



Summary of Labor & School-Related Louisiana Legislation from 2026



Law	Subject	Description	higher ed?	public?	charter?
Act 6	voting	- requires the state to submit to the US Department of Homeland Security's Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program a check against every registered voter in the state voter registration computer system for which the requisite state data exists - all registered voters who are suspected to be noncitizens will be investigated and potentially removed from the voter rolls - the Louisiana secretary of state must report on this to the legislature annually	-	-	-
Act 24	TRSL	amends state law to align with federal law regarding a member's required beginning date for retirement disbursements	Y (those in TRSL)	Y	Y (those in TRSL)
Act 47	LDOE	- re-creates the Louisiana Department of Education for four more years - requires a separate bill to re-create each statutory entity within the department along with additional provisions - July 1, 2031 is the new termination date, and the termination would begin July 1, 2030, unless the department is again re-created	N	Y	Y
Act 99	higher education	requires the Board of Regents to develop, maintain, and make public a statewide dashboard that provides information on the alignment between postsecondary degree programs and workforce outcomes in Louisiana	Y	N	N
Act 100	internships	- known as the "Learn and Earn Act" - allow for the creation of a career practicums (which means limited scope educational franchise operations conducted on a public high school campus pursuant to a cooperative endeavor agreement, whose primary purpose is to deliver compensated, credit bearing work-based learning, aligned with BESE-approved career pathways, and related instruction) - students who work in these can earn credits, satisfy internship requirements, and get paid	N	Y	Y



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Act 137	fine arts education	creates a State Seal of Fine Arts to recognize high school graduates who meet certain academic eligibility criteria	N	Y	Y
Act 139	foster care	provides continuous revisions to the Children's Code with respect to children in foster care	-	-	-
Act 141	school boards	- removes a population limitation that previously restricted the conditions under which a former school board member could be hired by their former board - specifically affects the authorization for former school board members to be employed as certified classroom teachers or certified school psychologists	N	Y	Y
Act 144	career-related activities	- mandates annual career activities (six for grades 6-8; one for K-5) aligned with high-demand industry sectors - requires documenting activity participation in students' Individual Graduation Plans	N	Y	Y
Act 147	high school banking	- authorizes school boards to partner with banks or credit unions to operate branches at high schools - integrates branch operations into the required financial literacy course to provide students with practical experience - aims to help students develop the skills and knowledge necessary to manage personal finances	N	Y	N
Act 169	nepotism	- allows local school boards to hire immediate family members of board members or the superintendent as paraprofessionals, custodians, or cafeteria workers - requires that the hired family member meets all required criteria for the specific position	N	Y	Y



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		mandates that the related board member or superintendent recuse themselves from any decisions regarding the promotion or assignment of that family member			
Act 207	sexual misconduct	- amends the law regarding prohibited sexual conduct between educators and students by expanding the definition of "educator" to specifically include student aides, school resource officers, and security guards - applies to any of these individuals working at a school where the victim is enrolled, whether on a full-time, part-time, or temporary basis	Y	Y	Y
Act 220	electronic voting in open meetings	- amends the Open Meetings Law to specify that votes displayed and recorded using electronic machines satisfy the legal requirement for viva voce (voice) voting - mandates that these provisions be applied retroactively	Y (public)	Y	Y
Act 225	TRSL	- adjusts how the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL) calculates employer contributions and manages the amortization of unfunded accrued liabilities - requires re-amortization of liabilities with level-dollar payments once the retirement system reaches a funded percentage of at least 80%	Y (those in TRSL)	Y	Y (those in TRSL)
Act 233	associate educators	lowers the minimum age requirement for associate educator program participants from twenty-five to twenty-one	N	Y	Y
Act 237	special education cameras	requires the superintendent and a designee (or just two designees) to be present for the initial viewing of classroom recordings following a request	N	Y	Y
Act 247	higher ed endowments	requires postsecondary management boards to continue complying with initial conditions when using funds received from the Board of Regents Support Fund	Y	N	N



