

School System Financial Services Monthly Call Meeting for

Business Managers and Financial Officials

September 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.



Agenda

- Required Submissions
- State Grants Update
- Federal Grants Update
- MFP Formula Update
- BESE Agreed Upon Procedures
- Important Reminders
- Call Dates and Slide Deck Links



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.

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 <u>Business Manager Support Library</u> webpage.

Annual Financial Report (AFR) Data Collection

- September 2-AFR data collection opened via the EdLinks Ops AFR portal.
- September 30 deadline to submit the initial Annual Financial Report to LDOE.
- Guidance documents and templates can be located in the Business Manager Support Library.



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



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



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.
- Funding was released to school systems on September 5, 2025.
- Stipends must be distributed no later than December 15, 2025.

Guidance document and allocation summary is in the Business Manager Support Library.



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.
- Funding was released to school systems on September 12, 2025.

Guidance document and allocation summary is posted in the Business Manager Support Library.



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



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.

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



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.

Professional Improvement Plan (PIP)



Professional Improvement Plan (PIP)

- The following documents are included in the edFin FTP portal.
 - Rollover Summaries
 - Participants Listing
 - Record of PIP payments
- Please be reminded that submission of participant changes for PIP funding must be emailed to PIPFinancehelpdesk@la.gov by September 30, 2025.



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.



FY 25-26 High Cost Services

 The LDOE will soon release the High Cost (HCS) application via eGMS in as a competitive grant application.

• This funding should be used to provide services that directly support students with disabilities and/or exceptionalities.

The 2025-2026 High Cost Services State Plan is available on the website to provide additional information.



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 by November 15, 2025.



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
Original Application Launches in October Deadline to submit: 1/23	Approval of CIR/UIR-A 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. 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 <u>federal requirement for each school system's ESSA plan</u> (20 USC §6312).
Amendment 1 Opens late April Deadline to submit: 6/30	Approval of 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.



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	
FebMarch	LDOE reviews competitive Super App submissions and provides feedback on plans and budgets	
FebMay	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	

BESE Agreed Upon Procedures



BESE Agreed Upon Procedures

Testing is required for two schedules:

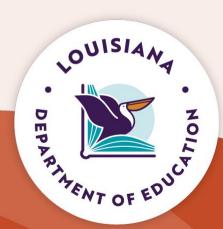
- <u>Schedule 1</u>-General Fund Instructional and Support Expenditures and Certain Local Revenue Sources for FY 2024-2025.
- <u>Schedule 2</u>-Class Size Characteristics (note: Data is provided through EdLinks 360 dashboard).



Important Reminders



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	Septemb 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 Business Managers only	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 October 15, 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.

