NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK (NOEEN)

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

12.10.25

NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MEMBER	ENTITY REPRESENTED
Stacey Barquet	Early Care & Education Parent/Caregiver
Tomorow Fondal	Louisiana Department of Health Early Steps System Point of Entry
Thelma French	Early Care & Education Community (At Large)
Dr. Fateama Fulmore	NOLA Public Schools (NOLA-PS)
Dr. Shayla Guidry Hilaire	Child Find
Amy Hook-Poirier	Orleans Parish Ready Start Network
Asya Howlette	City of New Orleans Mayor's Office
Sheraé Hunter	New Orleans City Council
Jonika Julian-Harris	Orleans Parish Lead Agency
VACANT	Head Start
Tonia Loria	Orleans Parish Child Care Resource & Referral Agency
Kate Mehok	Cecil J. Picard LA 4 Early Childhood Program (LA 4)
Joy Mitchell	Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)
Angelique Morris Francois	CCAP B-3
Yolanda Motley	Early Head Start
Emmy O'Dwyer	Early Care & Education Community (At Large)
Amanda Peek	Early Care & Education Parent/Caregiver
Benita Plaisance	Nonpublic School Early Childhood Development Program (NSECD)
Melanie Richardson	Family Child Care Providers
Jen Roberts	NOEEN Nonprofit Corporation Board of Directors
Monique B. Rouege	Early Childhood Education Fund (ECEF)
Rochelle Wilcox	City Seats

NOEEN'S MISSION

To ensure an excellent start for every child in New Orleans by strengthening early childhood education and providing families access to high-quality early learning programs that help them realize their dreams for their children.

III. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

ACTION ITEM: ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Motion is to adopt the draft minutes from the:

- *November 12, 2025 NOEEN Steering Committee Meeting*

- Discussion
- Public Comment
- Vote

IV. COMMUNITY NETWORK REPORTS

COMMUNITY NETWORK LEAD AGENCY (CNLA)

Updates from
November 12, 2025 to Present

COORDINATED ENROLLMENT

Updates from
November 12, 2025 to Present

NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

2025-2026 UPDATES

25-26 ENROLLMENT UPDATE AS OF DECEMBER 3, 2025

Funding Source	Total Filled	Seats Offered	Total Allocation	Percentage of Seats Filled	Infants		1 Year Olds		2 Year Olds		3 Year Olds		4 Year Olds	
					Total Seats	Unfilled Seats	Total Seats	Unfilled Seats	Total Seats	Unfilled Seats	Total Seats	Unfilled Seats	Total Seats	Unfilled Seats
CS	998	0	1000	99%	103	0	221	0	325	0	349	0		
*ECEF	807	1	810	99%	95	0	173	1	221	0	321	1		
EHS	640	0	642	100%	79	0	231	2	331	0				
HS	921	1	939	98%							503	7	436	10
**LA4	1,276	1	1,276	100%									1,276	0
NSECD	373	0	374	99%							81	0	293	1
Total Seats	5,015	4	5,040	99%	277	0	625	0	877	0	1,254	5	2,005	11
*reduction in seat allocation 10/12/25 ** increase in seat allocation by Total of 36 seats *** available HS seats @ 1 grantee					*100% Filled*		*100% Filled*		*100% Filled*		*99% Filled*		*99% Filled*	

NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

EVENTS

Early Learning & Childcare

Winter Application

Events

NOLA PUBLIC SCHOOLS EARLY LEARNING & CHILD CARE

January's Winter Application Events

Clover (Formerly Kingsley House)

Friday, January 9, 2026

9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

1600 Constance St,
New Orleans, LA 70130

Harmony Oaks Community Center

Friday, January 16, 2026

9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

2514 Washington Ave,
New Orleans, LA 70113

Total Community Action (TCA)

Friday, January 23, 2026

9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

1420 S Norman C. Francis Pkwy,
New Orleans, LA 70125

NOLA PUBLIC SCHOOLS | EARLY LEARNING & CHILD CARE

NOLA-PS Exploration Fair

Save The Date!

Saturday, January 31, 2026

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

McDonogh 35 Senior High School Gymnasium
4000 Cadillac Street, New Orleans, LA 70122

Come join us for a day of connection, exploration, and collaboration!

