 40:1319 (July 2014), LR 40:2512 (December 2014), LR 44:465 (March 2018), LR 44:2127 (December 2018), LR 46:15 (January 2020), LR 47:566 (May 2021), repromulgated LR 47:721 (June 2021), amended LR 48:38 (January 2022), LR 49:44 (January 2023), LR 49:646 (April 2023), LR 52:

Chapter 68. LEAP 2025 Assessments for High School

Subchapter A. General Provisions

§6803. Introduction

A. LEAP 2025 and comprehensive assessments for high school will measure the knowledge and skills a student should have mastered in required subjects. The results of the LEAP 2025 and comprehensive assessments for high school will help ensure that all Louisiana students have access to a rigorous curriculum that meets high academic standards.

B. - B.6. ...

C. Beginning in the 2024-2025 through 2025-2026 school year, LEAP 2025 assessments for high school will assess student learning in the high school courses:

1. - 4. ...

5. biology; and

C.6. - F. ...

G. For incoming freshmen in 2026-2027 and beyond, participation in comprehensive high school exams for ELA and math is required. The exams shall be administered in the spring semester of the second year of the cohort, beginning in spring 2028. Participation in LEAP Biology and LEAP Civics assessments shall be required upon completion of each course.

H. Comprehensive exams for ELA and math shall be administered in the spring of the students' second year of the cohort. Any student enrolled the second year of the cohort is required to take the comprehensive high school ELA and math assessments.

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

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 35:214 (February 2009), LR 36:477 (March 2010), amended LR 38:35 (January 2012), LR 40:2514 (December 2014), LR 44:469 (March 2018), LR 44:2129 (December 2018), LR 47:567 (May 2021), LR 48:38 (January 2022), LR 49:861 (May 2023), LR 52:

Subchapter C. LEAP 2025 for High School Administrative Rules

§6821. High School Test Cohorts

[Formerly LAC 28:CXI.1821]

A. - B.1.d.ii. ...

C. For incoming freshmen in 2026-2027 and beyond, participation in comprehensive high school exams for ELA and math is required. The exams shall be administered in the spring semester of the second year of the cohort, beginning in spring 2028. Participation in LEAP Biology and LEAP Civics assessments shall be required upon completion of each course.

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 52:

§6827. LEAP 2025 Retest Administration

[Formerly LAC 28:CXI.1827]

A. ...

B. Students who did not score *approaching basic* or above on a comprehensive exam may retest in the next administration.

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

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 36:978 (May 2010), amended LR 44:471 (March 2018), LR 52:

§6829. LEAP 2025 Transfer Rules

[Formerly LAC 28:CXI.1829]

A. - A.3.b. ...

4. A student who transfers in twelfth grade with fewer than 30 days of enrollment in a Louisiana public high school is not required to take the comprehensive ELA and math exams.

B. ...

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

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 36:978 (May 2010), amended LR 37:820 (March 2011), LR 44:471 (March 2018), LR 46:1372 (October 2020), LR 47:567 (May 2021), LR 52:

**Part CXV. Bulletin 741—Louisiana Handbook for
School Administrators**

Chapter 3. Operation and Administration

§323. Louisiana Educational Assessment Program

A. Each LEA shall participate in the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program (LEAP) grade level, subject area, and comprehensive exams in accordance with this Part.

B. Performance standards for LEAP and comprehensive exams are developed to be comparable to the rigor of national achievement tests including but not limited to the national assessment of educational progress (NAEP) performance standards.

C. - D. ...

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

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 31:1260 (June 2005), amended LR 39:2196 (August 2013).

Chapter 23. Curriculum and Instruction

Subchapter A. Standards and Curricula

§2316. Assessment Requirements

A. - D. ...

E. - E.2.d. Repealed.

F. For incoming freshmen in the 2010-2011 through 2016-2017 school years, students must pass three end-of-course tests in the following categories:

1. - 3. ...

G. For incoming freshmen in the 2017-2018 through 2023-2024 school years, students must pass three LEAP 2025 assessments in the following categories:

G.3. - I.4.c. ...

J. For incoming freshmen in the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school year, the LEAP 2025 Civics assessment will replace the LEAP 2025 U.S. History assessment as the social studies assessment required for graduation. The LEAP 2025 U.S. History assessment will be available through 2026-2027 for those students requiring a retest to fulfill graduation requirements. Students must pass three LEAP 2025 assessments in the following categories:

1. - L.4. ...

