



**School System and Charter School**

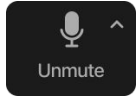
**Business Manager and Financial Officer**

**Monthly Call Meeting**

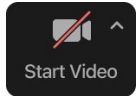
**August 2025**



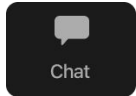
# Zoom Meeting Preparation



- Please make sure your phone or computer is muted to minimize background noise.
  - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Mute.”



- Please make sure you have turned off your camera to save bandwidth and prevent any connectivity issues.
  - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Stop Video.”



- Please submit questions during the presentation in the “Chat” function located on the bottom of your screen.

If you require an interpreter or have other accessibility needs for future LDOE meetings, please contact [LDOEcommunications@la.gov](mailto:LDOEcommunications@la.gov).



# Agenda

- Required Submissions
- State Grants Update
- Federal Grants Update
- MFP Formula Update
- EdLinks AFR Reporting Update
- Important Reminders
- Call Dates and Slide Deck Links

Please contact [schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov)



# Required Submissions



# Periodic Expenditure Reports (PERs)

- PERs are currently not being submitted by many school systems on or before deadline.
- Non-submission is a problem because PERs support education requirements for federal grants.
- Tools are being implemented to encourage school systems to comply with the due dates to include but not limited to reminder emails from eGMS.
  - PER Submission Deadlines are:
    - **3/31 due 4/15**
    - **6/30 due 7/15**
    - **9/30 due 11/15**
    - **12/31 due 1/15**
- Please arrange your work plans such that compliance with the required deadlines can be improved.

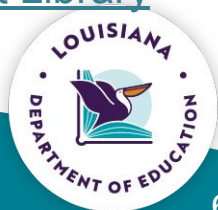
Please contact [ldoe.federalclaims@la.gov](mailto:ldoe.federalclaims@la.gov)



# School Systems General Fund Budgets

- September 15 - deadline for each city and parish school board to adopt a budget for the General Fund and each Special Revenue fund for the fiscal year.
- September 30 - deadline to submit the officially adopted budget and statute-required documents to LDOE.
- Required documents to be submitted to the LDOE include:
  - General Fund Budget Form A (Excel Document)
  - School System Adopted Budget
  - Signed and dated signature sheet.
- General Fund Budget documents can be found on the [Business Manager Support Library](#) webpage.

Please contact [schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov)

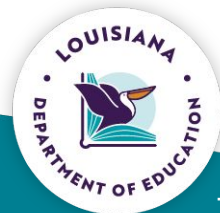


# 2025-2026 Data Collection

The 2025-2026 students and staff data collection opened on August 11. Data Managers are encouraged to submit data daily so that EdLink 360's live dashboards are current and useful for Data Managers and for System & School Leaders.

- October 1 MFP/IDEA
  - August 11: Collection opened
  - October 22 by 5 p.m.: Deadline for files to be submitted
  - October 23: Collection closed; snapshot taken

Please visit [Data System Support](#) for more information.



# MFP Data Collection

- The calculation of the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) formula is dependent on student and staffing data.
- BESE regulations state that:
  - It is the responsibility of the school systems and schools to submit to LDOE all necessary and required information, in a timely manner and in the format required, for the computation of the Minimum Foundation Program formula allocations.



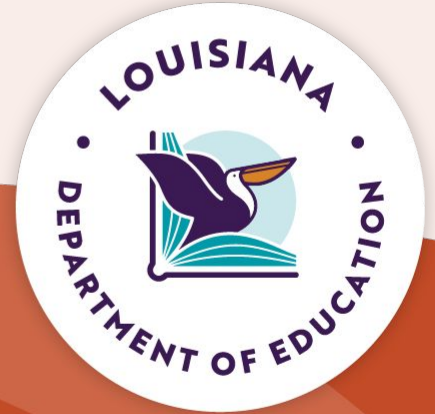


# State Grants



# State Grants - FY 2025-2026

## Approved During Legislative Session



# State Grants in FY 2025-26

- ❖ Highlights of state grants from 2025 Legislative Session:
  - Certificated and Support Staff Stipend Allocation (\$2,000/\$1,000)
  - Differentiated Compensation Allocation
  - High Dosage Tutoring Allocation
  - Internship Allocation
  - Agriculture Allocation