February's Winter Application Events

Mildred Osborne Charter School

Friday, February 6, 2026

9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

6701 Curran Blvd,
New Orleans, LA 70126

Milne Recreation Center

Friday, February 20, 2026

9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

5420 Franklin Ave
New Orleans, LA 70122

Treme Recreation Community Center

Friday, February 27, 2026

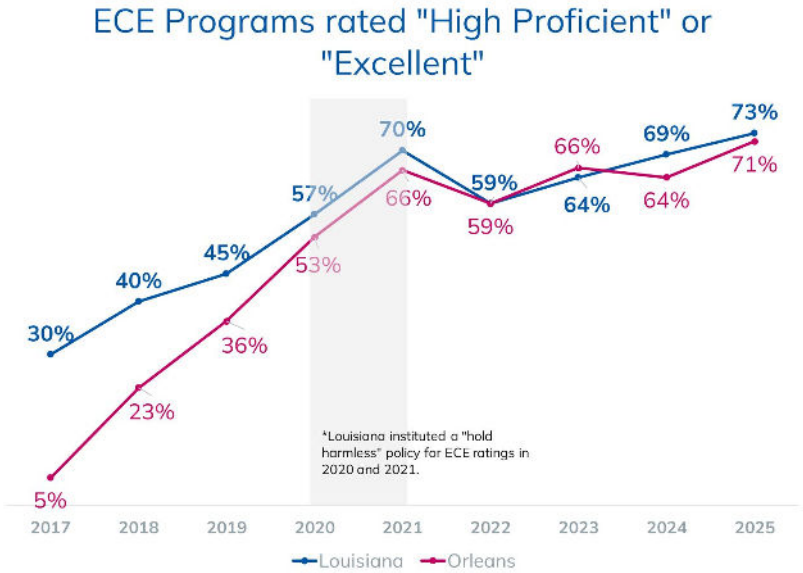
9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

900 N Villere St,
New Orleans, LA 70116

NOLA PUBLIC SCHOOLS | EARLY LEARNING & CHILD CARE

2024-2025 PERFORMANCE PROFILES AND KINDERGARTEN LITERACY SCREENING RESULTS BRIEF

More ECE programs in New Orleans are rated Proficient or Excellent than ever before.



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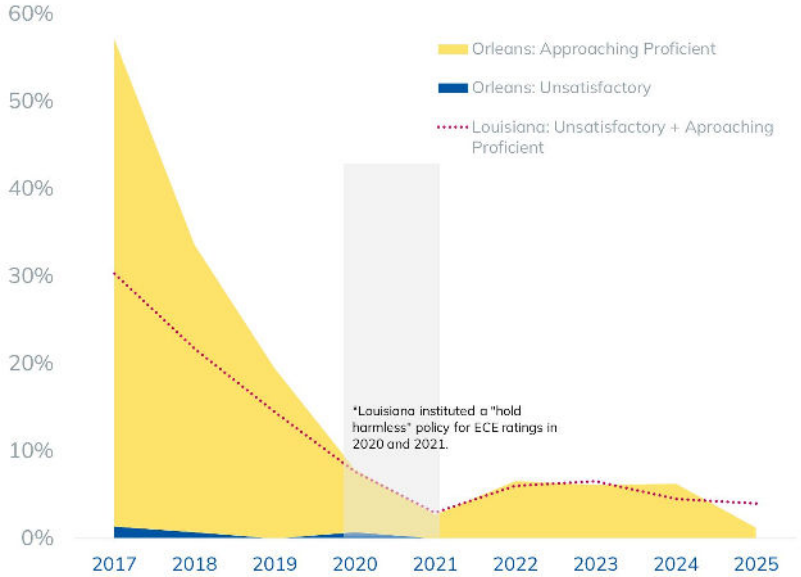
In 2025, Orleans Parish had no “Unsatisfactory” programs, and fewer Approaching Proficient sites than ever before.



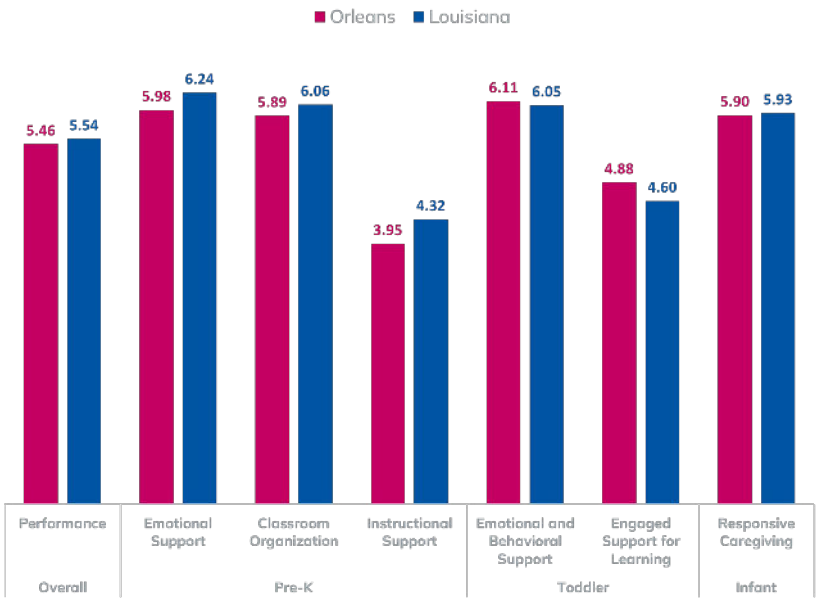
Two programs were rated “Approaching Proficient in 2025, down from 10 in 2024.

In 2017, 84 NOEEN sites were rated as Unsatisfactory (n=2) or Approaching Proficient (n=82).

