STUDENT APPLICATION PACKET

WELCOME TO THE LOUISIANA STUDENTS OF THE YEAR AWARDS PROGRAM!

This packet consolidates the most important information for student applicants. Please read all of the information in this document and review the LDOE 2021-2022 Students of the Year Selection Guidelines.

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OVERVIEW

The Louisiana Students of the Year Program has been recognizing outstanding students across the state for over 25 years. At the annual Louisiana State Students of the Year Awards Ceremony, the State Selection Committee recognizes the finalists from every region and names the new Louisiana Elementary, Middle and High School Student of the Year.

Louisiana public and approved nonpublic schools with grades 5, 8 and/or 12 may participate. Eligible students must be enrolled in grades 5, 8 or 12 with a minimum 3.1 cumulative grade point average for the prior three years and the first semester of the current academic year.

STEP 1 **Participating schools nominate one eligible student in each category.**

STEP 2 **Student nominees prepare their application portfolios.**

STEP 3 **Schools submit application portfolios to the School System-Level Selection Committee.**

STEP 4 **School System-Level Selection Committees advance one nominee per grade level.**

STEP 5 **Regional Selection Committees advance one nominee per grade level.**

STEP 6 **State Selection Committee announces a Louisiana Student of the Year in each category.**

Participating school systems create **written** selection guidelines and implement processes uniformly across schools and grade levels. These guidelines should include procedures for resolving issues and disputes related to candidate selection. Students and families should understand these processes **before** schools nominate students to the School System Level Committee.

Regional and state finalists participate in an interview process, which could be in-person or online (as conditions permit). As such, schools and school systems are strongly encouraged to incorporate student interviews into their selection processes.

PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENTS

Using the Appendices B and C in the Student of the Year Guidelines, students will submit the following for school system consideration:

1. The **student data application/release** form is signed by the parent.
2. Attach a photocopy of the academic and attendance record, report cards and/or high school transcripts reflecting academic performance in previous years—including the first semester grades of the current grade level; scores for all **required statewide or nonpublic school annual assessments** taken prior to the current school year; scores for any regional and national tests (AP, CLEP, ACT, PSAT, SAT, IBCs); TOPS-aligned dual enrollment coursework; TOPS/TOPS Tech eligibility status; work-based experience documentation; associate degree coursework/status; other pertinent artifacts that document academic and CTE accomplishments. If scores are not available, please indicate the reason.
3. Include a typed or handwritten autobiographical **sketch** that includes family history, interests, career aspirations, etc. The students should be encouraged to address at least three or more issues that are important to them and that have had an influence on their lives.
4. The **application form** that includes evidence of the student's leadership ability, participation in activities, honors, awards, citizenship and service involvement.
5. A **current school photograph** or similar kind of print is incorportated. Regional and state finalists will need to submit an electronic photo as part of their application.

PROGRAM TIMELINE

October 15, 2021	School systems, CMOs, and dioceses submit names of local and regional chairpersons to the LDOE or the diocesan office by this date.
November 10, 2021	LDOE sends the names of the zone and regional chairpersons to the school system and CMO coordinators by this date.
November–December	Schools select nominees and submit names to the School System-Level Selection Committees.
December 10, 2021	Each CMO selects and submits one nomination per grade level to the Charter Zone Selection Committee coordinators.
January 3-7, 2021	CMO Zone Committees select nominees.
January 19, 2022	School System-Level Selection Committees submit nomination forms to the Regional Student Selection Committee chairperson by this date.
January 24-February 25, 2022	Regional Selection Committees review application portfolios, interview nominees and score new regional writing samples.
March 2, 2022	Regional chairpersons electronically submit nomination forms and portfolios to the state program coordinator by this date.
March 4, 2022	LDOE releases the names of the twenty-one regional nominees.
March 14-April 13, 2022	State Selection Committee reviews application portfolios, conducts interviews and scores new state writing samples.
April 13, 2022	State Selection Committee names the Elementary, Middle/Junior High, and High School Students of the Year.

PORTFOLIO SUBMISSIONS

Appendices B and C of the Students of the Year Guidelines contain detailed instructions for creating and submitting application portfolios. What follows is a summary of the school, school system, and regional submission processes.

SCHOOL SUBMISSION TO SCHOOL SYSTEM

- ✓ application form
- ✓ autobiographical sketch
- ✓ academic and attendance records
- ✓ photograph

SCHOOL SYSTEM ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION TO REGION OR CHARTER ZONE

- ✓ all of the above
- ✓ new writing sample

REGIONAL ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION TO STATE

- ✓ all of the above
- ✓ new writing sample

CONTACT

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Students of the Year 2022 APPLICATION

Type required information into each field of this form and include it in the application portfolio.