Please contact [schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov)



# Certificated and Support Stipends

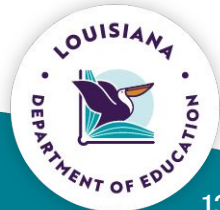


# Certificated & Support Stipends

- Provides for one time stipend payments.
- \$2000 for certificated employees and \$1000 for support employees
- Calculation methodology and data mirror the MFP pay raise allocation
- Includes retirement benefits at the FY 25-26 retirement rates.
- Stipends must be distributed no later than December 15, 2025.

Guidance document and allocation will be posted in the weekly LDOE newsletter and Business Manager Support Library in early September. Funds will be released to school systems on September 5, 2025.

Please contact [schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov)



# Differentiated Compensation Allocation

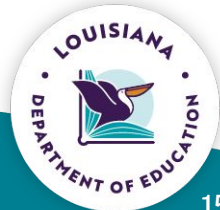


# Differentiated Compensation

- Provides funding to allow school systems to address their unique market needs in the recruitment and retention of teachers.
- Allocation methodology will be based on the number of teachers as reported in the latest available staffing data.
- Includes retirement benefits at the FY 25-26 retirement rates.

Guidance document and allocation will be posted in the weekly LDOE newsletter and Business Manager Support Library in early September. Funds will be released to school systems on September 12, 2025.

Please contact [schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov)



# Differentiated Compensation

- Allocations may be utilized in **any** of the following areas:
  - Stipends for teachers in critical shortage area as determined by BESE and/or;
  - Stipends for Highly Effective Teachers (as defined in R.S. 17:381 through 3095 Bulletin 130. Section 309), and/or;
  - Stipends for teachers working in High Need schools defined as those with an Economically Disadvantaged rate of 85% or greater, and/or;
  - Stipends for teacher leadership positions such as classroom teachers appointed to lead weekly teacher collaborations, or serve as coaches.

Please contact [schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov)





# Approving & Releasing Stipend Payments

- The certificated/support stipends and the differentiated compensation stipends must be presented and adopted by school boards prior to compensating employees (required by Act 1 of 2012).
- Both stipends must be reported in the system's salary schedule documents notated as stipends, and should not be added to the permanent salary pay scales.
- Louisiana Legislative Auditors will include testing for proper approval during Single Audit testing through State Agreed Upon Procedures.
- Independent auditors engaged to perform Single Audit will test for compliance with this requirement.

Please contact [schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov)



# High Dosage Tutoring Allocation

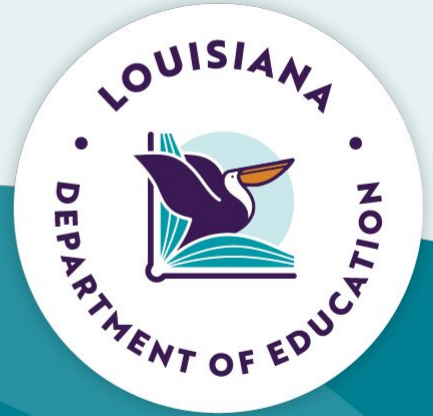


# High Dosage Tutoring Allocation

- Projected Award notification for FY 2026 High Dosage Tutoring allocations will be released within the next few weeks.
  - **Note: 2025-2026 allocation release will be contingent upon the completion of 2024-2025 quarter 4 fiscal reporting in eGMS**
- Systems should develop plans for tutoring initiatives, using the projected amount.
- Final award amounts will be released pending legislative appropriation and board approval in August 2025.
- Upon approval of the tutoring plan submitted in eGMS (due September 15), funding will be provided to school systems.
- To support the planning process, please reference the [25-26 Accelerate: High Dosage Tutoring Workbook](#).



