

## RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 403 (SB 27)

2025 Regular Session

Talbot

Existing law authorizes a nonrefundable tax credit for donations a taxpayer makes to a school tuition organization (STO) that provides scholarships to qualified students to attend a qualified school. The credit is equal to the actual amount of the taxpayer's donation to the STO, excluding administrative costs. Existing law further requires that the taxpayer file a Louisiana income tax return in order to qualify for the credit.

New law retains existing law.

Prior law authorized the distribution of scholarship payments in August, November, February, and May of each year to a parent of a qualified student.

New law authorizes the distribution of scholarship payments to a parent of a qualified student on a quarterly basis each year.

Prior law required the parent of a qualified student to restrictively endorse the check for deposit into the account of the school.

New law requires the parent to approve payment for deposit into the school's account and allows the parent of a qualified student to electronically endorse the check for deposit by the school if the payment is made by check. Further allows the parent of a qualified student to approve payment in a form other than by check.

Prior law prohibited a qualified student from receiving a scholarship from a STO and also receiving any other publicly funded scholarship, voucher, or other form of financial assistance for the purpose of attending a nonpublic school.

New law repeals prior law prohibition and authorizes a qualified student who receives a scholarship from a STO to also receive any other publicly funded scholarship, voucher, or other form of financial assistance specific to that student for purposes of attending a nonpublic school. Further restricts the sum an eligible student can receive from STOs and other publicly funded scholarships, vouchers, and other forms of financial assistance to the actual tuition and fees at the qualified school.

Prior law requires qualified schools to annually administer the state test associated with the school and district accountability system to measure learning gains in math and language arts to all participating students in grades that require testing under the state's accountability testing laws for public schools.

New law requires qualified schools to annually administer either any examination in English Language Arts and mathematics required pursuant to the school and district accountability system at the prescribed grade level or a nationally norm-referenced test or assessment approved by the state board.

Existing law requires the Dept. of Education to verify that each qualified student has received scholarships not to exceed actual tuition and fees at the qualified school or 80% of the state average MFP per pupil funding amount for the previous year for a qualified student enrolled in K through 8th grade, or 90% of the state average MFP per pupil funding amount for the previous year for a qualified student enrolled in 9th through 12th grade.

New law clarifies that the Dept. of Education is to verify that each qualified student has not received scholarships from school tuition organizations exceeding these amounts and otherwise retains existing law.

New law requires the Dept. of Education to verify that the total of scholarships received by each qualified student from STOs and any other publicly funded scholarships, vouchers, or other forms of financial assistance for purposes of attending a nonpublic school does not exceed actual tuition and fees at the qualified school.

Effective June 20, 2025.

(Amends R.S. 47:6301(B)(1)(c)(v), (2)(a)(ii), and (3)(b) and (C)(1)(d)(i))