

Revenue Information Bulletin No. 25-031
December 10, 2025¹

Income Tax

Credit for Donations to Public Schools

Purpose

A credit for donations to public schools (DPS) was authorized by Act 423 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature. This nonrefundable tax credit is available to individuals and businesses that donate to eligible public schools. It can be applied against income taxes for the year the donation is made, including corporation, individual, fiduciary and partnership taxes. This bulletin explains how taxpayers can qualify for and claim this credit.

Credit for Donations to Public Schools

Act 423 enacts R.S. 47:6302, which authorizes the income tax credit for donations to public schools. The credit equals 95% of the qualified donation and is earned in the year the donation is made. It applies to taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, and before January 1, 2028.

Qualifications

To qualify for the credit, a Louisiana income tax filer must donate to a public school that received a “D” or “F” grade in the most recent year according to the Louisiana School and District Accountability System. Donations to schools graded “A,” “B,” or “C” are not eligible for the credit.

The donation must be used by the school for one or more of the following qualifying expenses:

1. Purchasing instructional materials and classroom supplies to enhance student learning;
2. Establishing or maintaining tutorial programs to improve academic performance;
3. Establishing or maintaining in-school child care programs for student parents;
4. Establishing or maintaining school-based health clinics; or

¹ Revised December 2025 to provide further clarification regarding administration of credit cap provisions.

5. Meeting the requirements for academically unacceptable schools under Chapter 16 of LAC 28:XI.

Public School Documentation Requirements

Beginning January 1, 2026, any eligible public school that receives a qualifying donation must issue a receipt to the donor at the time of the donation using Form R-90160. The receipt must include:

- the school's most recent letter grade according to the Louisiana School and Accountability System at the time of the donation;
- the amount of the donation; and
- a certification that the donation will be used by the public school for one or more of the authorized purposes.

In addition, the governing authority of each eligible public school (school board, board of directors, etc.) that receives qualifying donations during the calendar year must electronically submit a report to the Louisiana Department of Revenue and the Louisiana Department of Education by the last day of February of the following year. Reports submitted to the Department of Revenue must be submitted through the [Louisiana Taxpayer Access Point \(LaTap\)](#).

The report must be prepared by a certified public accountant and must include:

1. The name and address of the public school;
2. The total amount and number of donations received during the prior calendar year; and
3. An itemized list of each donation, including:
 - a. The donor's name and address;
 - b. The donor's federal employer identification number or last four digits of the Social Security number; and
 - c. The amount donated by each taxpayer during the prior calendar year.

A Department-provided receipt (Form R-90160) will be published on or before January 1, 2026, to ensure that qualifying public schools will have access to the required form when receiving donations.

Donor Application Requirement

Between January 1 and the last day of February of each year, taxpayers must submit a DPS Application electronically, through [LaTap](#) for credits earned in the previous calendar year. The first application period will open on January 1, 2027, and end February 28, 2027, for credits earned in 2026.

Applications must be complete and should include a copy of the receipt (Form R-90160) issued to the taxpayer by the qualifying public school. The Department will send each approved applicant a DPS approval letter listing the approved credit amount and the taxable period against which the nonrefundable credit may be used. If denied, a denial letter providing the reason(s) for denial will be sent.

Donor Procedures for Claiming the Credit

To claim a credit, the taxpayer must file a Louisiana income tax return claiming Code 195 on the *Nonrefundable Priority One Credit Schedule*. The approval letter issued by LDR must be submitted with the tax return.

Credit Cap

Louisiana Revised Statute 47:6302 sets a \$1 million cap on the amount of credits that may be granted by the Department per calendar year. For purposes of cap administration, DPS tax credit applications shall be approved on a first-come, first-served basis according to the date the Department receives a completed application. An application is complete only when all required information has been received by the Department. Applications received on the same business day shall be treated as received at the same time.

If the total amount of credit requests received on the same business day exceeds the amount of tax credits available under the annual cap, the available credits shall be allocated on a pro rata basis in proportion to the amount requested. The remaining portion of approved credits shall be treated as having been received on the first day of the subsequent calendar year, as authorized by statute

If total credit requests received in a calendar year exceed the amount authorized to be granted, the excess shall be treated as having been received on the first day of the subsequent calendar year, as authorized by statute.

Richard Nelson
Secretary