



Parental Access to Instructional Materials and Parents' Bill of Rights

Sci High values the partnership between families and our school. Louisiana law gives parents and legal guardians specific rights to review instructional materials, access their child's school records, and receive information about their child's education.

This page provides plain-language summaries and the full text of Louisiana Revised Statutes 17:355 and 17:406.9.

Parental Access to Instructional Materials

Legal citation: La. R.S. 17:355

Parents and legal guardians have the right to review instructional materials used in their child's education and to review surveys before they are administered or distributed to students.

Instructional materials include textbooks, supplementary materials, teaching aids, software, online resources, and other materials that support learning.

- Requesting access: Parents may request access to instructional materials. In-person review takes place during reasonable hours established by school policy.
- Online access: The law requires online access to curricula adopted under La. R.S. 17:351.1. Other instructional materials may be available for in-person review under applicable school policies.
- Copies and fees: In-person viewing and online access are free. Reasonable copying fees may apply when parents request paper copies. Parents may also use their own mobile device or another copying device to make copies on school premises.
- Tests and assessments: Access to assessments, including nonsecure tests and assessment answer keys, is subject to the governing authority's discretion and may be limited to in-person viewing.

To request access to instructional materials or assistance with these rights, please contact the Sci High main office.

Parents' Bill of Rights for Public Schools

Legal citation: La. R.S. 17:406.9

Parents of public school students who have not reached the age of majority have the right to:



- Examine the textbooks, curriculum, and supplemental materials used in their child's classroom.
- Inspect their child's school records and receive copies within 10 business days of submitting a written request. Requests may be submitted electronically or on paper, and parents do not have to appear in person to request records or validate a request. Electronic copies are free; reasonable fees may apply to paper copies.
- Receive notice when medical services are offered to their child. If emergency treatment is necessary, notification must occur as soon as practicable afterward.
- Receive notice if a criminal action is deemed to have been committed against or by their child.
- Receive notice if law enforcement personnel question their child, except when the parent has been accused of abusing or neglecting the child.
- Receive notice if their child is taken or removed from campus without parental permission.
- Have their child protected from discrimination based on the family's sincerely held religious beliefs.
- Receive written notice and the option to opt their child out of surveys concerning sexual experiences or attractions; family beliefs, morality, religion, or political affiliations; or mental health or psychological problems of the student or a family member.
- Receive written notice and the option to opt their child out of instruction on topics associated with sexual activity.
- Receive the annual school calendar at least 30 days before the school year begins, with written notice of revisions as soon as feasible.
- Receive annually in writing, or view on the school's website, information about required fees, their purpose and use, and how economic hardships may be addressed.
- Receive annually in writing, or view on the school's website, a description of required student uniforms.
- Be informed when their child's academic performance could threaten promotion to the next grade and be offered an in-person meeting with the classroom teacher and school leader to discuss available support.
- Have their child protected from discrimination through teaching that the child is currently or destined to be oppressed or an oppressor because of race or national origin.

Exception concerning certain records: A school is not required to release a student's medical, health, or mental health counseling records to a parent who is the target of an ongoing child abuse or neglect investigation by law enforcement or the Department of Children and Family Services, unless the parent obtains a court order.

The summaries above are provided for convenience. The full statutory text follows.

Full Text: La. R.S. 17:355

§355. Parental access to instructional materials



A. A parent of a child attending a public elementary or secondary school shall be entitled to access to instructional materials as provided in this Section.

B. A parent is entitled to:

(1) Review instructional materials used by or administered to the parent's child.

(2) Review any survey before the survey is administered or distributed by a school to a student.

C.(1) Each local school board shall adopt rules and policies for each school to make instructional materials readily available for review as provided in this Section. The rules shall specify reasonable hours for in-person review. The rules shall require that the school provide access to instructional materials, including online access, to a parent upon request.

(2)(a) If a parent requests a paper copy of material that can be readily copied using school equipment, such copy shall be provided. The rules shall establish reasonable and customary fees to be collected by the school to cover the cost of providing such copies.

(b) No fee shall be charged to a parent for in-person viewing of their child's instructional materials if the parent does not request that copies are made of those materials.

(c) No fee shall be imposed when a parent accesses instructional materials online.

(d) No other provision of law or school board policy shall prohibit or interfere with a parent's ability to make his own copies on school premises via mobile or other device that has the capability of making copies. The principal of each school shall ensure that the school complies with such rules.

(3) Assessments of academic knowledge, skills, or abilities, including nonsecure tests, assessments, and assessment answer keys, may be made available to parents at the discretion of the local school board and may include only in-person viewing at the school.

(4) The requirement to provide online access to instructional materials shall be limited to curricula that are adopted in accordance with R.S. 17:351.1. Other instructional materials may be made available to a parent in-person in accordance with local rules and policies adopted by the local school board.

