NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK (NOEEN)

COORDINATED ENROLLMENT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

September 8, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MEMBER	ENTITY REPRESENTED
Thelma French	Early Care & Education Community (At Large)
Dr. Fateama Fulmore	NOLA Public Schools (NOLA-PS)
Amy Hook-Poirier	Orleans Parish Lead Agency
Jonika Julian-Harris	Orleans Parish Lead Agency
Kate Mehok	Cecil J. Picard LA 4 Early Childhood Program (LA 4)
Joy Mitchell	Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)
Emmy O'Dwyer	Early Care & Education Community (At Large)
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

ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

NOEEN NEW ORLEANS EARLY EDUCATION NETWORK

2027-2028 CFR PROCESS DEVELOPMENT

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2027-2028 CFR PROCESS DEVELOPMENT: OVERVIEW

Each fall the annual development of the annual NOEEN Coordinated Funding Request (CFR) Process begins.

This process begins with the following activities:

- The implementation of the CFR Working Group and resulting CFR recommendations
- The review of the prior year's CFR process and application
- The development of a CFR process framework and application for the current program year, focused on access for the following program year.

This year's CFR process will determine which sites are eligible to receive publicly funded seats during the 2027-2028 program year.

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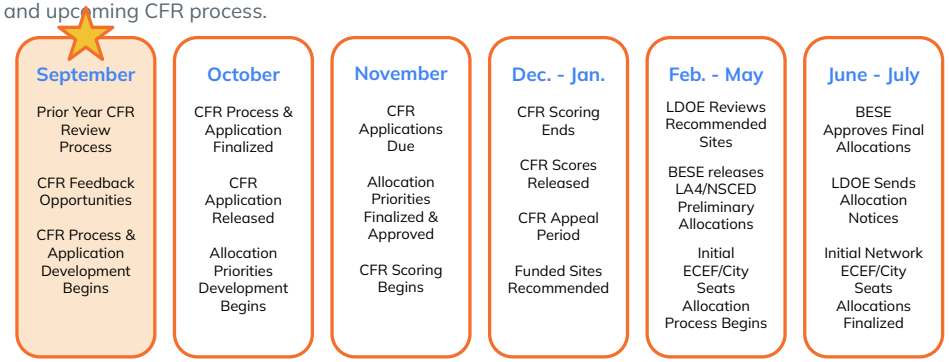
2027-2028 CFR PROCESS DEVELOPMENT: TIMELINE

The Coordinated Funding Request begins each fall for the following program year.

The CFR Process that is being developed now is for the 2027-2028 program year. This process begins by implementing opportunities for providers and stakeholders to provide feedback about the former and upcoming CFR process.



Final allocations for LA4 and NSECD are contingent upon state funding and approvals. ECEF and City Seats allocations are contingent upon local funding and NOEEN approval.

2027-2028 CFR PROCESS DEVELOPMENT: COORDINATED ENROLLMENT SUBCOMMITTEE ROLE

The Coordinated Enrollment Subcommittee is tasked with developing the framework for the 2027-2028 Coordinated Funding Request (CFR) Process.

During this meeting, subcommittee members will complete the following activities to develop the framework:

- Review the 2026-2027 CFR Process and propose changes to the 2027-2028 CFR Process.
- Review the 2026-2027 CFR Seat Application Rubric and propose changes to the 2027-2028 CFR Seat Application Rubric.

The Subcommittee will also review recommendations from the 2027-2028 CFR Working Group at each stage within the development of the 2027-2028 CFR Process framework.

