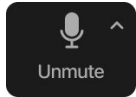
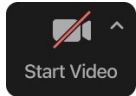


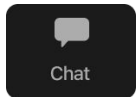
Zoom Meeting Preparation



- 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.



Zoom Meeting Protocol

Participant Naming Conventions

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

Questions

During the presentation, please add any questions to the chat. Questions will be answered at the end of the webinar. If you enter a question in the chat, please include your e-mail address, in case our team needs to follow up with you further.

Notice of AI Recording on Zoom

Please be advised that the LDOE does not permit artificial intelligence (AI) meeting recorders to join online meetings and does not consent to having this meeting recorded or transcribed.

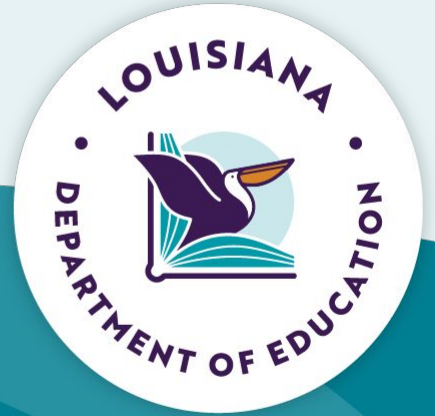


Community Network Lead Agency Updates Webinar



May 12, 2026

Webinar Purpose and Objectives



Webinar Purpose and Objectives

Purpose: The Community Network Lead Agency (CNLA) Updates 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 information on today's featured topics:
 - Accountability
 - Curriculum Reviews
 - Preschool Development Grant
- Review reminders about upcoming deadlines



Agenda

- I. Early Childhood Community Network Updates
- II. Featured Topics:
 - A. Accountability
 - B. Curriculum Reviews
 - C. Preschool Development Grant
- III. Early Childhood Reminders
- IV. Upcoming Events and Deadlines



Early Childhood Accountability



2026-2027 Academic Approval Renewal

Providers must renew their Academic Approval by submitting the 2026-2027 Program Partner Assurances to the LDOE **no later than May 31, 2026.**

- Signed Program Partner Assurances must be submitted through the designated 2026-2027 Program Partner Assurances online form, which was distributed via e-mail on April 6, 2026.
 - **Paper submissions will not be accepted.**
- Upon successful submission of the assurances, 2026-2027 Academic Approval certificates will be automatically generated and sent to the e-mail address provided in the online form.
- **Providers should** retain a copy for their records and **post their 2026-2027 Academic Approval certificate starting July 1, 2026.**

Early Childhood Accountability

Please contact ecassurances@la.gov with questions.



Data Certification Point of Contact

CNLAs will receive 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](#).

Individuals identified on the [CNLA Data Certification Point of Contact Form](#) will have access to the [Louisiana Data Review \(LDR\) System](#), allowing authorized users to verify all site and classroom data. Certified submissions will be included in the final Performance Profiles for the network and site.

The [CNLA Data Certification Point of Contact Form](#) should be completed no later than Friday, May 29, 2026.

Early Childhood Accountability

Please contact alicia.franklin@la.gov with questions.



Spring 2026 Observations



Spring 2026 CLASS® observations must be entered into the [EC CLASS® Portal](#) by May 15, 2026 for all classrooms that were open on February 1.

Community Network Lead Agencies have been notified via e-mail regarding any outstanding observations. Please contact Sonia Gutierrez immediately if you anticipate any issues with completing the observation requirement.

Error Corrections and Third-Party Appeals

Error Corrections must be submitted by no later than 11:59 p.m. on June 15 of the academic year in which the observation occurred.

- Community Network Lead Agencies or designees are encouraged to submit error corrections as soon as errors are identified.

Spring Appeals must be submitted between January 1 and 11:59 p.m. on June 15 of the academic year in which the observation occurred.

- CNLAs are strongly encouraged to submit appeals within 30 days of the contested observation to allow for a thorough review of the appeal.
- The LDOE will notify CNLAs of the final Appeal Determination via email from EarlyChildhoodAppeals@la.gov no later than July 30 of the academic year in which the observation occurred.



2026-2027 CLASS® Observations

The current [EC CLASS® Portal](#) will be retired in July 2026, at which point users will no longer have access to the system.

Beginning in August 2026, all CNLAs, Program Partners, and observers will begin using the new Early Childhood Observation System (ECOS). ECOS will be integrated within the [Louisiana Educator Portal \(LEP\)](#).

More information regarding ECOS, as well as a first look at the new site, will be shared at 2026 Teacher Leader Summit in the Early Childhood Accountability sessions on May 26th and May 27th.

Early Childhood Accountability

Please contact sonia.fields-gutierrez@la.gov with questions.



Early Childhood Community Network Updates and Reminders



Early Childhood Curriculum Update

The LDOE Instructional Materials Review (IMR) team is conducting ongoing new curriculum reviews:

- These reviews are designed to evaluate the alignment of instructional materials with the revised [2024 Early Learning and Development Standards \(ELDS\)](#) and ensure that the materials used in classrooms support high-quality teaching and learning.
- A new Tier I Curriculum List for ECE is being published as IMR reviews are completed.
 - The updated Tier I list will be located on the [IMR webpage](#) “Early Childhood Instructional Materials” dropdown and will be populated on an ongoing basis as reviews are complete.
 - Currently, four curricula have completed the IMR process and have been approved as Tier I:
 - Great Minds PBC - Eureka Math Squared, Level PK - ECE, Ages 4-5
 - Frog Street Press, LLC - Frog Street Preschool Louisiana, Threes
 - Frog Street Press, LLC - Frog Street Pre-K Louisiana, ECE Ages 4-5
 - Frog Street Press, LLC - Frog Street Infant: Joyful Beginnings, Louisiana

Please note: Newly-approved Frog Street curriculum now has “Louisiana” in the title. previous versions will be archived.

All

Teaching and Learning Reminders & Updates

Please contact caitlyn.robinson@la.gov with questions.



Early Childhood Curriculum Update

The LDOE Instructional Materials Review (IMR) team is conducting ongoing new curriculum reviews:

- Currently, 5 curricula are in the review stage of the IMR process.
 - Those currently in review include:
 - Teacher Created Materials, Inc. Explore & Learn
 - AppleTree Institute for Education Innovation-Every Child Ready, Pre-K 3-4 (2024)
 - No Tears Learning, Inc. Learning Without Tears-Get Set for School Pre-K Program (2021), Ages 4-5
 - CELEBRATE Successful Early Learning-FOUNDATIONS, Ages 3-4 (2022)
- Still in prescreening:
 - Teaching Strategies-The Creative Curriculum

IMPORTANT: All curricula in the review stage or in prescreening have a completion date after the 6/30/26 deadline for EC Literacy Initiative funding.

Teaching and Learning Reminders & Updates

Please contact caitlyn.robinson@la.gov with questions.



Early Childhood Literacy Initiative Allocation

The LDOE Early Childhood Literacy Initiative allocation was approved during the January 2026 BESE meeting. This funding opportunity runs from February 1 - June 30, 2026 and includes the following:

- **Curriculum Allocation (Available to CNLAs and CCR&Rs):** The curriculum allocation will be used to purchase newly-rated high-quality instructional materials (rated as Tier I) that align to the updated [Early Learning and Development Standards](#) and LDOE IMR review processes.
 - CNLAs should work with schools to purchase newly-rated Tier I curriculum and curriculum-aligned professional development requested by school-based publicly funded pre-K classrooms.
 - CCR&Rs should work with child care sites to purchase newly-rated Tier I curriculum and curriculum-aligned professional development requested for infant, toddler, and preschool classrooms by Type III child care and FCC sites who have opted into Academic Approval.

Upcoming Events and Deadlines
Please contact caitlyn.robinson@la.gov with questions.

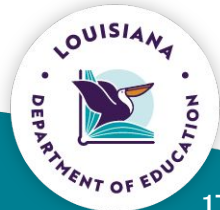


Early Childhood Literacy Initiative Allocation

The LDOE Early Childhood Literacy Initiative allocation was approved during the January 2026 BESE meeting. This funding opportunity runs from February 1 - June 30, 2026 and includes the following:

- **SoR Training Stipend Allocation (available to CNLAs):** The SoR Training stipend allocation will be used to provide LDOE-created SoR training to support early identification and interventions, including for teachers of young children with disabilities who teach pre-K.
 - This portion of the allocation offered through CNLAs to school-based pre-K educators will fund \$250 stipends for the completion of 3 LDOE Science of Reading pre-K modules through the LDOE Canopy platform. These modules are now available in the [Louisiana Professional Learning Platform](#).
 - Please note: There will be additional information regarding funding opportunities for training stipends for publicly funded child care center teachers, Early Head Start/Head Start teachers, Family Child Care educators with Academic Approval, and NSECD teachers in publicly funded sites presented at August 2026 BESE.

Upcoming Events and Deadlines
Please contact caitlyn.robinson@la.gov with questions.

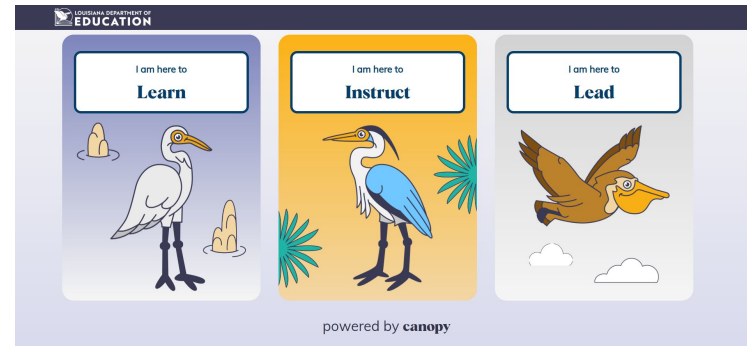


SoR Training

SoR Training Modules

The Early Childhood *Science and Art of Reading* courses are now available:

- The Early Childhood *Science and Art of Reading* professional learning series aims to equip educators with a shared understanding of the knowledge and skills needed to implement scientifically-based literacy instruction. This professional development series is housed in our [Louisiana Professional Learning Platform](#).
- Early Childhood Science and Art of Reading Course code: **C100N1N9**



Upcoming Events and Deadlines
Please contact caitlyn.robinson@la.gov with questions.

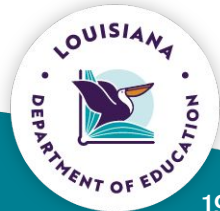


Preschool Development Grant

The LDOE received the 2026 Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5), designed to strengthen the state early childhood programs and enhance program quality. Funding will be available from May 1-December 30, 2026 and was approved by BESE on April 16, 2026.

Through this grant, the LDOE will target the following outcomes:

- **Outcome 1:** Strengthen the workforce by providing professional development and workforce strategies to strengthen educators and promote family engagement.
- **Outcome 2:** Foster family engagement and leadership through early childhood family-centered summits.
- **Outcome 3:** Strengthen the early childhood workforce through educator pathways, workforce navigation, and expanded supports.
- **Outcome 4:** Promote early identification, evidence-based practices, and family-guided referrals for a unified birth-five system.
- **Outcome 5:** Target evidence-based literacy instruction.



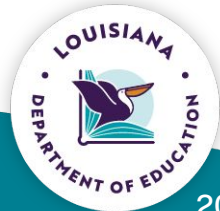
TS GOLD[®] Checkpoint Completion

The Spring TS GOLD[®] checkpoint is due on May 31, 2026. The Department has set a program expectation of 90% network completion for the Spring checkpoint.

This assessment is mandated through program assurances and included within Bulletin 140:

Sites ensure all required information for classrooms containing children from birth to five years is entered in the GOLD[®] online system. Additionally, all child assessment results for publicly-funded infants, toddlers, and pre-K children must be entered and checkpoints finalized by October 31, February 28, and May 31.

Fall 2025 (October 31)	Winter 2026 (February 28)	Spring 2026 (May 31)
80%	85%	90%



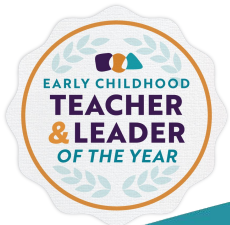
Upcoming Events and Deadlines



Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year

The LDOE has announced the Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year Honorees for the 2027 academic year!