2025 Performance Profiles: Excellent Sites

Angels' Haven Daycare & Preschool
Educators for Quality Alternatives
Foundation Academy
Hope Early Head Start Center
Kids of Excellence
LSU HSC HDC Early Learning Center
Morris Jeff Community School
Open Minds Open Hearts Day Care
Phillis Santiago
Racquel Hayes McKay
Roneeka Bass
Shelia's Kiddie Cottage
The Preschool Learning Center Inc. 2
Tracy’s Tiny Treasures

2025 Performance Profiles: Average CLASS Scores by Domain



Orleans Parish Programs' average Toddler CLASS scores are slightly higher than the state average, while average Pre-K scores tend to be slightly lower.

Average infant CLASS scores in New Orleans are 0.03 points lower than the state average.

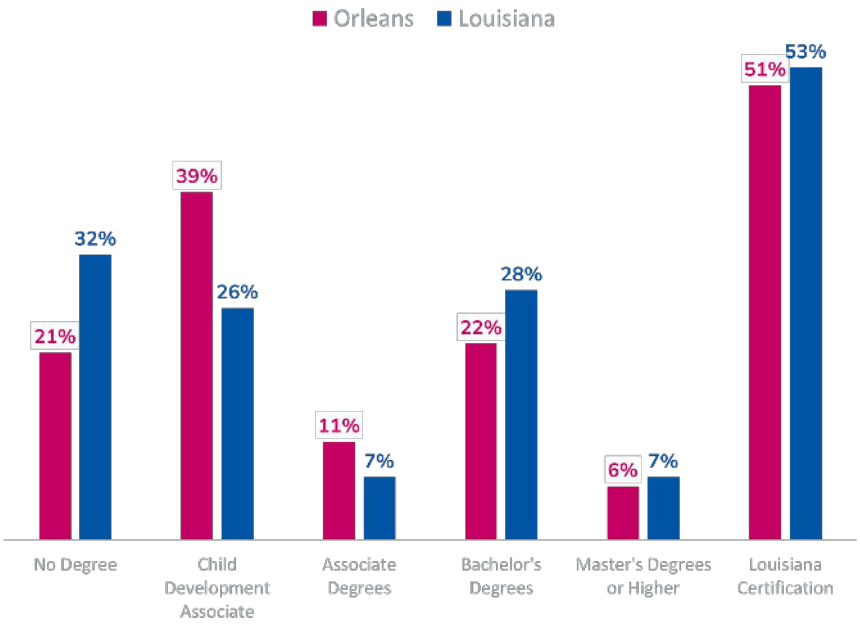
2025 Performance Profile: Access

Orleans Parish served more publicly funded children in ECE than any other parish in 2024-2025. There were **5,970** publicly funded children ages 0-4 in NOEEN programs, compared to 4,905 in East Baton Rouge + City of Baker and 4,255 in Jefferson.

Orleans ranked **Proficient** for serving economically disadvantaged 4 year olds (75%-84.99%). Seven networks scored lower and 51 scored higher.

By contrast, Orleans Parish served **between 30% and 49%** of economically disadvantaged children under four, one of the highest rates in the state.
More exact figures will be made available in the spring.

2025 Performance Profile: Teacher Credentials

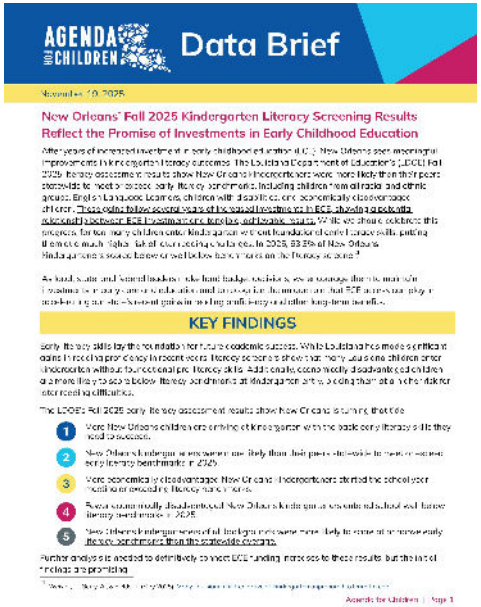


Lead teachers in NOEEN programs were more likely to have a CDA or higher than their peers statewide.

Despite **~79%** of lead teachers in New Orleans having at least a CDA, only **51%** had Louisiana certification, just below the statewide average (53%).

NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

Data Brief on Kindergarteners' DIBELS Scores



AGENDA FOR CHILDREN Data Brief

New Orleans' Fall 2025 Kindergarten Literacy Screening Results Reflect the Promise of Investments in Early Childhood Education