5. English I, English II, Algebra I, and geometry scores from the comprehensive exams from fall and spring administrations in 2027-2028.

M. For incoming freshmen in 2026-2027 and beyond, comprehensive exams in ELA and math replace the LEAP 2025 English I, English II, Algebra I, and geometry assessments required for graduation. The former assessments will be available through the 2028-2029 school year for students requiring a retest to fulfill graduation requirements.

1. Students are required to participate in comprehensive high school exams for ELA and math. The exams will be administered in the spring semester of the second year of the cohort beginning in spring 2028. Retesting shall be available.

2. A passing score on at least one of the LEAP 2025 Biology or LEAP 2025 Civics assessments is required for graduation.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 17:6, 17:7, 17:24.4, 17:183.2, and 17:395.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 52:

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 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

Interested persons may submit written comments via the U.S. Mail until noon, December 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.

Tavares A. Walker
Executive Director

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

RULE TITLE: Comprehensive Assessments

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

The proposed rule change is anticipated to result in an annual estimated savings of \$2,661,000 for the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE), beginning in FY 28. The proposed rule change updates the schedule for the administration of state high school assessments, combining the separate English I and English II exams into one comprehensive ELA exam, as well as combining the separate Algebra I and Geometry exams into one comprehensive Mathematics exam, beginning with testing conducted in the spring of the 2027-28 school year. This update reduces the number of assessments given to high school students by two.

Of the total \$2,661,000 in estimated savings, \$2 M is attributable to the cost of scoring and psychometrics for the two removed assessments. The remaining \$661,000 in savings is a result of a reduction in the costs of item development and forms construction associated with the two removed assessments. The reduction in the number of tests administered each year is also expected to reduce the number of proctors needed during the testing window, which may result in a savings for local education agencies for payments made to staff to proctor assessments.

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)

The proposed rule change may result in a loss of revenues for businesses contracted to develop, print, and score statewide ELA and Mathematics assessments. The change may also reduce proctoring-related revenue for affected staff members.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

The proposed rule change may result in a reduction in the hiring of temporary staff by local education agencies needed to proctor assessments.

Beth Scioneaux
Deputy Superintendent
2511#058

Patrice Thomas
Deputy Fiscal Office
Legislative Fiscal Office

NOTICE OF INTENT

Board of Elementary and Secondary Education

Implementation of Education Acts of the
2025 Regular Legislative Session
(LAC 28: CXV.1301; LAC 28: CLXI.1715 and 1727)

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: CXV in *Bulletin 741—Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators* and LAC 28: CLXI in *Bulletin 137—Louisiana Early Learning Center Licensing Regulations*. During the 2025 Regular Legislative Session, laws were enacted that require revisions to Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) policy. Revisions provide further clarity and alignment to include:

- Bulletin 741—Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators
 - Act 439. School Employee Bill of Rights
- Bulletin 137—Louisiana Early Learning Center Licensing Regulations
 - Act 409. Child Safety and Welfare

Title 28

EDUCATION

Part CXV. Bulletin 741—Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators

Chapter 13. Discipline

§1301. Disciplinary Regulations

A. - H. ...

I. Each LEA shall establish a discipline policy review committee composed of seventeen members in accordance with the mandates of R.S. 17:416.8. The LEA shall establish procedures for selecting one paraprofessional to be elected by peers and for appointing the two parent members.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 17:223-224, R.S. 17:416, and R.S. 17:416.13.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 31:1282 (June 2005), amended LR 36:1225 (June 2010), LR 37:1132, 1133 (April 2011), LR 39:476 (March 2013), LR 39:2210 (August 2013), LR 39:3069 (November 2013), LR 48:1011 (April 2022), LR 51:57 (January 2025), LR 52:

Part CLXI. Bulletin 137—Louisiana Early Learning Center Licensing Regulations

Chapter 17. Minimum Staffing Requirements and Standards

§1715. Staff Records and Personnel Files

A. - B. ...

C. LDOE Electronic System. All current staff names, hire date, first day onsite working with children, and initial and annual mandatory reporter training documentation must be maintained in the LDOE electronic system.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 17:6 and 17:407.40.