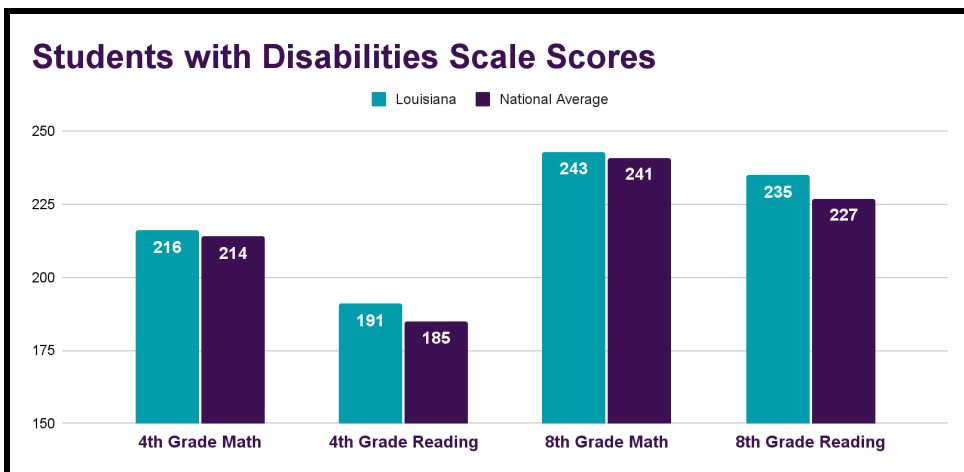
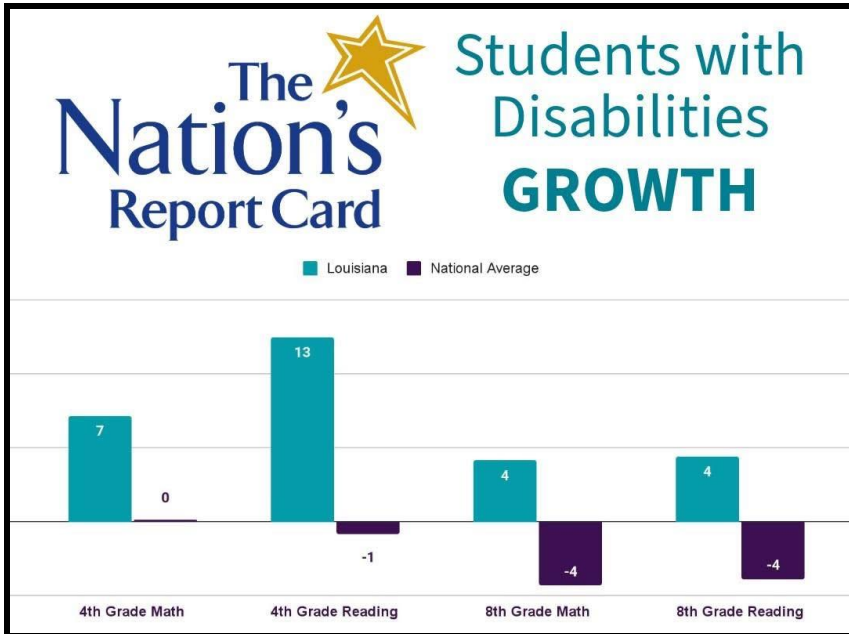


Report to Developmental Disabilities Council

April 2025

Louisiana's Students with Disabilities Show Remarkable Improvement on NAEP



FFY25 IDEA Funding Application

Each year the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) submits a grant application to the U.S. Department of Education for funding through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The LDOE is in the phase of collecting [public comment](#) on the application. Public comment is open through May 18.

SEAP Update

SEAP met March 26 and discussed revisions to Bulletin 1508, the IDEA funding application, and the legislative audit report. SEAP will next meet on June 18. [Applications](#) for SEAP are open and due May 9. The panel is seeking one individual with a disability, one parent and one teacher. Interested applicants should email their application to specialeducation@la.gov by May 9.

2025 Special Education Parent Involvement Survey

Each year the Department surveys parents of children with disabilities who receive special education services. The purpose of the survey is to seek feedback on how well schools help to involve parents in the education of their children. We use this information to guide our efforts to improve services and results for children with disabilities and enhance family involvement. Participating LEAs received the needed random IDs the week of April 1. The random IDs are needed for participating parents to remain anonymous. The 2025 Special Education Parent Involvement Survey opened on April 15. For parents in a selected school system noted in the chart and who received a letter from the school system with your random ID, please access the [survey](#) with your assigned ID.

The Department uses a sampling method to collect this information. Each year, we select school systems to participate in the survey (list below). Parents in the selected school systems should receive information to participate in the survey from their child's school. The survey will be available until June 30.

Ascension Parish	Cameron Parish	Concordia Parish	Franklin Parish	Lafourche Parish	Livingston Parish	St. John Parish	Washington Parish
West Feliciana	Zachary Community Schools	City of Baker Schools	Fannie C. Williams	Advantage Charter Academy	Impact Charter School	LA Virtual Charter	SWLA Charter Academy
Willow School	Einstein Charter HS Sarah T. Reed	New Harmony High	Athlos Academy	McDonogh 35 HS	Collegiate Baton Rouge		

Any parent not in a selected school system noted above may still participate in the survey at a different [link](#) that does not require a random ID.

Kindergarten Dyslexia Screener

Act 266 (2023) required the Department to select and provide to each public school (at no cost) a dyslexia screener with the following requirements:

- area under curve of 0.80 or above
- developed solely for dyslexia
- evidence-based with proven, published psychometric validity
- not a progress monitoring tool
- used for the sole purpose of determining if a student is at risk

Implementation was subject to the provision of funds, and the legislature did provide funding. The dyslexia screener is to be administered by the teacher in the second half of kindergarten. Within 30 days of an at risk result, the parent is to be notified. This is the second year of administration of the required kindergarten dyslexia screener.

Numeracy Update

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) has developed a full suite of Numeracy Professional Learning courses for K-12 math teachers. This includes the training required by [Act 260 \(2023\)](#).

Act 260 requires all grade 4-8 mathematics teachers to complete an approved professional learning course that focuses on numeracy skills instruction by August 1, 2025.

Louisiana is designing a K-3 Numeracy Screener to measure student's foundational numeracy skills much like literacy.

Applied Behavior Analysis Guidance, Act 745 of the 2024 Regular Legislative Session

The Department released a [guidance document](#) outlining the updates to Act 745 (2024) regarding applied behavior analysis services in schools. The policy approved by BESE in August 2024 is now final in *Bulletin 135 - Health and Safety*. The guidance document is intended to assist school and system leaders in effective implementation of the statutory and policy provisions and may also be useful for parents and providers.

Local Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) Report Collection

The Department launched a collection survey for local school systems to submit a link to their annual 2024-2025 SEAC report to the Department. This collection will continue through May per legislation and a report will be provided to SEAP and posted on the Department's website.

SPED Fellow Academy Application: 2025-2026 School Year

The Department is excited to announce that the SPED Fellow Academy [application](#) for the 2025-2026 school year is now open! This opportunity is designed for novice special education leaders who are eager to grow their leadership skills, enhance their expertise, and make a lasting impact in the field of special education. Interested special education leaders should apply by April 30.

Together We Thrive: Empowering Parents in Special Education

Save the date! The Department is partnering with The Arc to host a day of support and learning for parents of students with disabilities. The conference will occur on July 21, 9 - 3 at Lod Cook in Baton Rouge.