(5)(a) Each local school board shall submit an electronic copy or a digital link to rules and policies, that are adopted pursuant to this Section, to the state Department of Education. The submission shall include the reasonable and customary fee schedule which may be charged to the parent pursuant to this Section.

(b) The department shall submit a report to the Senate Committee on Education and the House Committee on Education by March 9, 2026, as to compliance with this Section by the local school boards. The report shall include a copy of each policy and the reasonable and customary fee schedules permitted pursuant to this Section.



D. For purposes of this Section:

(1) "Instructional materials" means content that conveys the knowledge or skills of a subject in the school curriculum through a medium or a combination of media for conveying information to a student. It also includes any survey administered to a student. The term also includes books, supplementary materials, teaching aids, computer software, magnetic media, DVD, CD-ROM, computer courseware, online material, information, or services, or an electronic medium or other means of conveying information to the student or otherwise contributing to the learning process.

(2) "Parent" means the parent or legal guardian of a child.

(3) "Survey" means any evaluative instrument or questionnaire that is not an assessment of academic knowledge, skills, or abilities, administered as part of a state, national, or international assessment or by itself.

Acts 2014, No. 436, §1, eff. Aug. 1, 2014; Acts 2025, No. 103, §1.

Official source: Louisiana Legislature — La. R.S. 17:355

Full Text: La. R.S. 17:406.9

§406.9. Parents' Bill of Rights for Public Schools

A. The legislature finds all of the following:

- (1) That parental involvement is a significant factor in increasing student achievement.
- (2) That access to student information encourages greater parental involvement.

B. Parents of public school children who have not reached the age of majority shall have all of the following rights:

- (1) To examine the textbooks, curriculum, and supplemental material used in their child's classroom.
- (2) To inspect their child's school records, and to receive a copy of their child's records within ten business days of submitting a written request, either electronically or on paper. Parents shall not be required to appear in person for the purposes of requesting or validating a request for their child's school records. There shall be no charge for a parent to receive such records electronically. Any charges for a paper copy of such records shall be reasonable and set forth in the official rules and regulations of the school governing authority. School records shall include all of the following:
 - (a) Academic records, including but not limited to results of interim or benchmark assessments.
 - (b) Medical or health records.



- (c) Records of any mental health counseling.
 - (d) Records of any vocational counseling.
 - (e) Records of discipline.
 - (f) Records of attendance.
 - (g) Records associated with a child's screening for learning challenges, exceptionalities, plans for an Individualized Education Program, or Individual Accommodation Plan.
 - (h) Any other student-specific file, document, or other materials that are maintained by the school.
- (3) To be notified when medical services are being offered to their child, except where emergency medical treatment is required. In cases where emergency medical treatment is required, the parent shall be notified as soon as practicable after the treatment is rendered.
- (4) To be notified if a criminal action is deemed to have been committed against their child or by their child.
- (5) To be notified if law enforcement personnel question their child, except in cases where the parent has been accused of abusing or neglecting the child.
- (6) To be notified if their child is taken or removed from the school campus without parental permission.
- (7) That the school shall not discriminate against their child based upon the sincerely held religious beliefs of the child's family.
- (8) To receive written notice and the option to opt their child out of any surveys that include questions about any of the following:
- (a) The student's sexual experiences or attractions.
 - (b) The student's family beliefs, morality, religion, or political affiliations.
 - (c) Any mental health or psychological problems of the student or a family member.
- (9) To receive written notice and have the option to opt their child out of instruction on topics associated with sexual activity.
- (10) To receive from the school the annual school calendar, no later than thirty days prior to the beginning of the school year, and to be notified in writing as soon as feasible of any revisions to such calendar. Such a calendar shall be posted to the school's website and shall include, at a minimum, student attendance days and any event that requires parent or student attendance outside of normal school days or hours.



(11) To receive in writing each year or to view on the school's website a comprehensive listing of any required fee and its purpose and use and a description of how economic hardships may be addressed.

(12) To receive in writing each year or to view on the school's website a description of the school's required uniform for students.

(13) To be informed if their child's academic performance is such that it could threaten the child's ability to be promoted to the next grade level and to be offered an in-person meeting with the child's classroom teacher and school leader to discuss any resources or strategies available to support and encourage the child's academic improvement.

(14) That the school shall not discriminate against their child by teaching the child that the child is currently or destined to be oppressed or to be an oppressor based on the child's race or national origin.

C. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, a public school shall not be required to release any records or information regarding a student's medical or health records or mental health counseling records to a parent during the pendency of an investigation of child abuse or neglect conducted by any law enforcement agency or the Department of Children and Family Services where the parent is the target of the investigation, unless the parent has obtained a court order.

Acts 2014, No. 699, §1; Acts 2018, No. 547, §1; Acts 2024, No. 326, §1.

Official source: [Louisiana Legislature — La. R.S. 17:406.9](#)