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2027-2028 CFR PROCESS DEVELOPMENT: THE IMPORTANCE OF MAINTAINING THE PROCESS

The annual CFR process is crucial for a variety of reasons including but not limited to:

Ensuring annual Continuity of Care

Ensuring families and children have care from year to year

Responding to Emergencies and Closures

Being able to respond to unanticipated changes in access for children and families

Providing Community Wide Provider Stability

Continuing funding for participating sites while considering the viability of adding additional sites

Anticipating funding changes

Preparing for varying realities regarding the amount of funding available for early childhood access

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2027-2028 CFR PROCESS DEVELOPMENT: CURRENT FUNDING REALITIES

In October 2025, Leaders for a Better Louisiana published findings from Projecting the Future of Louisiana's Early Childhood Education Fund, a study that examined ECEF funding availability in future years.

This study found that:

- Current revenue sources are limited, providing little room for serving more children
  - The gap between revenues and expenditures is anticipated to grow as more communities raise matching dollars and local interest continues to grow
- The Early Childhood Education Fund is projected to run out in 2-4 years
  - If ECE Fund student enrollment grows by 10% each year, the funds run out in two years, by 2027-2028
  - If enrollment remains flat, the ECE Fund would run out in four years, closer to 2029-2030

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2026-2027 CFR WORKING GROUP PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

2026-2027 CFR PROCESS REVIEW: WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

The Coordinated Funding Request (CFR) Working Group was held on September 1, 2026.

19 providers met and developed recommendations for the 2027-2028 CFR Process, ensuring that the process continues to be:

- Responsive
- Impartial
- Transparent

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2026-2027 CFR PROCESS REVIEW: WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

The Working Group created preliminary recommendations in the following categories: Overall Feedback, CFR Scoring, CFR Seat Allocation Priorities, ECEF and City Seats Administration, and other recommendations.

- A list of all preliminary recommendations was included with the September meeting materials and will also be available on the NOEEN website.
- Today, the Subcommittee will review the overall feedback and the recommendations related to the CFR Scoring Process.
- Recommendations from the other categories will be reviewed in subsequent Subcommittee meetings.

These preliminary recommendations are currently under final review by the Working Group members and final recommendations will be shared at the October NOEEN Coordinated Enrollment Subcommittee and Steering Committee meetings.

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2027-2028 CFR WORKING GROUP PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

Overall Feedback

- The CFR Process is working.
- All portions of the CFR process should be fair and consider current early childhood provider, access, and funding realities.

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2026-2027 CFR PROCESS REVIEW

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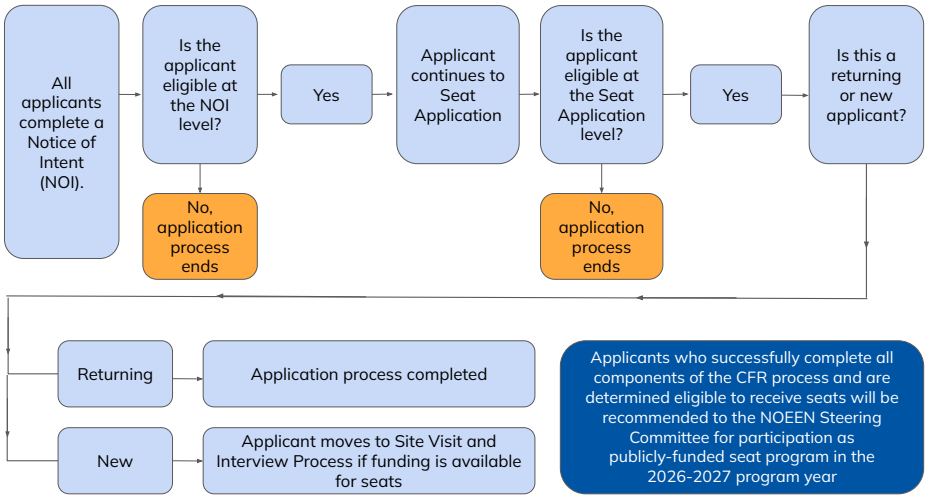
2026-2027 CFR PROCESS REVIEW: APPLICATION PROCESS MAP



CFR

NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI)

2026-2027 CFR PROCESS REVIEW: CFR NOTICE OF INTENT

In 2026-2027 NOEEN utilized a Notice of Intent as the first step of the CFR process for all providers, returning and new, who were interested in receiving publicly-funded seats in the 2026-2027 program year.