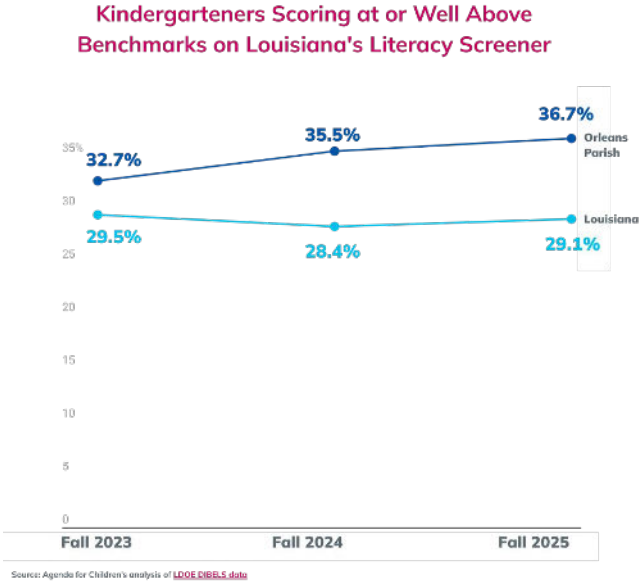
KEY FINDINGS

Download from agendaforchildren.org

NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

More New Orleans kindergarteners are arriving with basic early literacy skills.

More kindergarteners in New Orleans public schools are scoring at or well above benchmarks on DIBELS at the start of the school year.

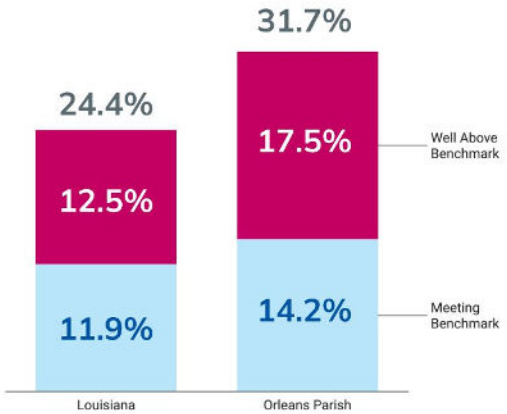


Economically disadvantaged kindergarteners in New Orleans schools are more likely to score at or "well above" early literacy benchmarks than their peers statewide.

More economically disadvantaged New Orleans kindergarteners started the school year meeting or exceeding literacy benchmarks in 2025.

While the statewide average fell slightly between 2023 and 2025, from **24.7%** to **24.4%**, New Orleans made gains, increasing by **3.3 percentage points**, from **28.4%** to **31.7%**.

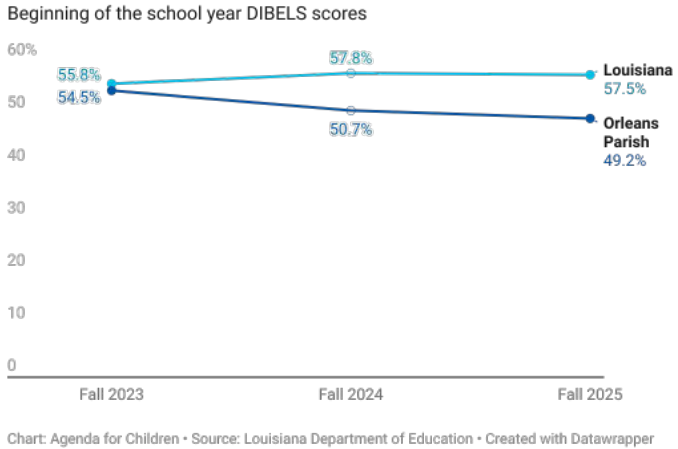
Economically disadvantaged kindergarteners scoring at or well above benchmarks on Louisiana's literacy screener



Source: Agenda for Children's analysis of LDOE DIBELS data

Fewer economically disadvantaged New Orleans kindergarteners entered school well below literacy benchmarks in 2025.

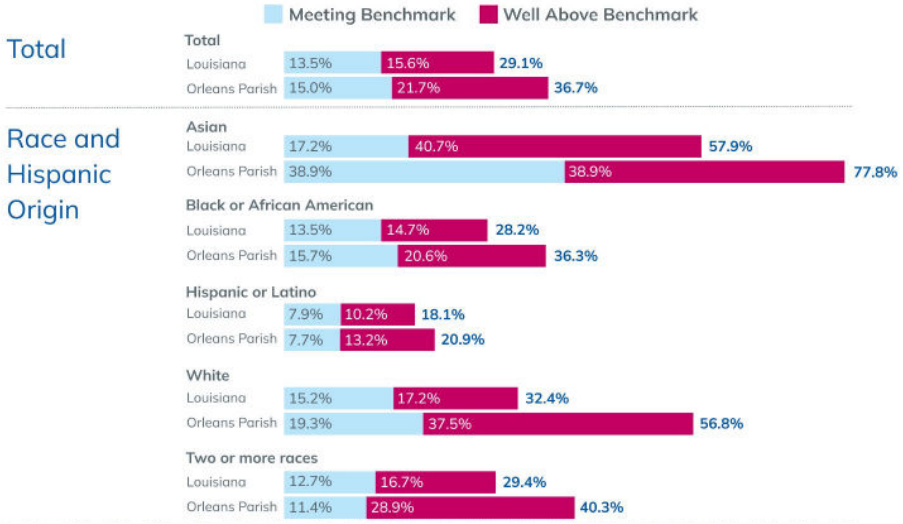
Economically disadvantaged kindergarteners scoring well below benchmarks on Louisiana's literacy screener