1. Attach the following:
   a. A photocopy of the academic and attendance record, report cards and/or high school transcripts reflecting academic performance in previous years--including the first semester grades of the current grade level; scores for **all required statewide or nonpublic school annual assessments** taken prior to the current school year; scores for any regional and national tests (AP, CLEP, ACT, PSAT, SAT, IBCs); TOPS-aligned dual enrollment coursework; TOPS/TOPS Tech eligibility status; work-based experience documentation; associate degree coursework/status; other pertinent artifacts that document academic and CTE accomplishments. If scores are not available, please indicate the reason.
   b. An autobiographical sketch, according to the guidelines
   c. Electronic current school photograph or similar kind of print
   d. Signatures of the parent/guardian and candidate
2. Submit the completed application portfolio to the local student Selection Committee.

APPLICANT'S NAME: *(First Middle Last)*		**GRADE:** *(5, 8, or 12)*
HOME ADDRESS:		
CITY:	**STATE:** Louisiana	**ZIP:**
PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME(S):		
HOME PHONE:	**PARENT CELL PHONE:**	**PARENT WORK PHONE:**
PARENT EMAIL:		
SCHOOL NAME:		
PRINCIPAL'S NAME:	**PRINCIPAL'S EMAIL:**	
SCHOOL MAILING ADDRESS:		**SCHOOL PHONE:**
CITY:	**STATE:** Louisiana	**ZIP:**
SCHOOL SYSTEM:	**SCHOOL SYSTEM SUPERINTENDENT/CEO NAME:**	

PARENT OR GUARDIAN'S STATEMENT: In accordance with La. R.S. 17:3914 (Louisiana Student Privacy Act), I hereby grant permission for my child to participate in the Louisiana Students of the Year Awards Program. I further authorize access and use of any school records and demographic information necessary for this competition and the subsequent press release information about this competition concerning my child to the universities and to the news media.

PARENT OR GUARDIAN'S NAME TYPED:	**PARENT OR GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE:** X

STUDENT'S STATEMENT: I certify that the information on this application is correct and that all work submitted by me during this competition is indeed mine.

DATE:	**APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE:** X

Students of the Year 2022

LIST OF LEADERSHIP, ACTIVITIES, RECOGNITION, & AWARDS

LEADERSHIP: List all elected or appointed leadership positions held in the school and community. Only those positions in which you were directly responsible for directing or motivating others should be included (e.g. elected student body, class or organization officer [BETA, NHS, FFA, Skills USA, JAG, FBLA, FCA, Drama, etc.], committee chairperson, team captain, community leader, etc.)

All students must complete this section, if applicable.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION LEADERSHIP POSITION	YEAR	ACTIVITY OR ORGANIZATION

EXTRA-CURRICULAR LEADERSHIP POSITION	YEAR	ACTIVITY OR ORGANIZATION

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP POSITION	YEAR	ACTIVITY OR ORGANIZATION

Students of the Year 2022

LIST OF LEADERSHIP, ACTIVITIES, RECOGNITION, & AWARDS

ACTIVITIES/SERVICE/CITIZENSHIP: List all activities in which you have participated that demonstrate a contribution to the school, church or community: for example, Boy or Girl Scouts, work-based leadership internship or experience, volunteer groups, school organizations, library or clerical volunteer without credit, peer model or leader in a substance abuse prevention program, clubs, teams, musical groups, etc., beginning with the most recent.

SCHOOL-BASED ACTIVITIES/ORGANIZATIONS	YEAR	MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENT

Students of the Year 2022

LIST OF LEADERSHIP, ACTIVITIES, RECOGNITION, & AWARDS

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	YEAR	MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENT

Students of the Year 2022

LIST OF LEADERSHIP, ACTIVITIES, RECOGNITION, & AWARDS

COMMUNITY/CHURCH ACTIVITIES/ORGANIZATIONS	YEAR	MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENT

LIST OF LEADERSHIP, ACTIVITIES, RECOGNITION, & AWARDS

RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS: List below any honors or recognitions that you have received to support your application for Student of the Year, beginning with the most recent.

SCHOOL RECOGNITIONS/ HONORS/AWARDS	YEAR	ACTIVITY/ORGANIZATION

Students of the Year 2022

LIST OF LEADERSHIP, ACTIVITIES, RECOGNITION, & AWARDS

ACADEMIC COMPETITION/AWARDS	YEAR	MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENT

Students of the Year 2022

LIST OF LEADERSHIP, ACTIVITIES, RECOGNITION, & AWARDS

COMMUNITY RECOGNITIONS/ HONORS/AWARDS	YEAR	MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENT