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  - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click "Mute."



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### **Zoom Meeting Protocol**

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Please change your Zoom name to reflect your actual name and Community Network you represent.

D devon.camarota@la.gov (Me)

Mute

Pin

App Amy Poirier (Host)

Rename

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# **Community Network Lead Agency Office Hours**



# **Webinar Purpose and Objectives**



### **Webinar Purpose and Objectives**

Purpose: The Community Network Lead Agency (CNLA) Office Hours webinar provides CNLA administrators with information, updates, and reminders related to current LDOE Early Childhood Care and Education initiatives and events.

### **Objectives:** Community Network Lead Agencies will:

- Receive new information and updates
- Receive updates and information regarding the SmartTeach™ Launch
- Review reminders about upcoming deadlines



## Agenda

- I. Early Childhood Community **Network Updates**
- II. Featured Topic: SmartTeachtm Launch
- III. Early Childhood Reminders
- IV. Upcoming Events and Deadlines





# **Early Childhood Updates**



# Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year Award Program

On Saturday, July 27th, in partnership with DREAM Teachers, the LDOE will host the 18th Annual Cecil J. Picard Educator Excellence Awards Gala, which will be held at the WWII Museum in New Orleans.

All 2023-2024 Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year Finalists will be celebrated and honored at this Gala.

Information about the 2024-2025 Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year application process will be available in the August and September Provider Update Webinars.



## 2024 - 2025 Allocations Planning Tool

The 2024-2025 Allocations Planning Tool was shared to all Community Network Lead Agencies via email on July 1.

This tool will also be available throughout the academic year on the <u>Lead</u> Agency Library along with other important resources for the academic and fiscal year.

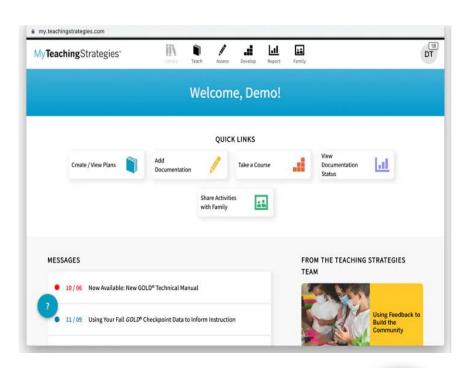


# **Featured Topic**

SmartTeach™ Launch



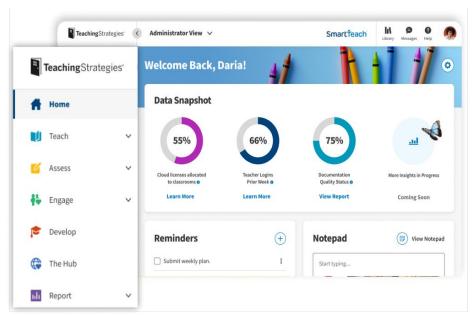
- SmartTeach™ launched on July 14, and replaced the MyTeachingStrategies® (MyTS™) platform.
- Reminder: This replacement will not impact or change anything about any experience with the "Teach" or "Assess" landing pages.
- For more information, get to know SmartTeach™ in the <u>Hub</u>.





TeachingStrategies® made this change to allow for the delivery of new features to users.
These new features will include:

- Personalizing the user experience
- Adding data widgets
- Improvement to the "Manage" experience



SmartTeach<sup>TM</sup> offers a new user experience while adhering to well-established procedures for planning, teaching, and assessment. Consider this a big upgrade to the "lobby" that does not impact the destinations accessible from it. The update offers the following features for educators:

- a new, user experience with a fun and engaging design that adjusts automatically for both desktop and mobile devices, including the same devices used in the past to access MyTeachingStrategies® (desktop and laptop computers, tablets, and smartphones);
- an improved navigation experience to get where needed more efficiently;
- new reminder and notes features right on the home screen; and
- additional new features that will be released over time.