This **Notice of Intent** was implemented to enable the network to determine which providers met the minimum eligibility requirements for publicly-funded seat programs,

- eliminating the need for those who do not qualify to complete a more comprehensive application and
- reducing the administrative burden on the NOEEN CFR Review team, allowing them to focus on rating qualified applicants.

2026-2027 CFR PROCESS REVIEW: CFR NOTICE OF INTENT

Application Categories

The **2026-2027 CFR Notice of Intent** required all interested providers to provide information that was utilized to determine the provider's eligibility to participate in publicly-funded seat (City Seats, ECEF, LA4, NSECD) programs.

Interested providers fell into two categories:

1. **Returning Providers -** Providers with sites that are currently receiving publicly-funded seats
2. **New Providers -** Providers with sites that are not receiving publicly-funded (City Seats, ECEF, LA4, NSECD) or returning providers with new sites

This Notice of Intent was used to determine*:

- which **returning providers** met the minimum requirements for **Continuity of Care** without re-enrollment the 2026-2027 program year.
- which **returning providers** met the minimum requirements **to apply for additional publicly-funded seats** for the 2026-2027 program year, and
- which **new providers** met the minimum requirements **to apply for publicly-funded seats** for the 2026-2027 program year.

*Meeting the "minimum requirements to receive Continuity of Care Seats in 2026-2027 or meeting minimum requirements to apply for additional publicly-funded seats does not mean that programs are guaranteed to receive a 2026-2027 seat allocation. Additionally, all seat allocations are dependent on the availability of funding.

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2026-2027 CFR PROCESS REVIEW: CFR NOTICE OF INTENT

Notice Criteria

The **2026-2027 CFR Notice of Intent** included the following criteria to access interested provider eligibility:

- Site Type
- Ages of Children Served
- Days of Operation
- Hours of Operation
- 2024-25 Site Performance Profile Score
- Licensing Findings*

*Only applies to licensed sites

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2026-2027 CFR PROCESS REVIEW: CFR NOTICE OF INTENT

Application Scoring

The **2026-2027 CFR Notice of Intent** used a pass/fail scoring system.

Criteria	Interested providers must meet one or more of the following "pass" requirements per criteria to be eligible for seats in the 2026-2027 program year.
Site Type	Licensed Type III Child Care Center (ECEF, City Seats, NSECD) BESE-Approved Non-Public School (NSECD) BESE-Approved Public School (LA4)
Ages of Children Served**	6 week to 3-year-olds (City Seats, ECEF) 3- and/or 4-year-olds (NSECD) 4-year-olds (LA4)
Days of Operation*	Full day, full year, 12-month program five (5) days/week (City Seats) Full-time, year-round care (ECEF) Five (5) days/week (LA4, NSECD)
Hours of Operation	Full day child care program during all days and hours of operation (City Seats) At least 30 hours per week and at least six hours of continuous care minimum per weekday (ECEF) Six (6)-hour instructional period per day (LA4) A total 57,750 minutes of instructional time per program year - all which have to be within the regular school day (NSECD)

*with the exception of designated professional development days,holidays, or closure due to natural disasters
**based on application requirements

2026-2027 CFR PROCESS REVIEW: CFR NOTICE OF INTENT

Application Scoring

The **2026-2027 CFR Notice of Intent** used a pass/fail scoring system.

Criteria	Interested providers must meet one or more of the following "pass" requirements per criteria to be eligible for seats in the 2026-2027 program year.
24-25 Site Performance Profile Rating	Proficient or Higher (City Seats, ECEF, LA4, NSECD)
Additional Compliance Review	
Licensing Deficiency Review	The CFR Review Team will conduct a full LDOE Licensing Inspection Report audit encompassing the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 year to date for any licensed site as part of the approval process. Providers who have • findings related to failure to report Critical Incidents, and/or • repeat, unresolved findings, related to child health, safety - including supervision, and well-being will be subject to failing the initial application.* Although the review team is conducting this audit, applicants are also strongly encouraged to report this information as part of their application.