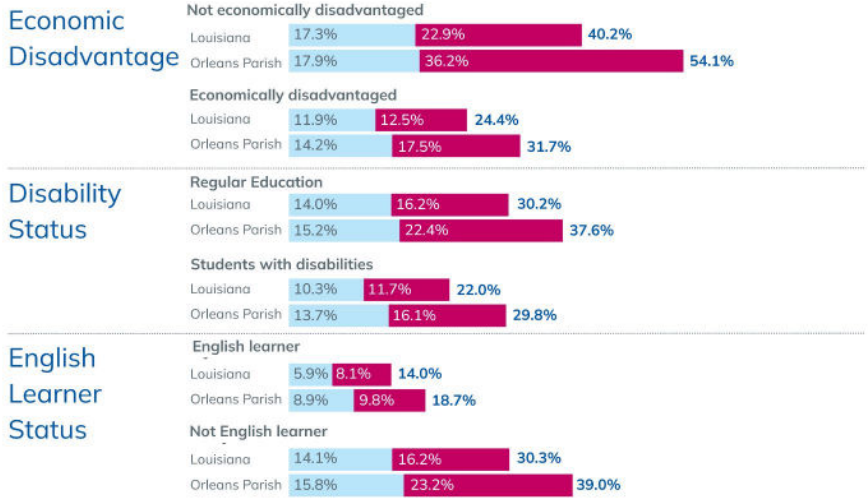


Why this matters

Recent research from Tulane University shows that **80%** of economically disadvantaged children in Louisiana who scored well below benchmarks in the **middle of first grade** had **also entered kindergarten scoring well below benchmarks.**

New Orleans kindergarteners of all backgrounds were more likely to score at or above early literacy benchmarks than the statewide average.





V. READY START NETWORK + MILLAGE CAPACITY BUILDING

2026-2027 NSECD AND LA4 ALLOCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

2026-2027 LDOE Super App

2026-2027 NSECD and LA4 Allocation Recommendations

In correlation with the requirement of the LDOE Super App, the NOEEN Steering Committee is tasked with reviewing, amending, and approving the network recommendations for the number of LA4 and NSECD seats to request on the LDOE Super App.

NSECD PROGRAM SEATS

Current Seat Allocations & Program Status (SY 25-26)

- NSECD Seat Allocation for 2025-2026 was 374
- At 99% fully enrolled due to 1 open seat as a result of a discharge (as of 12.5)

Current Seat Request (2026-2027)

- Contains an additional 73 seats than allocated last year by LDOE
- One new site request (20 children)

NSECD SEATS RECOMMENDATIONS

Considerations

- All existing sites requesting seats last year received seats
- There were no new NSECD seats allocated last year, however five new sites requested NSECD seats and did not receive them from the LDOE
- 95 PK3 and 298 PK4 seats were requested totaling 393
- 374 seats were allocated
- Four existing sites requested an increase SY 26-27
- New request is 447 seats

Recommendation

- Include all program requests in our Super App recommendations to LDOE
- Include all programs requesting seats on the early childhood application

2026-2027 NSECD RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation to request 447 Total Seats across 11 Sites.

Including

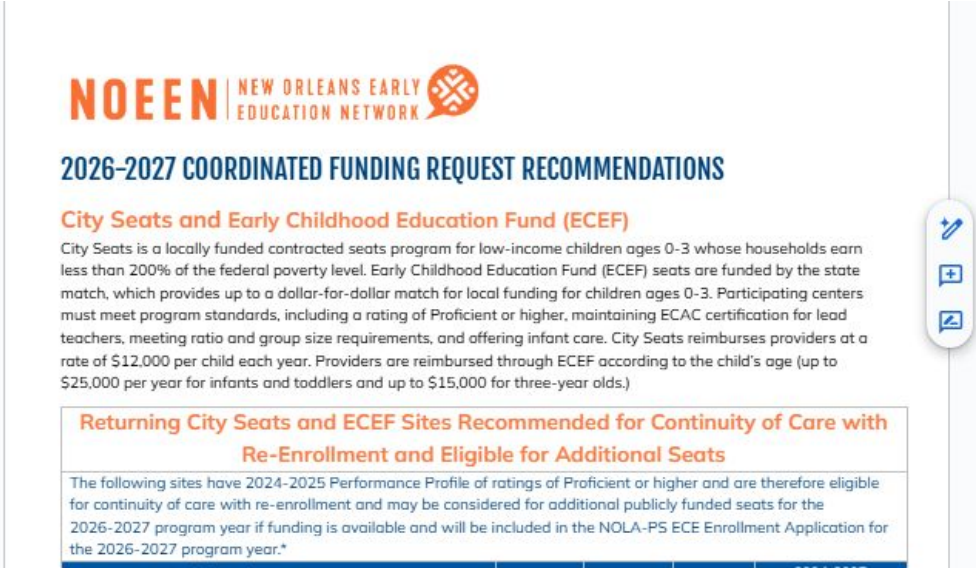
- All current NSECD providers, and
- Type III sites requesting seats for 3 and/or 4-year-olds with:
    - A performance profile rating of Proficient or higher

This request reflects

- 73 additional seats compared to the 2025-2026 allocation of 374 seats.
- Includes one potential new NSECD site

Important Note
Due to high statewide demand for NSECD seats, this request is not guaranteed. It is anticipated that allocations will be determined by BESE in June 2026.