# Internships and Apprenticeships Allocations



# Internships and Apprenticeships Allocations

- HB1 provides a combined \$2M for FY25-26 Internship and Apprenticeship programs
- HB 1 provides one-time legislative funding in the amount of \$1,000 per course/student for internship experiences.
  - Reporting window closes in November
- HB1 also provides \$3,500 times the number of students enrolled in eligible rural apprenticeship programs and \$2,500 times the number of students for non-rural apprenticeship programs.
  - Reporting window closes in October

Please contact [fastfoward@la.gov](mailto:fastfoward@la.gov)



# Agriculture Allocation



# Agriculture Allocation

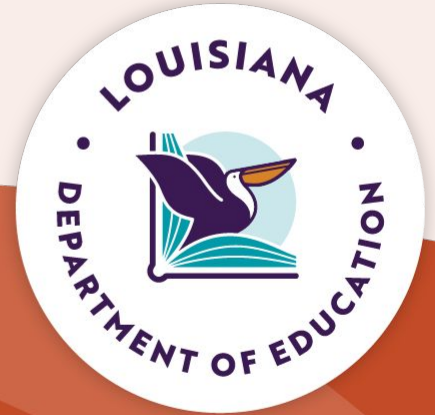
- HB 1 of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature allocated \$850,000 of state funds for the purchase of instructional materials and supplies for each student enrolled in a vocational agriculture, agribusiness, or agriscience course, as of the most recent October 1 count.
  - **Are these funds part of the MFP?** No, these funds are completely separate from any MFP funds.
  - **Are these funds part of any Federal grant?** No, these funds are state funds.
  - **When does the department usually release these funds to the school systems?** These funds are usually released in April of each fiscal year.

Please contact [LDOEMFPHelpDesk@la.gov](mailto:LDOEMFPHelpDesk@la.gov)



# State Grants - FY 2025-26

## Continuing Allocations





# State Grants in FY 2025-2026

## ❖ Continuing Allocations:

- Education Excellence Fund (EEF)
- Special Education Camera Maintenance
- Professional Improvement Program (PIP)
- Nonpublic Textbook and Textbook Administration

Please contact [schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov)



# EEF Allocation



# 2025-26 EEF Funding

- EEF allocations will be available for the 2025-26 school year
- Projected Timeline
  - September 19: EEF application will be available in eGMS
  - October 10: deadline for submission of the EEF application
- Please be reminded that if you have not already done so, the 6/30 PER for your 2024-25 application needs to be submitted. Failure to do so could result in your LEA not being eligible for the 2025-26 application
- Investment funding: if you have investment funding that you want to budget, this should be done during the application process.

Please contact [schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov)



# 2025-26 EEF Funding

- Two webinars will be conducted to assist school systems in preparing for the upcoming release of the 2025-2026 Education Excellence Fund (EEF) application,
- Zoom meetings will be held on Tuesday, September 16, 2025.
  - Morning session will begin at 10:30 a.m.
  - Afternoon session will begin at 2:30 p.m.
- Additional information will be included in the LDOE Weekly Newsletter that will include the Webinar link

**Webinar:** 2025-2026 Education Excellence Fund (EEF) Application Webinar

**Date/Time:** Sep 16, 2025 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96974104909?pwd=gphAcbzfccRIcaQ0CaRjGJuqNO4bCb>

Please contact [schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov)



# Special Education Cameras Allocation



# Special Education Camera Maintenance Allocation

- Provides for one time payments to assist with maintenance costs associated with the purchases of cameras for special education classrooms.
- Allocation should be housed in a restricted fund/account and utilized for intended purposes only.
- Unspent funds should remain in restricted account as “fund balance.”

Funds were issued to school systems in March 2025 for FY 2024-2025.

Please contact [schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov)



# Special Education Camera Data Collection

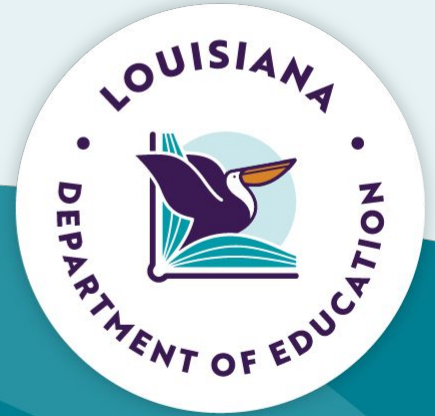
- The LDOE released its FY 2024-2025 Special Education Camera data collection in the Electronic Grants Management System (eGMS).
- Systems are required to report the following for SY 2024-2025:
  - The number of parent requests for cameras
  - The number of parent requests approved for cameras
  - The amount of the original allocation that was expended
  - The amount of the maintenance funds that was expended

The data collection reports were due in eGMS by August 22, 2025.

Please contact [specialeducation@la.gov](mailto:specialeducation@la.gov)



# High Dosage Tutoring FY24-25 Allocation





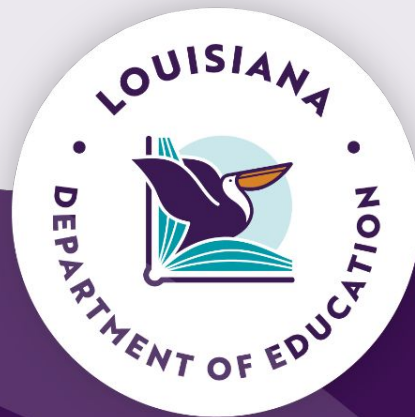
# High Dosage Tutoring Allocation

- High Dosage Tutoring Allocations were remitted to school systems as a direct payment during FY 2025.
  - School systems should have expended the entire allocation within FY 2025.
  - If unforeseen circumstances caused remaining balances to exist, these funds should have been reserved as fund balance and dedicated to providing tutoring services to students during FY 2026.
- School systems that has not exhausted their entire FY 2025 allocation will receive a reduced allocation for FY 2026.

Please contact [shanna.beber@la.gov](mailto:shanna.beber@la.gov)



# Federal Grants



# FY 25-26 Direct Student Services

- The LDOE will begin implementing the Direct Student Services (DSS) provision under Title I, Part A starting in the 2025-2026 school year.
- This funding should be used to provide services that directly support students, such as tutoring and academic enrichment.
- The application will launch in eGMS on September 1, 2025.
- The application deadline is October 1, 2025.

Please contact [ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov)



# FY 25-26 Jump Start Funding Guidance

- The Jump Start Funding Guidance supports school systems in planning and leveraging funds to expand high-quality career and technical education pathways aligned to workforce needs.
- School systems are encouraged to review the updated Jump Start Funding Guidance to support budget planning and program alignment.
- The Jump Start Funding Guidance is available on the [Jump Start Policy, Funding, & Program Implementation](#) page of the LDOE's website.

Please contact [fastforward@la.gov](mailto:fastforward@la.gov)



# 2025-26 High Cost Services

- The High Cost Services grant is intended to provide additional funding for high-cost special education services for students with disabilities.
- Funding for High Cost Services Round 1 includes both State MFP and Federal IDEA Funds.
- The funding period for the MFP formula funds allocation is July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026.
- The IDEA funding portion has a funding period through September 30, 2026.
- The application will be accessible later in the year in the electronic grants management system (eGMS) as a competitive grant application.

Please contact [ashley.augustine@la.gov](mailto:ashley.augustine@la.gov)



# 2024-25 High Cost Services

- The High Cost Services Round 2 grant funding ends on September 30, 2025.
  - Submit your reimbursement requests through eGMS to claim these funds.

Please contact [ashley.augustine@la.gov](mailto:ashley.augustine@la.gov)



# Super App Overview

The Super App is a comprehensive application that allows LEAs to plan for their needs, access their formula funds, and apply for competitive funds on one timeline.

| Phase  | Action                               | Review Step  |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Original Application</b><br>Launches in October<br>Deadline to submit: 1/23 | Approval of<br>CIR/UIR-A<br>Strategy | The LDOE will review answers to designated questions within the Super App to approve the school system's CIR and UIR strategies and grant competitive funds. <i>Please note: Only school systems with CIR/UIR-A sites (with the exception of Strong School Systems and Computer Science) will be considered for competitive funds to meet the <a href="#">federal requirement for each school system's ESSA plan</a> (20 USC §6312).</i> |
| <b>Amendment 1</b><br>Opens late April<br>Deadline to submit: 6/30             | Approval of<br>Super App             | The LDOE will review school system budgets for formula and competitive funds to ensure that each expenditure is allowable under the specific grant.  |

Please contact [LDOEOperations@la.gov](mailto:LDOEOperations@la.gov) with questions.  
Include “School System Planning” in the subject.



# School System Planning Key Dates

| Date        | Item   |
|-------------|--|
| October     | 2026-2027 School System Planning and Budgeting Workbook released                                 |
| December 31 | Final 2025-2026 ESSA formula funds loaded in Super App   |
| January     | 2026-2027 Super App (competitive portion) due  |
| Feb.-March  | LDOE reviews competitive Super App submissions and provides feedback on plans and budgets        |
| Feb.-May    | School systems conduct nonpublic school consultations  |
| April       | Super App competitive allocations sent to BESE for approval                                      |
| May 1       | Allocations for 2026-2027 loaded in Super App  |
| June 30     | Deadline to submit 2026-2027 Super App Amendment 1   |
| July 1      | 2026-2027 Super App grant period begins; Systems begin implementing 2026-2027 School System Plan |



# MFP Formula Update



# 2025-2026 MFP Formula Update

- Projected formula calculations released in March 2025 were updated for July 2025 and updated in the [MFP Library](#)
- These updates include:
  - Level 4:
    - CDF Initial (75% of prior year)
    - SCA Initial (2.1.24 student count, latest available data)
    - International Associate Teacher Salary (2.1.25 teacher counts)
- Weighted Funding calculations are posted the [MFP Library](#) “Accountability for Weighted Student Funds” section.
- The initial CDF Payment will be released before August 29. Guidance document and allocation are posted in the [MFP Library](#)

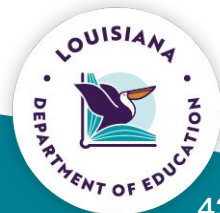
Please contact [LDOEMFPHelpDesk@la.gov](mailto:LDOEMFPHelpDesk@la.gov)



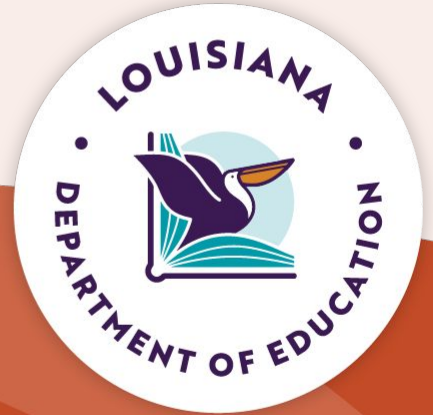
# 2025-2026 MFP Formula Update

- Revised versions of 2025-26 documents have been posted to the [MFP Library](#):
  - Initial Charter Per Pupil (CPP) Amounts FY25-26
  - July Revised 2025 MFP Budget Letter
    - Minor data updates and audit adjustments impacted some systems.
- August Budget Letter is currently posted to the [MFP Library](#).

Please contact [LDOEMFPHelpDesk@la.gov](mailto:LDOEMFPHelpDesk@la.gov)



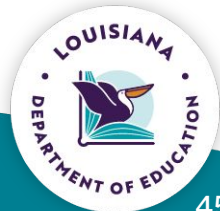
# Required School Lunch Match



# Required School Lunch Match

- The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) requires an annual match of state funds for the school lunch program.
- The Louisiana Department of Education is provided a total state match amount by the USDA each year that must be divided into individual school system match amounts.
- A memorandum explaining the requirements and a FY 2025-26 schedule containing the required recalculated match amount for each school system is available in the MFP Library under the USDA REQUIRED SCHOOL LUNCH MATCH section.