*The CFR Review Team in partnership with the Publicly-Funded Seat Administer have the authority to fail any applicant based on egregious licensing or findings.

2026-2027 CFR PROCESS REVIEW: CFR NOTICE OF INTENT

LA4 and NSECD Applicants

Based on the LDOE LA4 and NSECD allocation history, NOEEN allowed providers interested in receiving LA4 and NSECD seats to complete the Notice of Intent **only**.

- Providers who met all of the eligibility criteria in the Notice of Intent were included in the State-Level CFR request, ensuring that they were still eligible to receive seats if the state allocated additional seats to the network for the 2026-2027 program year.

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2027-2028 CFR WORKING GROUP PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

The following Working Group Preliminary Recommendations are related to the Notice of Intent (NOI):

- Remove the need to upload documents as part of the CFR Seat Application process.
- Remove indicators that consider licensing deficiencies from the CFR Seat Application Rubric.
- Remove the use of CLASS Scores in eligibility determination and scoring.*

**This recommendation cannot be implemented due to LDOE requirements.*

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NOEEN COORDINATED ENROLLMENT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Subcommittee is tasked with determining if and what changes are needed to the NOI process.

- Keep
- Remove
- Change

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SEAT APPLICATION

2026-2027 CFR PROCESS REVIEW: SEAT APPLICATION

Initially Approved Providers

Providers who met all of the requirements in the 2026-2027 CFR Notice of Intent then completed the **2026-2027 CFR Seat Application**.

- This application was used to determine which sites were eligible for seats, beyond Continuity of Care seats, in the 2026-2027 program year.*
- The same application was used for both returning and new providers to ensure there was an equitable process.

**If funding is available for additional seats for the 2026-2027 program year,*

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2026-2027 CFR PROCESS REVIEW: SEAT APPLICATION

Overview

The **2026-2027 CFR Seat Application** included the following:

- Five (5) Areas of Evaluation
  1. Program Operations
  2. Program Safety
  3. ECCE Workforce
  4. Child Experience
  5. Family Experience
- 15 Indicators total
  - 3 Indicators per Area
  - Aligned graduated expectations
- Four (4) Primary Evidence Types
  1. Self Report
  2. Program Handbook
  3. Staffing Plan
  4. Documentation
- Three (3) Point Rating Scale
  1. Meets Expectations*
  2. Exceeds Expectations
  3. Model Program

**A "0" score is assigned for indicators not supported by required evidence*

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2026-2027 CFR PROCESS REVIEW: SEAT APPLICATION

The 2026-2027 Level CFR Application included the following 15 Indicators:

Program Operations	Program Safety	ECCE Workforce	Child Experience	Family Experience
Days of Operation	Licensing Compliance	Teacher Credentials	Teacher Presence	Communication
Hours of Operation	Child to Staff Ratio and Group Size	Teacher Retention	Curriculum	Engagement
Enrollment Maintenance	Critical Incidents	Professional Development	High-Quality Teacher Child Interactions	Concerns & Complaints

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2026-2027 CFR PROCESS REVIEW: SEAT APPLICATION

Seat Application Scoring Rubric

The 2026-2027 CFR Application was scored using the **2026-2027 CFR Seat Application Evaluation Rubric**. This rubric was scored on the following scale:

0 = No evidence
1 = Meets Minimum Program Requirements
2 = Exceeds Minimum Program Requirements
3 = Model Program

The 2026-2027 CFR Seat Application Evaluation Rubric was scored by the CFR Review Team.

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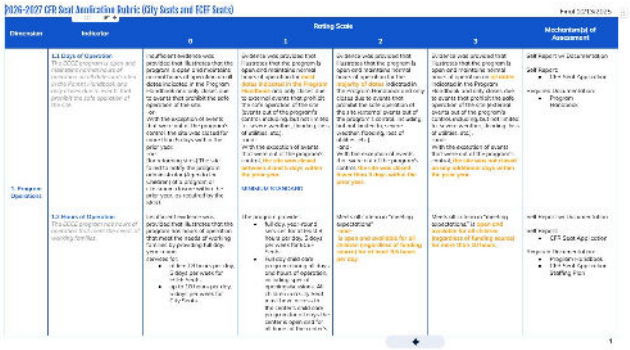
2026-2027 CFR PROCESS REVIEW: SEAT APPLICATION



2027-2028 CFR WORKING GROUP PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

The following Working Group Preliminary Recommendations are related to the Seat Application Rubric and scoring:

- Remove the training hours indicator in the CFR Seat Application Rubric.
- Remove the need to upload documents as part of the CFR Seat Application process.
- Remove indicators that consider licensing deficiencies from the CFR Seat Application Rubric.
- Remove the use of CLASS Scores in eligibility determination and scoring.*
- Incorporate feedback from coaches coach feedback into scoring.
- Incorporate parent feedback from surveys into scoring.
- Include a process for determining eligibility and differentiation of scores when sites receive the same CFR Seat Application score.
- Align CFR Seat Application scores with seat allocation priorities.

*This recommendation cannot be implemented due to LDOE requirements.

NOEEN COORDINATED ENROLLMENT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Subcommittee is tasked with determining if and what changes are needed to the Seat Application and Scoring Process.

- Keep
- Remove
- Change

NEW PROVIDER CRITERIA

2026-2027 CFR PROCESS REVIEW: NEW PROVIDER CRITERIA

New Providers

NOEEN considered additional criteria for the evaluation of new providers who met the minimum requirements of the Notice of Intent and the Seat Application. Additional requirements included:

- a site visit to evaluate the program operations and environment, and
- a formal interview to evaluate provider's ability to meet publicly-funded seat requirements

Further evaluation of these sites only occured if funding was available to place seats in new sites for the 2026-2027 program year.

2027-2028 CFR WORKING GROUP PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

The Working Group had no recommendations that were specific to the New Provider Criteria.

NOEEN COORDINATED ENROLLMENT SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

The Subcommittee is tasked with determining if and what changes are needed to the New Provider Criteria.

- Keep
- Remove
- Change

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2027-2028 CFR PROCESS NEXT STEPS

2027-2028 CFR PROCESS DEVELOPMENT: COORDINATED ENROLLMENT SUBCOMMITTEE ROLE

The Coordinated Enrollment Subcommittee will continue to develop the framework for the 2027-2028 Coordinated Funding Request (CFR) Process in October and November.

Activities planned for future Subcommittee meetings include, but are not limited to, reviewing:

- 2026-2027 CFR Seat Application Scoring data and developing scoring criteria for 2027-2028 site eligibility.
- current access data and using this data to inform allocation priorities and strategies for the 2027-2028 program year.
- 2026-2027 CFR Seat Allocation Priorities and proposing changes to the 2027-2028 CFR Process based on current access data and funding projections.

The Subcommittee will continue to review recommendations from the 2027-2028 CFR Working Group throughout the development of the 2027-2028 CFR Process framework.

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THANK YOU!

Please contact Amy Hook-Poirier if you have any questions about the CFR Process.
apoirier@agendaforchildren.org

2026-2027 ENROLLMENT UPDATES

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26-27 ENROLLMENT UPDATE AS OF SEPTEMBER 3, 2026

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	971	3	1000	97%	87	6	202	6	332	8	379	6		
*ECEF	721	4	818	88%	86	26	142	7	246	22	344	38		
EHS	627	3	645	97%	78	1	219	0	348	14				
HS	818	10	935	87%							486	44	449	63
LA4	1,151	17	1,280	90%									1280	112
NSECD	333	0	352	94%							68	0	284	19
Total Seats	4,621	37	5,030	92%	251	36	563	13	926	44	1,277	84	2,013	194
* Hoffman and seats given back – numbers slightly off					*86% Filled*		*98% Filled*		*95% Filled*		*92% Filled*		*90% Filled*	

NOLA PUBLIC SCHOOLS EARLY LEARNING & CHILD CARE — 2026-2027 Timeline

Sept 2026	Oct 2026	Nov 2026	Dec 2026	Jan 2027
Open Enrollment Fall Edition	27-28 Application Prep	Main Round Prep	Main Round Prep	Main Round Launch
Ongoing 26-27 verifications placements	*Ongoing 26-27 verifications placements*	*Ongoing 26-27 verifications placements*	*Ongoing 26-27 verifications placements*	*Ongoing 26-27 verifications placements*
Sept 1: *Begin Avela discussion*	***Oct 15:*** *Avela changes finalized*	*Media Campaign begins*	*Staff refresher training*	*In person verifications begin*
Sept 4: *LA4 audit*	***Oct 15:*** *EC School Exploration meetings begin*	*EC Mighty Minutes for Families of Tiny Tots*	***December 1*** *Guarantees uploaded*	***Jan 4:*** *Main Round Application Opens*
Sept 15: *EC School Exploration prep begins*			***December 8***	*Verifications begin*
Sept 15: *Review LA4 open seats for decisions*			*EC Mighty Minutes for Providers of Tiny Tots*	***Jan 9:*** *EC School Exploration Fair*
			December 10	
			Guarantee Office Hours	***Jan 15:*** *Discrepancy report due from providers*
			EC Mighty Minutes for Families of Tiny Tots	

Waitlist Management

Students with Placements

- Students with a placement in their first-choice center/school will be removed from all waitlist.
- Students with placements in their second through eight-choice center/school will remain waitlisted for their eligible, highest ranked center/school.

Students without Placements

- Students will remain waitlisted for all their school choices until they accept a placement

Waitlist Management

September 1, 2026

- Avela removed school choices from applications of students with **accepted seats**.

  This change is meant to help reduce waitlists and give students a better chance of securing a placement.

  Communication to families (email & text) will be sent via Avela, in addition to messaging on the Early Childhood website.

  We encourage families to use the Seat Availability Chart to make informed decisions based on waitlist length and available seats.

Early Childhood Friday Summer Events

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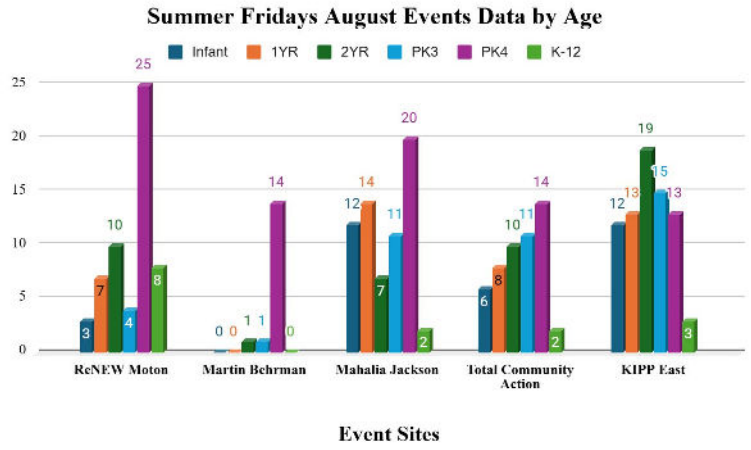