2026-2027 COORDINATED FUNDING REQUEST RECOMMENDATIONS



NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

2026-2027 COORDINATED FUNDING REQUEST RECOMMENDATIONS

City Seats and Early Childhood Education Fund (ECEF)

City Seats is a locally funded contracted seats program for low-income children ages 0-3 whose households earn less than 200% of the federal poverty level. Early Childhood Education Fund (ECEF) seats are funded by the state match, which provides up to a dollar-for-dollar match for local funding for children ages 0-3. Participating centers must meet program standards, including a rating of Proficient or higher, maintaining ECAC certification for lead teachers, meeting ratio and group size requirements, and offering infant care. City Seats reimburses providers at a rate of $12,000 per child each year. Providers are reimbursed through ECEF according to the child's age (up to $25,000 per year for infants and toddlers and up to $15,000 for three-year olds.)

Returning City Seats and ECEF Sites Recommended for Continuity of Care with Re-Enrollment and Eligible for Additional Seats
The following sites have 2024-2025 Performance Profile of ratings of Proficient or higher and are therefore eligible for continuity of care with re-enrollment and may be considered for additional publicly funded seats for the 2026-2027 program year if funding is available and will be included in the NOLA-PS ECE Enrollment Application for the 2026-2027 program year.*

ACTION ITEM: APPROVAL OF THE 2026-2027 NSECD ALLOCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion is to *approve* the 2026-2027 NSECD Allocation Recommendations for the 2026-2027 LDOE Super App.

- Discussion
- Public Comment
- Vote

LA4 PROGRAM SEATS

Current Seat Allocations & Program Status (SY 25-26)

- LA4 Seat Initial Allocation for 2025-2026 totaled 1,240
- Current Seat Allocations increased by 36 seats totaling 1,276
- Currently fully enrolled at 100% (as of 12.5)
- 33/34 sites have at least 1 or more students on their waitlist (as of 12.5)

LA4 Seat Request (2026-2027)

- One new site request (19 seats) same as SY25-26
- One unallocated site request (60 seats) need an additional 24 unallocated seats
- Two sites requesting additional seats (22 total)

LA4 SEATS RECOMMENDATIONS

Considerations

- 34 of 36 existing sites that requested seats last year received allocations
- NOLA-PS requested 116 seats, and received an initial allocation of 72 seats
- NOLA-PS requested 100 additional seats, received 36 additional seats and 6 reallocated seats from other networks
- 36 additional seats and reallocated seats filled throughout the district
- NOLA-PS request will include 3 current LEA schools (Ben, ELAN, Bethune), 20 returned Bricolage seats and 2 additional seats
- One charter increased their request by 20 pending facility approval if unable to accommodate, additional cushion opportunity exists
- One charter request a decrease of 20 seats

Recommendation

- Include all program requests in our Super App recommendations to LDOE (1,404)
- Include all programs requesting seats on the early childhood application.
- Include 20 seats in the NOLA-PS allocation

2026-2027 LA4 RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation for 1,404 Total Seats Across 36 LA 4 Sites.

Including

- All requests made by all LA 4 program providers on the SuperApp, and
- Include all requesting programs on the early childhood application launching January 5, 2026.

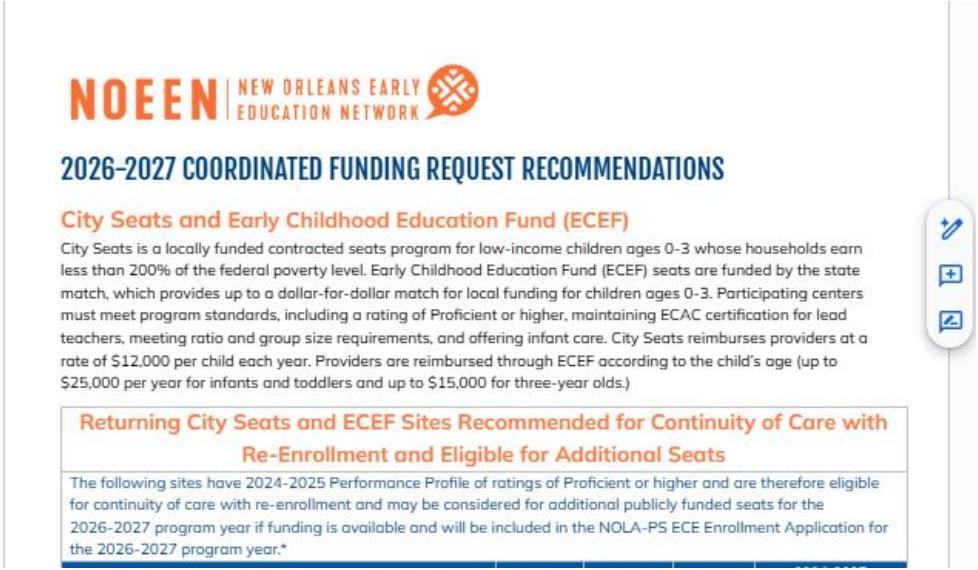
This request reflects

- 128 additional seats compared to the 2025-2026 allocation of 1,276 seats.
- One new LA 4 site (no state ECE performance rating).
- All existing LA4 sites requesting seats are rated Proficient or higher.