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		mandates that the original corpus of endowment programs (including both state and nonstate contributions) remains inviolable			
Act 253	student athlete health	- requires qualified healthcare professionals to include cardiovascular prescreening in physical examinations for student athletes starting in the 2026-2027 school year - mandates the distribution of educational materials regarding sudden cardiac arrest to parents or guardians during the physical exam and athletic permission process	N	Y	N
Act 259	pregnancy propaganda	- requires student health centers at public high schools and postsecondary institutions to display signs providing pregnancy information and resources - mandates that these "Signs of Hope" be placed in patient waiting, admission, and consultation rooms and include a website link to help services	Y	Y	Y
Act 281	teacher certification	- empowers the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) or its president to override certification denials from the Appeals Council if caused by circumstances beyond the applicant's control - requires a decision within 30 days of a request and applies this authority retroactively to denials issued since January 1, 2025	N	Y	Y
Act 309	hazing	- enacts the "Caleb Wilson Hazing Prevention Act," which prohibits hazing and mandates annual education for students at public postsecondary institutions regarding its dangers - requires institutions to report hazing incidents to law enforcement and maintain a public website disclosing conduct findings and disciplinary sanctions for student organizations	Y (public)	N	N



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Act 334	distance learning	- authorizes public postsecondary management boards (such as LSU and Southern University) to impose tuition and attendance fees for undergraduate, graduate, or professional degree programs and courses offered entirely via distance education - permits these boards to set proportional fee amounts for part-time students, summer sessions, and other non-standard academic periods	Y (public)	N	N
Act 335	lab schools	extends state Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) funding to laboratory schools operated by the University of Louisiana System	Y (UL system)	N	N
Act 344	retiree reemployment	- consolidates rules for retired teachers returning to work, allowing them to draw a pension while working under an "earnings limit" or in "critical shortage" positions - establishes a "supplemental benefit" option for retirees who choose to suspend their pension and regain active membership in the system	N	Y	Y
Act 355	veteran scholarships	- allows honorably discharged veterans to verify eligibility for a TOPS-Tech Award by providing their DD Form 214. - removes the requirement for specific ACT or WorkKeys scores for these veterans	Y	N	N
Act 378	student exit codes	requires the Department of Education to obtain concurrence from the local school system before changing a student's assigned "exit code"	N	Y	Y
Act 383	provisional childcare eligibility	- allows expectant mothers to apply for the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) before birth for a preliminary eligibility determination - requires BESE to develop a process to confirm this eligibility after the child is born	N	N	N
Act 393	vocational charter schools	authorizes the creation of Type 2 vocational and technical education charter schools aligned with high-demand "STAR Jobs."	N	N	Y



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		permits these schools to give enrollment preference (up to 50%) to students whose parents work or reside in a specific economic sector			
Act 409	medical school grades	requires public medical schools to assess students using a tiered grading system with at least four designations (e.g., High-Pass, Pass, Low-Pass, Fail)	Y (public)	N	N
Act 413	career coaches	- authorizes school boards to use career coaches or private vendors to help students develop their Individual Graduation Plans (IGPs) - requires the Department of Education (DOE) to maintain a list of approved career coaching vendors for schools to use	N	Y	Y
Act 421	self-defense spray	- prohibits public postsecondary institutions from banning students from possessing self-defense chemical spray (2oz or less) on campus - allows exceptions for buildings or events with armed security or where prohibited by contract	Y (public)	N	N
Act 432	athletic regulations	- requires the DOE to study the feasibility of regulating interscholastic high school athletics through a cooperative endeavor agreement with a nonprofit corporation - assumes the new system would be subject to the Open Meetings Law, Public Records Law, and legislative audits	N	Y	Y
Act 438	dual enrollment	requires the Board of Regents to establish a uniform, statewide application process and standard tuition rates for dual enrollment courses	Y (public)	Y	Y
Act 441	higher ed discipline	standardizes student disciplinary proceedings and appeals at public postsecondary institutions, including requirements for written notice of charges and evidence	Y (public)	N	N