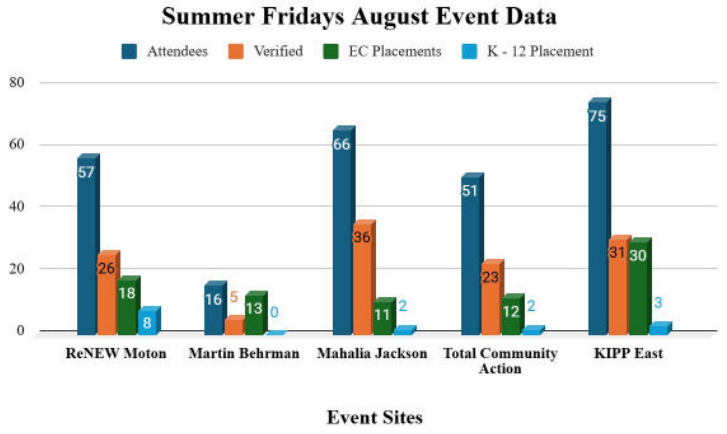

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Upcoming Events

Dryades YMCA

September 4, 2026

2220 Oretha Castle Haley Blvd

New Orleans, LA, 70113

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

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Clover (formerly Kingsley House)

September 11, 2026

1600 Constance St,

New Orleans, LA, 70130

9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

1:00 PM cutoff so we can finish everyone who made it before 1 by 1:30 PM – out of respect for host location

NOLA PUBLIC SCHOOLS | EARLY LEARNING & CHILD CARE

WE WOULD LIKE TO HOST AN EARLY LEARNING VERIFICATION EVENT AT YOUR SITE!

Are you interested in providing essential support to families in your community? The NOLA-PS Early Learning & Childcare Team is looking to partner with local centers and schools to host Early Learning Verification events.

Host an In-person Event

INTERESTED?

Contact us today by sending an email to hkelly@nolapublicschools.com (with the subject line ("Host Verification Event") to learn more and schedule an event at your site.

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Family Access

Video Campaign: = Before you know it...

- Big Idea: Early childhood is the beginning of a child's educational journey
- The Journey: Show the progression from infancy → toddlerhood → early learning → PK → kindergarten, with each stage building toward the next.
- Family Message: Before you know it, your child is starting their destination for education.
  - Help families understand what they can do now to prepare for what comes next.
- Campaign Content: Video, photography, digital content, and family-facing resources of...
  - Phase 1: Feature children from Campaign '23 showing just how quickly "before you know it" becomes right now.
  - Phase 2: Educators (EC, K, and 3rd)
- NOEEN Opportunity: Engage providers across the network to help identify educators, classrooms, and stories that bring the campaign to life.

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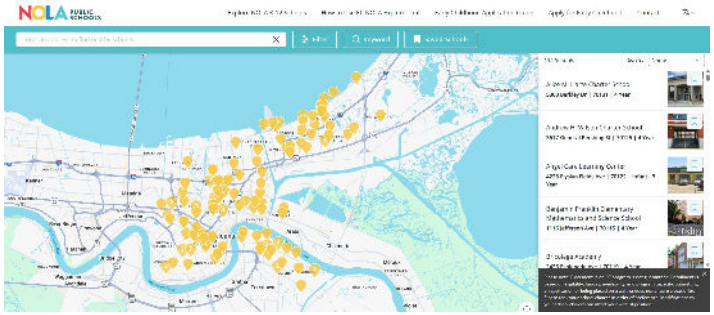
EC Explore Tool Update

Link: https://ecnola.explore.avela.org/



DISCUSSION

OPEN FORUM

FUTURE MEETINGS

Steering Committee Meetings
(Every Third Wednesday of the Month)
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

- September 16
- October 21
- November 18
- December 16
- January 20
- March 17
- April 21
- May 19
- June 16

Coordinated Enrollment Subcommittee Meetings (Moved to Every Second Wednesday of the Month)
9 a.m. to 11 a.m. @ NOLA-PS

- October 14
- November 11
- December 9
- January 13
- March 10
- April 14
- May 12
- June 9

Note: No meetings scheduled for July 2026 and February 2027

X. ADJOURNMENT