Important Note

Final LA 4 funding allocations are determined by BESE. Due to high statewide demand for LA 4 seats, this request is not guaranteed. It is anticipated that allocations will be determined by BESE in June 2026.

2026-2027 COORDINATED FUNDING REQUEST RECOMMENDATIONS



NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

2026-2027 COORDINATED FUNDING REQUEST RECOMMENDATIONS

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Returning City Seats and ECEF Sites Recommended for Continuity of Care with Re-Enrollment and Eligible for Additional Seats
The following sites have 2024-2025 Performance Profile of ratings of Proficient or higher and are therefore eligible for continuity of care with re-enrollment and may be considered for additional publicly funded seats for the 2026-2027 program year if funding is available and will be included in the NOLA-PS ECE Enrollment Application for the 2026-2027 program year.*

ACTION ITEM: APPROVAL OF THE 2026-2027 LA4 ALLOCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Motion is to *approve* the 2026-2027 LA4 Allocation Recommendations for the 2026-2027 LDOE Super App.

- Discussion
- Public Comment
- Vote

2026-2027 NOLA-PS Enrollment Application Recommendations

The NOEEN Steering Committee is tasked with reviewing, amending, and approving the network recommendations for which sites to include in the NOLA-PS enrollment application.

NSECD

- All returning sites from the 2025-2026 program year and one additional site - Wilcox at SUNO

LA4

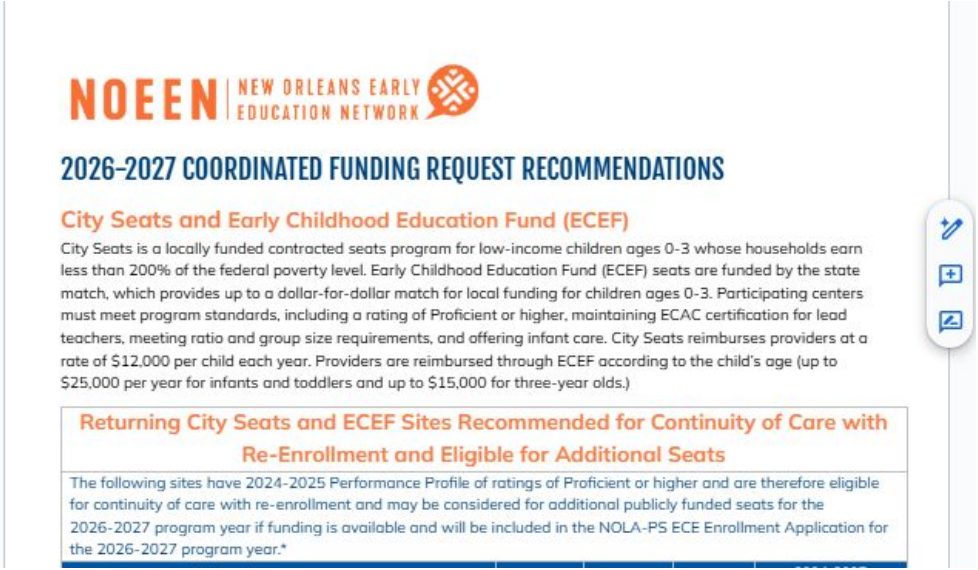
- All returning sites from the 2025-2026 program year and one additional site - Arthur Ashe

City Seats and ECEF Seats

- All returning sites from the 2025-2026 program year* with the exception of one ineligible site - Second Language Academy
- Currently, recommendations for new City Seat and ECEF sites are not being made due to anticipated reductions in funding and Coordinated Enrollment Subcommittee allocation priorities.

**This includes all KOE sites that passed the NOI process but are still finalizing the 2026-2027 CFR Seat Application.*

2026-2027 COORDINATED FUNDING REQUEST RECOMMENDATIONS



NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

2026-2027 COORDINATED FUNDING REQUEST RECOMMENDATIONS

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Returning City Seats and ECEF Sites Recommended for Continuity of Care with Re-Enrollment and Eligible for Additional Seats
The following sites have 2024-2025 Performance Profile of ratings of Proficient or higher and are therefore eligible for continuity of care with re-enrollment and may be considered for additional publicly funded seats for the 2026-2027 program year if funding is available and will be included in the NOLA-PS ECE Enrollment Application for the 2026-2027 program year.*

ACTION ITEM: APPROVAL OF SITES FOR INCLUSION ON THE 2026-2027 NOLA-PS ENROLLMENT APPLICATION

Motion is to *approve* the recommended sites for inclusion on the 2026-2027 NOLA-PS enrollment application.

- Discussion
- Public Comment
- Vote

2026-2027 COORDINATED FUNDING REQUEST UPDATES

Updates from
November 12, 2025 to Present

2026-2027 COORDINATED FUNDING REQUEST

2026-2027 CFR Seat Application scores were emailed to returning providers on December 8, 2025.

- A webinar was held for all returning providers prior to the dissemination of the scores to outline the review, scoring, and feedback process.
- In addition to the scores, returning providers received:
  - detailed feedback for each 2026-2027 CFR Seat Application dimension
  - information about the appeal process and
  - information about scoring information requests and review meetings
- All returning sites that completed the Seat Application met the scoring requirements to be eligible for continuity of care with re-enrollment and additional seats should funding be available* **.
- 2026-2027 CFR Seat Application data for returning providers will be presented at the January Coordinated Enrollment Subcommittee and NOEEN Steering Committee Meetings.
- The CFR Review Team will review 2026-2027 CFR Seat Applications for new providers in the new year.

This does not include the KOE sites that passed the NOI process but are still finalizing the 2026-2027 CFR Seat Application.
**Eligibility does not guarantee the allocation of seats.*

NOEEN | NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

MILLAGE BUDGET UPDATES

Updates from
November 12, 2025 to Present

Millage Budget Updates

- On August 27, 2025, the City of New Orleans' Revenue Estimating Committee reduced the City's 2025 overall revenue forecast. The State's Legislative Auditor also identified a ~$160M deficit for the year.
- We are working closely with the Office of Youth and Families to assess total revenue impact, make program adjustments for the current program year, and plan for future program years.
- **As state matching funds and local dollars must be spent in commensurate amounts, any dollars not paid by the City are INELIGIBLE for state match funds.**
- Potential total impact (State + City) could be up to $4.8M for this program year.

Millage Budget Updates

To prepare, **non essential millage spending has been paused**. Investment priorities will be made in this order:

1. Seat payments
2. Wraparound support partner contracts - current
3. Enrollment supports
4. Current **executed** contracts re: all areas
5. Wage Enhancement (Round 9 - TBD)
6. Capacity Building efforts - current
7. Capacity Building efforts - new/proposed

VI. SUBCOMMITTEE AND WORKING GROUP REPORTS

EXECUTIVE SUBCOMMITTEE

Updates from
November 12, 2025 to Present

NOEEN Executive Subcommittee Meeting

The Executive Subcommittee met virtually on Monday, November 17 to conduct the annual review of the NOEEN bylaws.

- After conducting this meeting, it was decided that additional time is needed to fully review the bylaws and draft the recommended updates.
- The Subcommittee will conduct another meeting to complete the review and the recommended bylaw updates will be brought to the NOEEN Steering Committee once complete.

Questions about this meeting can be directed to apoirier@agendaforchildren.org

COORDINATED ENROLLMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

Updates from
November 12, 2025 to Present

2026-2027 PUBLICLY-FUNDED SEAT ALLOCATION PRIORITIES

The Coordinated Enrollment Subcommittee was tasked with developing and approving a set of publicly-funded seat (City Seats and ECEF) allocation priorities for the 2026-2027 Program Year considering the following potential funding scenarios:

- 2026-2027 Reduction in Funding
- 2026-2027 Stable Funding
- 2026-2027 Increase in Funding

During the December meeting, the subcommittee finalized and voted on these priorities.

2026-2027 PUBLICLY-FUNDED SEAT ALLOCATION PRIORITIES

Reduction in Funding

1. Current qualifying publicly-funded seat program participating providers (Existing providers) - Continuity of Program
2. Children currently in ECEF and City Seats (Continuity of Care)

Stable Funding

1. **Current qualifying publicly-funded seat program participating providers (Existing providers) - Continuity of Program**
2. **Children currently in ECEF and City Seats (Continuity of Care)**
3. **Continuity of Allocation for Existing Qualified providers**
4. Children currently in Early Head Start Seats in Existing CS and ECEF programs (Continuity of Care of EHS) - if seats become open from sites no longer eligible OR new qualifying providers if seats become open from sites no longer eligible

Increase in Funding

1. **Current qualifying publicly-funded seat program participating providers (Existing providers) - Continuity of Program**
2. **Children currently in ECEF and City Seats (Continuity of Care)**
3. **Continuity of Allocation for Existing Qualified providers**
4. Children currently in Early Head Start Seats in Existing CS and ECEF programs (Continuity of Care)
5. Siblings of current ECEF and City Seats children
6. Children of teachers who work in any Type III center
7. Infants born between July and August
8. New qualifying providers

VII. OPEN FORUM

FUTURE MEETINGS

Steering Committee Meetings

10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

- **January 21** @ NOLA-PS
- **March 18** @ NOLA-PS
- **April 15** @ NOLA-PS
- **May 13** @ TBD
- **June 10** @ TBD

Coordinated Enrollment Subcommittee Meetings

9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

- **January 13** @ NOLA-PS
- **April 7** @ NOLA-PS
- **May 5** @ NOLA-PS
- **June 2** @ NOLA-PS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT