

Course Choice Vision

Louisiana is revolutionizing education – one course at a time, one student at a time. Course Choice will offer “a la carte” school choice to Louisiana students and families . . . one course at a time.

In the first year of implementation, the Course Choice program will try to do a few things well: develop a multi-functional registration system, evaluate and select high-quality course offerings from credible course providers, and provide proactive program assistance to parents, educators, administrators and professional school counselors. During its start-up year Course Choice will be focused on getting things right, *not* on maximum course offerings.

In the second year of implementation and beyond, the Course Choice program will expand dramatically. **Exciting new developments will include offering highly innovative new courses that promise to provide Louisiana students with academic and career training opportunities previously unimaginable.**

The Evolution of Course Choice	
First Year of Implementation	Implementation in Year Two and Beyond
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a multi-functional registration system for enrollment, educator review and provider administration • Counselor Hotline to provide proactive assistance • Educator assistance to handle the transition from Dual Enrollment to Course Choice relationships • Approve a modest selection of high-quality course offerings from credible course providers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully integrate the registration system with all state and district systems • Counselor training and 24 / 7 online support • Educator assistance to create strategic plans and budgets that best leverage Course Choice offerings • Catalyze the development of innovative course offerings that dramatically enhance the K – 12 educational options available to <i>all</i> Louisiana students
Course Choice as a “content taker”	Course Choice as a “content driver”

The evolution of Course Choice – from a “content taker” in the first year of implementation to a “content driver” in the second year and beyond – will be driven by **Innovation Targets**.

Innovation Targets are “curricular aspirations” – wish list educational experiences the DOE and involved stakeholders release to the market in the confident belief that some credible course provider will develop high-quality materials to provide the hoped-for course to Louisiana students.

There is no way the DOE or an LEA would have the resources to develop these wish list courses. *But by releasing these Innovation Targets, we are leveraging countless companies, educational entrepreneurs and educators to apply their creativity and their resources to developing these courses.*

Course Choice Innovation Targets will inspire industry professionals, educational entrepreneurs and great teachers to develop innovative new courses that provide the highest quality instruction to Louisiana students.

This innovation process will enable Course Choice to function as a cost-free curriculum development method, delivering cutting-edge course offerings to Louisiana students of all grades, abilities and interests.





Innovation Targets will be developed through the collaboration of many stakeholders: educators, businesspeople, academics and child development experts, community leaders and DOE team members. These stakeholders, working together, can transform education in Louisiana.

Will every Innovation Target result in a great new course for Louisiana students? Maybe not. But every Innovation Target that *does* succeed provides the promise to transform the life of one student . . . and then many students, in schools all over Louisiana.



Innovation Targets will catalyze the development of high-quality course offerings that help Louisiana students learn 21st Century job skills. Visionary Louisiana business leaders will gain access to a better-trained workforce by supporting the Course Choice program.

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How “Innovation Targets” Can Catalyze the Development of Cutting-Edge Course Offerings		
Potential Innovation Targets	Stakeholder Collaborators	Proposed Outcomes
Journey to Careers Rev.2 	Developmental Psychologists Corporate Executives Community Leaders DOE Team Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Middle school students</i> (as young as 6th graders) can learn about the joys of a work-centered life and how to handle “moment of truth” adult crises • Customized course materials based on regional job clusters, updated based on economic trends • Course materials will include innovative modalities like video games, computer programs, etc. • Video webinars included in the curriculum can be utilized for guest speakers across the state
Applied Geometry: Construction 	Math Teachers Technical Trainers Corporate Executives DOE Team Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career diploma students have a geometry class designed to teach them using 100% practical examples • All content required by Common Core state standards can be integrated with hands-on projects • “Exams” can include actual construction projects as well as traditional written exams • Curriculum might include contests across LEAs,¹ regions and the State
Developing Winning Proposals 	English Teachers Business Teachers Corporate Executives DOE Team Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students can integrate writing skills development with Microsoft Office certification • All content required by Common Core state standards can be integrated into practical examples • “Exams” can include team projects sponsored by local employers • Curriculum might include contests across LEAs, regions and the State
Community Development	Tech Ed Teachers Civics Teachers Technical Trainers Community Leaders DOE Team Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students can learn about urban studies, economic development and community service as part of their mainstream education • All materials required by Louisiana standards for Civics courses can be integrated with practical examples • “Exams” can include actual redevelopment projects sponsored by local community groups • Instead of a community service endorsement, this course can be part of a new Community Service AOC ² integrated into a high value career diploma track
Urban Healthcare Solutions 	Physicians and Nurses Healthcare Experts Nursing Teachers Community Leaders Public Policy Educators DOE Team Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students interested in healthcare careers can learn about the challenges of urban healthcare • All materials required for the healthcare AOC can be integrated with practical examples • “Exams” can be actual internships sponsored by local healthcare facilities • This course could satisfy requirements for two AOCs – Community Service and/or Healthcare
1 – LEA = “local education agency”		2 – AOC = “area of concentration,” the basis for awarding a career diploma

Course Choice Innovation Targets will put Louisiana out front nationally in terms of developing high-impact career and technical education. Louisiana students will be in the lead for securing high-paying jobs that help them build solid futures, strong families and thriving communities.