For administrators, SmartTeach™ offers a brand-new user interface with the current login, better access to classrooms and products, and a new landing page for administrators. This is a significant improvement to the "lobby" that keeps the locations accessible from within unchanged. The update offers the following features for administrators:

- the same level of classroom and product access as a primary teacher no need to emulate a teacher role anymore;
- a new administrator landing page with data to provide new insights to guide quick performance insights across products;
- and the same new user experience as teachers, with a modern design that adjusts automatically for both desktop and mobile devices.

# SmartTeach™ Frequently Asked Questions



### **Frequently Asked Questions**

- 1. Will our username and password change?
  - The username and password will not change with the transition to SmartTeach™.

- 2. How will the change to SmartTeach™ affect our program's typical renewal process?
  - This change will not impact subscription dates for current terms nor any part of programs' renewal process.



### **Frequently Asked Questions**

- 4. Will we be able to generate reports across multiple years (prior to and after the transition)? Will I be able to generate reports on archived data?
  - There will be no impact to your data.

#### 5. Has anything been relocated or changed in the system?

When first logging into SmartTeach™, users will notice:

- Navigation to the products has been moved to the left navigation.
- Access to Family Messaging has been moved to the top right of the screen.
- Access to the Library has been moved to the top right of the screen.
- Access to the Resource Center (Help) has been moved to the top right of the screen.
- Access to the Family Conference Form has been moved to the Report area.
- Single Sign-on to ReadyRosie has been moved to the User Profile fly-out in the top right of the screen.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

- 7. What support and resources will be provided to support users and programs through this change? To assist users in becoming acquainted with the new SmartTeach™ platform, MyTeachingStrategies® has put together a comprehensive collection of tools and support. These include:
  - Main Support Page in The Hub
  - Quick Hit Video for Teachers
  - Quick Hit Video for Administrators
  - Getting Know SmartTeach™ Support Webinars

For further assistance, please contact <u>ECAssessment@la.gov</u>. Additional information can also be found in the SmartTeach™ <u>FAQ</u>.



### TS GOLD® Webinars and Resources

The LDOE is offering optional office hours for those in need of additional assistance and may have questions regarding this change. Office Hour dates and links for *SmartTeach*™ **hosted by LDOE** can be found below:

#### LDOE Office Hours for SmartTeach™

Option 1: July 18th, 2024 (3:00 - 3:30 p.m.)

**Option 2:** July 25th, 2024 (3:00 - 3:30 p.m.)



# **Early Childhood Reminders**



### **Early Childhood Education Fund Application**

The Early Childhood Education Fund Application is available on the Lead Agency Library.

The Early Childhood Education Fund is an opportunity for local entities to raise qualifying local dollars to be potentially matched by the State up to dollar for dollar to expand access for children ages birth to three years old.

All Community Network Lead Agencies must submit the application, whether requesting funds or not.

Please submit completed applications to <a href="mailto:earlychildhood@la.gov">earlychildhood@la.gov</a>.

### 2023-2024 Data Certification

CNLA contacts should have received a specific username and password to access the Louisiana Data Review (LDR) System to the main contacts provided on the CNLA Data Certification Point of Contact Form.

Data certification assurances must be complete by CNLA contacts prior to accessing the system. Assurances should be signed on and/or before July 22.



### 2023-2024 Data Certification Timeline

### Between July 1 and July 3

CNLA receives data certification files via FTP.

Using the data certification files as a guide, CNLAs will verify data in the LDR System.

### Between July 15 and August 2

CNLAs sign assurances by **July 22**.

CNLAs identify, collect, edit, and submit documentation in the LDR System.

#### August 2

CNLAs finalize edits and submit documentation in the LDR System.

LDOE verifies edits and submissions.

#### August 5

LDR System closes.

CNLAs will no longer have access to the LDR system for edits.



# **Upcoming Events and Deadlines**



### **Monthly Office Hours for New Directors**

CNLAs are asked to share this information with new directors. The LDOE team holds New Director webinars that focus on topics related to early childhood quality or operations while also helping to expand new directors' network of peers.

This month's topic is "An Overview of Louisiana Pathways." Participants will gain an understanding of the Louisiana Pathways program and will learn how it offers support by providing scholarships for training and education, tracking training received by child care professionals, and recognizing child care professionals' achievements.

Attendees can access the webinar using the information below:

**Date:** July 26, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.

Webinar Link: <a href="https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92298578944">https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92298578944</a>

**Phone Number:** 1-346-248-7799 **Meeting ID:** 922 9857 8944



### **Monthly Provider Update Webinar**

CNLAs are encouraged to attend the monthly webinars for early childhood providers. These webinars will include important updates and reminders for all provider types.

Providers can access the next provider webinar using the information below:

**Date:** Thursday, August 15, at 1 p.m.

Webinar Link: <a href="https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93597745872">https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93597745872</a>

**Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799 **Meeting ID:** 935 9774 5872

Passcode: 641464



### 2024 Early Childhood Conference

The Louisiana Department of Education is excited to host the third annual <u>Early Childhood Conference!</u> This year's conference theme is *Shaping Louisiana's Future*. The conference will provide opportunities for education and training for child care teachers, leaders, and other staff.

Registration for the Early Childhood Conference is open. Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

#### **Conference Dates and Registration:**

- September 7, 2024 Shreveport
- October 5, 2024 Baton Rouge

#### **Pricing:**

• Registration Pricing: \$55

Registration closes on July 17 or at sellout.





### **Events and Deadlines**

July 1-17: Early Childhood Conference Regular Registration - Shreveport

July 1-17: Early Childhood Conference Regular Registration - Baton Rouge

July 17: Early Childhood Care and Education Commission and Advisory Council Meetings

July 18: Teaching Strategies GOLD® SmartTeachTM LDOE Office Hours Webinar

July 25: Teaching Strategies GOLD® SmartTeachTM LDOE Office Hours Webinar

July 26: June CCAP B-3 Seats Attendance Due

August 10: July CCAP B-3 Attendance Due

August 15: Early Childhood Provider Update Webinar



# **Questions**







### **Thank You!**

#### The Early Childhood Strategy Leadership Team

#### **Devon Camarota**

Director of Access Strategies and Business Supports Devon.Camarota@la.gov

#### Sonia Fields-Gutierrez

Director of Accountability and Workforce Supports
Sonia.Fields-Gutierrez@la.gov

#### **Brittney Cochran**

Director of Early Childhood Academics Brittney.Cochran@la.gov

#### **Janet Grigg**

Director of Community Level Strategy Janet.Grigg@la.gov

#### **Amy Hook-Poirier**

Executive Director of Early Childhood Strategy Amy.Poirier@la.gov

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# **Community Network Lead Agency Office Hours**



# **Webinar Purpose and Objectives**



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- Review reminders about upcoming deadlines



## Agenda

- Early Childhood Community **Network Updates**
- Featured Topic: SmartTeach™ Strategies for the New Academic Year
- III. Early Childhood Reminders
- IV. Upcoming Events and Deadlines



## **Early Childhood Updates**



### **Community Network Lead Agency Office Hours** Schedule Update

Starting with Office Hours on August 13, 2024, the LDOE will transition to a monthly cadence of office hours. CNLA Office Hours will now be held on the second Tuesday of each month. The meetings will remain 30 minutes.

This means, the next four office hours dates are:

- August 13
- September 10
- October 8
- November 12



#### **Data Certification**

Thank you to all CNLAs who have completed assurance agreements. CNLAs are encouraged to verify and submit data certification rosters by August 2 in the event the LDOE has questions prior to the system closing on August 5.

During this phase of data certification, the LDOE is verifying the information CNLAs confirmed based on preliminary informational metrics via the EC Portal in May 2024.

Request for additional information may be requested in the LDR by the LDOE (or Alicia Franklin) using the Responses tab. Request may include the following examples:

#### **Data Certification - Examples of Requests**

Request for Classroom Removal -a justification must be provided by the CNLA for a classroom to be removed. Note: Classrooms opened after October 1, but before February 1 should be included in the data certification process; therefore, the information completed should reflect what was true on February 1 of the academic year only when classrooms are removed.

In the event a justification isn't provided, a new response will be posted.

Request for Teacher Certificate - if a certification number is added by the CNLA, please ensure the certification number is verified and valid as of October 1, 2024 by visiting <a href="Teach Louisiana">Teach Louisiana</a>. In the event the teacher has a CDA, a copy of the teacher's CDA should be included for verification by the LDOE prior to approval.

 In the event the LDOE is unable to verify the teacher's certification number, a new response will be posted.

#### **Data Certification - Examples of Requests**

Number of Children Assessed – if changes are required for the number of children assessed based Spring 2024 TS GOLD checkpoint data, A PDF or screenshot of the Documentation Status Report is recommended and the number of children listed on the report should match the number entered.

In the event the wrong report is provided, a new response will be posted.



## **Featured Topic**

SmartTeach™ Strategies for the New Academic Year



## SmartTeach™ Strategies for the New Academic Year

- Manage Classes (completed by an administrator or teacher)
  - Best Practice: Rename classes instead of deleting and creating new classes, in order to maintain access to previously created weekly plans. If you have active classrooms from previous years, your checkpoint data will not be accurate.
  - Ensure users are assigned correctly as a <u>primary teacher, co-teacher, assistant teacher, or team member.</u>
  - Service Providers should be be given <u>team member access</u>.
- Review the users on your account
  - <u>Disable</u> or <u>delete</u> users who are not returning to your program.
  - <u>Transfer any users</u> who are moving to their new site.
  - Update your <u>email preferences</u> to ensure you receive ongoing communications.



# SmartTeach™ Strategies for the New Academic Year

Children who have moved out of your site, exited to Kindergarten, or are 6 years of age should now be **archived**. Directions to <u>archive</u> children can be located in the SmartTeach™ Support Portal.

- It is recommended that child records be archived rather than deleted.
- Only SmartTeach™ Administrators should archive children.
- Archiving children should be completed at this time.

#### **Reactivating Archived Child Records**

Child records for children who return to a program will need to be reactivated and placed in their current classroom. **Do not** create a duplicate child record for those returning to the program or for whom a child record already exists.

\*Important: Please search the child's name before adding them to your program with a new child profile.

## **Early Childhood Reminders**



#### **Monthly Office Hours for New Directors**

CNLAs are asked to share this information with new directors. The LDOE team holds New Director webinars that focus on topics related to early childhood quality or operations while also helping to expand new directors' network of peers.

This month's topic is "Understanding the Child Care Criminal Background Check System." Participants will gain an understanding of the Child Care Criminal Background Check System and how to create system user accounts; how to complete the CCCBC application; how to schedule fingerprinting appointments; how to make corrections to application; how to complete the five-year renewal process and learn what LDOE considers provisionally-employable staff members.

Attendees can access the webinar using the information below:

**Date:** August 30 at 12:00 p.m.

Webinar Link: <a href="https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92298578944">https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92298578944</a>

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**Phone Number:** 1 312 626 6799

935 9774 5872 Meeting ID:

Passcode: 641464



### **Teaching and Learning Reminders & Updates**

The 2024 Early Childhood Conference registration has closed. For individuals who will attend the conference and require lodging, the information for booking is below:

#### Early Childhood Conference 2024

Date: September 7, 2024

Location: Shreveport Convention Center, Shreveport, LA

#### **Hotel Information:**

- Holiday Inn Express & Suites Shreveport Booking link
- Hilton Shreveport Booking link





#### **Teaching and Learning Reminders & Updates**

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#### **Early Childhood Conference 2024**

Date: October 5, 2024

Location: Crowne Plaza, Baton Rouge, LA

#### **Hotel Information:**

Crowne Plaza Baton Rouge <u>Booking link</u>





## **Upcoming Events and Deadlines**





#### **Events and Deadlines**

**August 1:** Archive Children in SmartTeach™

**August 5:** Data Certification Portal closes

**August 10:** CCAP B-3 and ECE Fund attendance due

August 13: CNLA Office Hours

August 15: Early Childhood Provider Update Webinar

**August 30:** Monthly Office Hours for New Directors

September 7: 2024 Early Childhood Conference (ECC) -

Shreveport, Shreveport Convention Center

October 5: 2024 Early Childhood Conference (ECC) - Baton

Rouge, Crowne Plaza

## **Questions**







#### **Thank You!**

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