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Act 445	Maritime Academy	- establishes the Universities of Louisiana Maritime Academy at Nicholls State University - focuses on coordinating maritime programs and providing educational pathways to meet the workforce needs of the maritime industry	Y (Nicholls State)	N	N
Act 461	religious studies	- enacts the "School Released Time Education Act," allowing schools to let students attend off-campus religious instruction for 1 to 5 hours per week with parental consent - allows schools to award academic credit for these courses if the instructor meets substitute teacher qualification standards	N	Y	Y
Act 486	higher ed accreditation	authorizes the Board of Regents to set policy for the accreditation of public postsecondary institutions and allows those institutions to seek new accreditors under specific conditions	Y (public)	N	N
Act 496	deepfakes	prohibits the use of deepfake material against K-12 students with the intent to harass, coerce, or maliciously intimidate them	N	Y	Y
Act 497	deepfakes	- amends the Campus Accountability and Safety Act to include AI-generated sexual imagery (deepfakes) in the definition of power-based violence - requires postsecondary institutions to distribute information to students regarding online threats and safety	Y	N	N
Act 505	foreign adversaries	- creates the Louisiana Higher Education Research Security Council to vet and potentially veto gifts, contracts, or research partnerships from foreign adversaries - prohibits public postsecondary institutions from hosting programs like Confucius Institutes that are controlled by specified foreign adversaries	Y	N	N
Act 521	emergency response	authorizes a School Safety Drone Response Pilot Program to evaluate using drones for emergency response at public schools	N	Y	Y



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		requires participating schools to provide school mapping data to the drone vendor			
Act 523	IGP notices	requires charter schools that terminate in the eighth grade to provide written notice to students and parents about the purpose of Individual Graduation Plans (IGPs) and diploma types	N	N	Y
Act 539	Teacher's Shield Act	- mandates the immediate suspension and removal of students who commit battery or assault against any school employee - provides liability protection for schools in negligent hiring lawsuits if the hired person had a valid BESE teaching certificate	N	Y	Y
Act 545	virtual schools	authorizes students enrolled in virtual schools to participate in extracurricular and athletic activities at the public school in their residential attendance zone	N	Y	Y
Act 547	CDLs in schools	allows Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) institutions to establish pilot programs with local school systems to increase access to commercial driver's license (CDL) and logistics training	N	Y	?
Act 548	suicide prevention	requires all middle and high schools receiving federal funds to post "988" suicide prevention signage in visible locations like entrances, restrooms, and nurse offices	N	Y	Y
Act 552	online protection	- amends the "Kids Online Protection and Anti-Grooming Act" to require online platforms to set minor accounts to private mode by default - requires platforms to notify a minor's legal representative within a reasonable time if the minor is exposed to harmful sexually explicit material	N	Y	Y



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Act 576	early childhood student IDs	requires the DOE to assign unique ID numbers to all children in publicly funded early childhood programs and link them to their K-12 student IDs	N	Y	Y
Act 587	pre-K safety	- requires all public and nonpublic prekindergarten programs to comply with child safety and welfare standards, including specific staff-to-child ratios - requires the DOE to conduct annual unannounced site visits to monitor compliance	N	Y	Y
Act 617	teacher battery	- increases criminal penalties for students who commit battery against a teacher, including mandatory fines and jail time - requires juveniles adjudicated for this offense to be committed to secure placement for at least six months without benefit of probation	N	Y	Y
Act 618	harmful material	prohibits interactive computer services from delivering or displaying material harmful to minors that was created or developed by the service itself	-	-	-
Act 619	school threats	- significantly increases criminal penalties for terrorizing or menacing a school, including mandatory hard labor for up to fifteen years - allows courts to fine parents up to \$10,000 for second or subsequent adjudications of their child for these offenses	N	Y	Y
Act 625	personal leave	increases the amount of personal leave a teacher can use without loss of pay from two days to four days per school year	N	Y	N
Act 628	food insecurity	requires schools to include food insecurity questions on residency questionnaires and provide resource information to families identified as "at risk"	N	Y	Y
Act 631	mandatory reporter training	explicitly requires all school employees who are mandatory reporters to comply with all state training and reporting requirements for child abuse	N	Y	Y