- In the fall the LDOE received a record number of 198 nominations: for 116 teachers and 82 leaders.
 - These nominations represent 32 different parishes across Louisiana.



Upcoming Events and Deadlines

Please contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions.



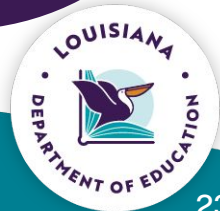
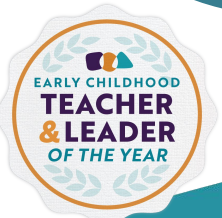
Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year

The LDOE has announced the Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year Honorees for the 2027 academic year! At this time each honoree has:

Received VIP registration to the Teacher Leader Summit

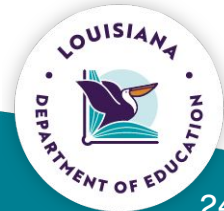
Responded to the LDOE with preferred interview dates/times. Interviews are scheduled to occur in the month of May

Received preliminary information regarding the 20th annual Cecil J. Picard Educator Excellence Awards Gala to occur on July 25, 2026.



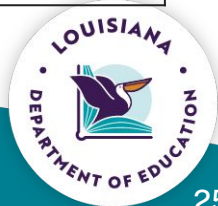
Early Childhood Teacher and Leader Next Steps

Date	Activity
May 7-15, 2026	Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year Executive Interviews
May 26-28, 2026	Teacher Leader Summit
May 26, 2026	Awards program reception, BB's Stage Door Canteen at 5:30 p.m.
June 29, 2026	20 th Annual Cecil J. Picard Educator Excellence Awards Gala option 1 informational call @ 4:00
June 30, 2026	20 th Annual Cecil J. Picard Educator Excellence Awards Gala option 2 informational call @ 11:00
July 25, 2026	20 th Annual Cecil J. Picard Educator Excellence Awards Gala
October 14, 2026	BESE Awards Recognition at 8:30 a.m.
Spring 2027	Early Childhood Conference-Baton Rouge
Spring 2027	Early Childhood Conference-Shreveport



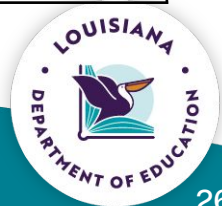
Early Childhood Teacher of the Year Honorees

2027 Teacher of the Year Honorees		
Honoree Name	Parish	Site Name
Vanessa Baltazar	East Baton Rouge Parish	LSU Early Childhood Education Laboratory Preschool
Jeannine Danos	Plaquemines Parish	South Plaquemines Children's Center
Tangi Ambeau Flowers	Ascension Parish	Little Learner's Preparatory Academy
Jillian Graves	St. James Parish	St. Louis Academy Head Start
Kristy Short	Lafourche Parish	Thibodaux Head Start



Early Childhood Leader of the Year Honorees

2027 Leader of the Year Honorees		
Honoree Name	Parish	Site Name
Cheryl Morrison Champagne	St. Tammany Parish	Tender Years
Sarah Corley	Rapides Parish	Louisiana State University at Alexandria Children's Center
Jamalynn Lewis	Jefferson Parish	New Horizon Learning Academy
Niki Mills	West Feliciana Parish	St. Francisville United Methodist Early Learning Center
Sarah Thibodeaux	Vermillion Parish	Bright Beginnings Learning Center



Early Childhood eGMS Allocations

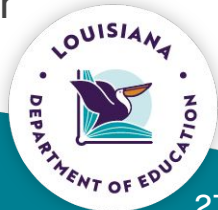
All 2026 allocations have been uploaded in the E-Grants Management System (eGMS). Funds must be drawn down by **June 30, 2026**. Any funds not drawn down by this date will not roll over.

eGMS Application Names:

- EC State General Fund
- EC Consolidated
- EC Curriculum Reimbursement

Important:

- To view the application in eGMS, “Contacts” and “Assurances for Early Childhood” must be completed.
- Please e-mail the LDOE Grants Helpdesk at ldoegrantshelpdesk@la.gov for assistance.