Please contact [LDOEMFPHelpDesk@la.gov](mailto:LDOEMFPHelpDesk@la.gov)



# EdLink AFR Reporting Update



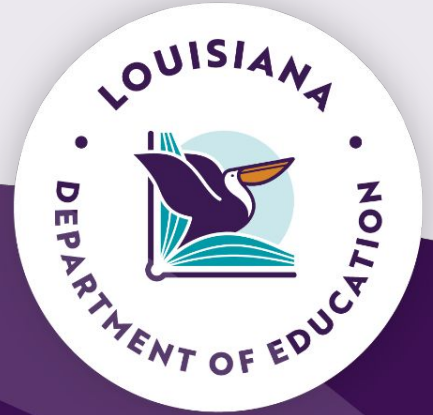
# EdLink AFR

- School Systems will be required to report Annual Financial Report (AFR) in EdLink Ops portal for the FY 2024-2025 reporting period.
- MyLa Accounts and Edlink Profiles should be created, requested and approved prior to submitting the AFR.
- The EdLink Ops portal will open on September 2, 2025 for data collection. The deadline to submit initial AFR is September 30, 2025.
- Guidance documents will be posted in the Business Manager Support Library on August 29, 2025.

Please contact [schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov)

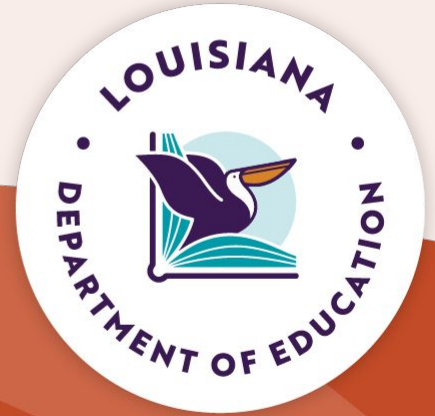


# Important Reminders





# Revisions to Certification Requirements for Lead School Business Administrators



# Lead School Business Administrators Certification Requirements

- Certification requirements contained in Bulletin 1929 were amended to incorporate the following:
  - Add the charter school business administrator credential requirements adopted in Bulletin 126.
  - Revise the local school districts and charter schools business administrator credential requirements, reducing the number of years from seven to **four** for earning the mandatory certification while employed as a lead school business administrator.

***Effective July 1, 2025, all lead school business administrators must become certified within 4 years.***

Please contact [schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov)



# Professional Development



# Upcoming Regional Collaborations

## Schedule

These half day afternoon collaborations will be held from 1 to 4:30 pm, with the exception of the **High School Opportunities** pathway which will meet from 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

| Cohort                                       | Session 1          | Session 2        | Location  |
|--|--------------------|------------------|---|
| Monroe                                       | September 23, 2025 | January 27, 2026 | University of Louisiana Monroe, Bayou Pointe, 1 Warhawk Way, Monroe, LA                 |
| Shreveport                                   | September 24, 2025 | January 28, 2026 | Hilton Garden Inn, Bossier City, 2015 Old Minden Rd, Bossier City, LA                   |
| Lafayette                                    | October 2, 2025    | January 23, 2026 | University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Student Union, 620 McKinley Street, Lafayette, LA |
| Baton Rouge                                  | October 1, 2025    | January 22, 2026 | Cook Hotel & Conference Center, 3838 W. Lakeshore Dr, Baton Rouge, LA                   |
| New Orleans<br><b>Business Managers only</b> | September 30, 2025 | January 21, 2026 | Pontchartrain Convention & Civic Center, 4545 Williams Blvd . Kenner, LA                |



# Upcoming Regional Collaborations

## Fall 2025 Collaboration - **Business Managers only**

- Discussion topics will include, but not limited to, EdLink AFR Portal, Differentiated Compensation Allocation, and LDOE Reporting Calendar

## Spring 2026 Collaboration - **Business Managers and Grants Accountants**

- Discussion topics will include, but not limited to, an Overview of the Federal Funding Guide, eGMS, and Federal Audit Protocols

Registration is now closed.





# Reminders

- The next Business Managers Monthly Call will be held on September 17, 2025 at 2:00 pm.
- Reminder with date and link will be posted in LDOE Weekly Newsletter.
- The slide decks for the monthly call can be found in the [Business Manager Support Library](#) on the website.

Please contact [schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov)