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Act 645	bus operators	requires superintendents to provide probationary bus operators with written reasons and a seven-day window to respond before dismissal or discharge	N	Y	N
Act 646	scholarships	expands tuition-free scholarship eligibility for disabled police and firefighters (or their spouses) to include master's, doctoral, and other postgraduate degrees	Y	N	N
Act 650	Safe Haven flyers	requires middle and high schools to display Safe Haven Law flyers (regarding legal child surrender) on the inside door of every bathroom stall	N	Y	Y
Act 660	suicide prevention	requires public postsecondary institutions to post suicide prevention information, include it on student IDs, and collect data on suicide risk assessments	Y (public)	N	N
Act 661	LA FIRST sharing	- mandates that schools share student data with the Kathleen Babineaux Blanco Public Policy Center for the LA FIRST integrated research system - requires the DOE to develop a process for parents to opt out of this information-sharing	N	Y	Y
Act 674	assessment transparency	- requires the DOE and all school boards to post detailed, plain-language schedules of all state and locally required assessments on their websites - mandates an annual local assessment review report to evaluate if assessments are duplicative or provide timely results	N	Y	Y
Act 687	district overcapacity	- requires school boards (specifically for New Orleans) to adopt policies to monitor and mitigate systemwide overcapacity of schools - authorizes school boards to terminate charter contracts early if necessary to address identified overcapacity	N	Y	Y



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Act 694	TOPS	requires the creation of a data administration system to collect uniform data on TOPS recipients to evaluate program effectiveness and outcomes	Y	N	N
Act 695	TOPS	revises high school core curriculum requirements for TOPS awards to include Integrated Mathematics I, II, and III as acceptable substitutes for Algebra and Geometry	N	Y	Y
Act 699	charter enrollment preference	- allows charter schools to give enrollment preference to kindergarteners who attended a licensed early learning center operated by (or articulated with) the charter school - allows preference for students in foster care, military families, or subject to court-ordered custody plans	N	N	Y
Act 717	pregnant children	requires a safety assessment whenever a child 14 or younger is reported pregnant and makes pregnant children 17 or younger eligible for protective supervision	N	Y	Y
Act 731	water fluoridation	allows local governments to vote to exempt public water systems from state fluoridation requirements	-	-	-
Act 737	human trafficking	requires schools to designate at least one employee (counselor or administrator) to receive annual advanced training on identifying and reporting human trafficking	N	Y	Y
Act 738	school safety	requires schools to install exterior master key boxes (containing keys and maps) for first responders if they do not have an existing secure access system	N	Y	Y
Act 744	parental leave	grants eligible local education agency employees six weeks (240 hours) of 100% paid parental leave for the birth, adoption, or foster placement of a child*	N	Y	Y



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		- prohibits employers from requiring the use of sick or annual leave before using this paid parental leave* - each workplace must display a poster explaining this right <i>* does not go into effect until the legislature funds it</i>			
Act 745	immigrant benefits	- requires state agencies to verify U.S. citizenship or satisfactory immigration status for applicants of federal, state, or local public benefits - mandates the termination of benefits and referral to federal immigration authorities if status cannot be verified after a "reasonable opportunity period"	-	-	-
Act 756	union dues	- provides employees the right to immediately cease the withholding of labor organization dues or fees from their wages via an electronic request - requires labor organizations to provide annual electronic notification to employees regarding their right to withdraw from the organization	Y (public)	Y	N
Act 760	digital student IDs	authorizes public postsecondary management boards to make student identification cards available as digitized credentials (such as via "LA Wallet") at no charge to the student	Y (public)	N	N
Act 772	higher ed accountability	- transfers several programs, including the Cybersecurity Talent Initiative, from the Board of Regents to other agencies like Louisiana Works - establishes a uniform fiscal policy and early warning system to monitor the financial health and risk of insolvency at public postsecondary institutions	Y (public)	N	N
Act 775	campus health	requires student health centers at public postsecondary institutions to display signs providing information and website links for STI prevention, screening, and treatment	Y (public)	N	N



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Act 781	phased retirement	authorizes postsecondary management boards to develop voluntary phased retirement programs where employees receive reduced benefits while continuing to perform at least 50% work effort	Y (public)	N	N
Act 794	TOPS-Tech	allows students to qualify for a TOPS-Tech Award by meeting two of three criteria: a minimum GPA, a minimum ACT score, or the successful completion of nine credit hours of early college credit	N	Y	Y
Act 797	charter school LEAs	authorizes Type 1, 3, and 3B charter schools to act as their own Local Education Agency (LEA) for federal funding purposes, subject to local school board approval	N	N	Y
Act 810	athlete NIL compensation	- protects the right of both intercollegiate and interscholastic (high school) athletes to earn compensation for their name, image, and likeness (NIL) - prohibits schools or athletic associations from declaring an athlete ineligible or preventing a high school's membership in an association due to an athlete earning NIL compensation	Y	Y	Y
Act 814	gender and sex	- enacts the "Restoring Biological Truth Act," which mandates that state law use the term "sex" instead of "gender" when referring to an individual's biological status - defines "sex" as an individual's biological sex (male or female) as observed or clinically certified at birth	Y	Y	Y
Act 818	athlete NIL agreements	- amends the Public Records Law to make confidential any documents referencing the terms of an intercollegiate athlete's NIL compensation contract - protects specific revenue amounts paid to individual athletes or specific sports programs from public disclosure	Y	N	N