Monthly Provider Update Webinar

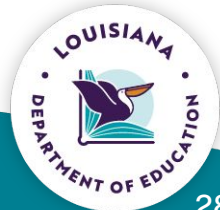
CNLAs are encouraged to attend the monthly webinars for early childhood providers. These webinars include important updates and reminders for all provider types.

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

- **Webinar Date/Time:** Thursday, June 4 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/91532982014>
- **Phone Number:** 1 470 250 9358
- **Meeting ID:** 915 3298 2014
- **Passcode:** 519100

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

Please contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions.



Family Child Care (FCC) Office Hours

Current Academically Approved FCC providers are encouraged to join monthly office hours. This is a dedicated time to check in, ask questions, and receive ongoing support.

FCC providers can access this webinar using the information below:

- **Webinar Date/Time:** May 14, 2026 @ 12 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98287474795>
- **Phone Number:** 1 312 616 6799
- **Meeting ID:** 982 8747 4795
- **Passcode:** 210212

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

Please contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions.



Monthly CNLA Update Webinar

CNLAAs are encouraged to attend the monthly CNLA Update Webinar. These webinars include important updates and reminders for Community Network Lead Agencies.

Attendees can access the next CNLA Update Webinar using the information below:

- **Webinar Date/Time:** Tuesday, June 9 at 3 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97220084131>
- **Phone Number:** 1 312 626 6799
- **Meeting ID:** 972 2008 4131
- **Passcode:** 051391

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

Please contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions.



Monthly Office Hours for Active Coaching Sites

The LDOE team conducts webinars on various topics related to early childhood quality and improving child care sites' administrative and operational functions. Through engaging sessions and monthly guest speakers, the office hours are designed to support directors seeking training, to facilitate effective ECE leadership development.

The May focus area is “An Overview of Making the Most of Classroom Interactions.” During this session, participants will gain a deeper understanding of the supports that strengthen classroom quality.

Attendees can access the webinar using the information below:

- **Webinar Date/Time:** Wednesday, May 20 at 1:00 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98038985498>
- **Phone Number:** 1-470-250-9358
- **Meeting ID:** 980 3898 5498
- **Passcode:** 989833

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

Please contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions.



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 "Empowering Families: A History of Families Helping Families and the Values of Act 378. They will be able to summarize the history, purpose, and impact of Families Helping Families (FHF).

Attendees can access the webinar using the information below:

- **Date:** Friday, May 29, 2026 at 12 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98824530491>
- **Phone Number:** 1 470 250 9358
- **Meeting ID:** 988 2453 0491
- **Passcode:** 760909

Upcoming Events

Please contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions.



ECE Fund Eligibility Webinar

In preparation for the FY27 we will be hosting an ECE fund eligibility webinar. During this webinar, the LDOE will walk through eligibility best practices and provide answers to any eligibility related questions.

Attendees can access the webinar using the information below:

- **Date:** Monday, June 15, 2026 at 3 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/91077079674?>
- **Phone Number:** +1 346 248 7799
- **Meeting ID:** 910 7707 9674
- **Passcode:** 069328

Upcoming Events

Please contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions.



Monthly Young Children with Disabilities Community of Practice - May

The LDOE team conducts webinars on various topics related to early childhood.

This month's topic is "SmartTeach™ OSEP End of Year Reporting." Participants will learn the importance of end of year reporting activities, including exiting children from OSEP who are matriculating to Kindergarten, and archiving children and classrooms to close out the 2025-2026 academic year.

Attendees can access the webinar using the information below:

- **Webinar Date/Time:** May 19, 2026 at 3 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/99301224453>
- **Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID:** 993 0122 4453
- **Passcode:** 497464

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

Please contact Caitlyn.Robinson@la.gov with questions.



Events and Deadlines



- May 14:** [Family Child Care \(FCC\) Office Hours](#)
- May 19:** [Young Children with Disabilities Community of Practice](#)
- May 20:** [Active Coaching Site Office Hours](#)
- May 29:** [New Director Office Hours](#)
- June 4:** [Monthly Provider Webinar](#)
- June 9:** [CNLA Update Webinar](#)
- June 15:** [ECE Fund Eligibility Webinar](#)

Please contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions.



Questions



Thank you!

The Early Childhood Strategy Leadership Team



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Caitlyn Robinson
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