



# STATE BOARD of ELEMENTARY and SECONDARY EDUCATION

P.O. Box 94064, Capitol Station, Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9064 · PHONE: 225-342-5840 · FAX: 225-342-5843

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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 1909-1911 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

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.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 41:635 (April 2015), effective July 1, 2015, amended LR 44:251 (February 2018), effective March 1, 2018, LR 44:1866 (October 2018), LR 47:1276 (September 2021), LR 52:

**§1727. Child Neglect and Abuse Mandatory Reporter Training**

A. After initial completion of training at time of hire, all staff members shall annually complete the online child abuse and neglect Mandated Reporter Training provided by DCFS between June 1 and August 31 of the calendar year.

B. Documentation of completion of the course shall be submitted in the LDOE electronic system by no later than September 30 of each calendar year for all staff and shall be available for on-site inspection, whether as hard copies or in electronic form, upon request by the LDOE.

C. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 17:6, Article 603.1, and 17:407.40(A)(1).

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education, LR 47:1278 (September 2021), amended 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? Yes.

**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: Implementation of Education Acts of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session**

**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 as a result of the proposed rule change. The proposed rule change, in accordance with Act 409 of the 2025 RS, requires the annual submission of mandatory reporter training data by each entity at which a teaching or child care provider is employed to the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE). Additionally, it requires LDOE to publish completion rates for each entity on the department's website. This will be accomplished through existing systems, at no additional cost to the department.

Additionally, the proposed rule change, in accordance with Act 439 of the 2025 RS, requires each local discipline policy review committee to include a paraprofessional elected by his or her peers. Members of the discipline review committee serve

without additional compensation; therefore, there is no anticipated impact to local governmental expenditures as a result of this change.

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 is no anticipated costs to persons, small businesses, or non-governmental 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  
2511#057

Patrice Thomas  
Deputy Fiscal Officer  
Legislative Fiscal Office

**NOTICE OF INTENT**

**Office of the Governor  
Firefighters Pension and Relief Fund for the City of New Orleans and Vicinity**

Retirement (LAC 58:V.Chapters 1-21)

In accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:953, the Firefighters' Pension and Relief Fund for the City of New Orleans and Vicinity, (board), hereby determines that the implementation of amendments to LAC 58.V. are required under R.S. 49:964(D) and Executive Order JML 25038 issued April 1, 2025 which mandated that by December 31, 2025, state agencies review their rules to determine if it is necessary, consistent with law, aligned with the agency's mission and otherwise complies with the legislation described therein. The Board of Trustees have reviewed their rules in their entirety and propose the amendments herein to eliminate redundant and obsolete language and to simplify the rules to reflect current administrative protocols. Chapter 1 (Qualified Domestic Relations Orders) is renumbered as Chapter 15 and is amended to simplify and eliminate redundant language and to reflect administrative protocols. Chapter 1 will now consolidate all definitions which were previously found throughout the rules. Chapters 13 (Service Credit), 15 (Deferred Retirement Option Plan), and 19 (Partial Lump Sum Option Plan) have been repealed in their entirety as they are obsolete, redundant and already referenced under the statute. Chapter 20 (Tax Qualification Provisions) will be consolidated with Chapter 5 (Direct Rollover) and renumbered as Chapter 13 (Tax Qualification Provisions) and are amended to reflect proper statutory references and to update actuarial factors. Chapter 21 is now consolidated with Chapter 3, (Procedural Rules and Regulations of the Board) which is amended to eliminate redundant language that is already set forth in the statute, and to update the rules to reflect statutory language. Chapter 17 (Election Rules) is now renumbered as Chapter 5 and is amended to eliminate redundant language that is already reflected in the statute, and to update the rules to reflect statutory language and administrative protocols. Chapter 7 (Partial Buy Back of

Service Credit) is amended to eliminate obsolete language. Chapter 9 (Death Benefits) is restructured and amended to eliminate redundant language. Chapter 11 (Calculation of Benefits) is amended to eliminate obsolete language and to simplify and update the rules to reflect statutory language.

**Title 58  
RETIREMENT**

**Part V. Firefighters' Pension and Relief Fund for the City of New Orleans and Vicinity**

**Chapter 1. Introductory Information**

**§101. Definitions**

*Alternate Payee*—the participant's spouse (or former spouse, child, or other dependent) who is entitled to receive some or all of the fund's benefit payments with respect to the participant under the terms of the QDRO. The same QDRO may identify more than one alternate payee, and several alternate payees may be identified in multiple QDROs. However, the board shall not recognize the entitlement of any alternate payee, even if specified in a domestic relations order, if the benefits assigned therein have already been assigned by reason of an earlier QDRO validly served upon the fund.

*Dependent or Dependent upon the Firefighter for Support*—prior to the firefighter's death, he contributed 50 percent or more to the support of said dependent.

*Distributee*—includes a member or former member. In addition, the member's or former member's surviving spouse and the member's or former member's spouse or former spouse who is the alternate payee under a qualified domestic relations order are distributees with regard to the interest of the spouse or former spouse. A distributee also includes a non-spouse beneficiary properly designated by the member.

*Domestic Relations Order (DRO)*—any judgment, decree, or order (including approval of a property settlement or community property partition) that:

1. relates to the provision of child support, alimony payments, or marital property rights to a spouse, former spouse, child, or other dependent of a participant; and
2. is made pursuant to a state domestic relations law (including a community property law)

Note: A state court shall actually issue an order, or formally approve a proposed property settlement, in order for it to be recognized as a domestic relations order. A property settlement or community property partition signed by a participant and the participant's former spouse, or a draft order to which both parties consent, shall not be considered a domestic relations order until the state authority has executed the order or formally approved it and made it part of the domestic relations proceeding.

*Eligible Retirement Plan*—an individual retirement account described in IRC § 408(a), an individual retirement annuity described in IRC § 408(b), an annuity plan described in IRC § 403(a), or a qualified trust described in IRC § 401(a), that accepts the distributee's eligible rollover distribution. In the case of an eligible rollover distribution to the surviving spouse or alternate payee, an eligible retirement plan is an individual retirement account or individual retirement annuity. An eligible retirement plan also shall include an annuity contract described in IRC § 403(b) and an eligible plan under IRC § 457(b), which is maintained by a state, political subdivision of the state, or any agency or instrumentality of a state or political subdivision of a state (which agrees to separately account for amounts transferred into such plan from this plan) a Roth individual retirement account or Roth individual retirement annuity described in IRC § 408A.