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Act 821	school safety	- renames "crisis management and response plans" to "emergency operations plans" and requires them to be reviewed annually by a district safety and emergency team - mandates an annual safety drill within the first 30 days of school and at least one additional drill during high-traffic transition points	N	Y	Y
Act 823	school safety	authorizes schools to employ honorably discharged veterans as "school guardians" to prevent active threats and temporarily detain individuals they believe have committed or are about to commit a felony	N	Y	Y
Act 824	foreign adversaries	- prohibits education agencies from contracting with individuals or entities that are foreign adversaries, foreign terrorist organizations, or their agents - requires the immediate suspension of payments if an agency becomes aware a vendor is a prohibited entity	N	Y	N
Act 829	tolls for school vehicles	grants free right of passage over all public tolled ferries, roads, and bridges (excluding the Greater New Orleans Expressway) to any vehicle owned or leased by a Louisiana school board	N	Y	N
Act 844	workforce instructors	establishes the Workforce Instructor Capacity Investment Program to expand instructional capacity in high-wage, high-demand fields like healthcare and IT	Y (two-year public)	N	N
Act 846	school safety	creates the Louisiana Center for Safe Schools to identify safety resources, facilitate information sharing on vulnerabilities, and provide training on emergency operations planning	N	Y	Y
Act 885	learning pods	protects parent-driven learning microschools from restrictive zoning or occupancy changes	N	Y	Y



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		authorizes public school governing authorities to establish "public school learning pods" as extensions of their schools for groups of at least ten students			
Act 901	school safety	- mandates school employees to report threats of violence or terrorism to law enforcement and allows schools to request a physical security assessment from the Louisiana Fusion Center - provides that these assessments are advisory only and creates a limitation of liability for schools regarding the decision to implement or decline recommended safety "options for consideration"	N	Y	Y
Act 911	Special School District	reorganizes the Special School District board, requiring annual nominee lists and granting the board authority to approve cooperative enterprises recommended by the superintendent	-	-	-
Act 943	special education	mandates that in any special education due process hearing, the local education agency (LEA) has the burden of proof and persuasion regarding the appropriateness of a student's program or placement	N	Y	Y
Act 944	behavioral health	- requires schools to allow medically necessary behavioral health services on campus during school hours if a parent provides an authorized treatment plan - mandates a service delivery review meeting between school administrators, teachers, and providers to coordinate schedules and roles - establishes complex rules for virtual supervision, dispute resolution, and specific limitations on provider roles in the classroom	N	Y	Y
Act 960	DCFS	re-creates the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and expands the oversight power of the state child ombudsman, including	N	Y	Y



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		granting the office unrestricted remote access to departmental case management systems and student records • updates child abuse and neglect reporting procedures, establishes critical incident review teams for fatalities, and mandates specific training and annual competency assessments for mandatory reporters			
Act 962	health centers	• prohibits school employees from blocking a student's access to medically necessary school-based health center services if a parent has consented • mandates that the determination of medical necessity be made by a licensed healthcare provider, not a school employee	N	Y	Y
Act 964	adolescent literacy	• requires literacy screenings for students in grades 4-8 who score below mastery on state exams and mandates individual reading improvement plans for those with deficiencies • prohibits the use of the "three-cueing systems model" in literacy instruction and intervention • contains technical instructional requirements, detailed progress monitoring mandates, and specific criteria for teacher education programs	N	Y	Y
Act 970	higher ed tuition	• grants public postsecondary institutions authority to establish and adjust tuition and fees for all programs, with a cap on increases of 10% per year	Y (public)	N	N