

English Learner (EL) Educator Certification Support

2027–2028 SuperApp Funding Guidance

Overview and Purpose

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) is providing funding to support educators at CIR/UIR schools in obtaining certification or additional credentials to strengthen instructional support for English Learners (ELs).

For the 2027–2028 school year, systems may request support for eligible educators through three pathways:

- EL teachers serving under an Out-of-Field Authority to Teach (OFAT) who are working toward full EL certification;
- currently certified teachers pursuing an [English as a Second Language \(ESL\) Add-On Endorsement](#); and
- EL paraprofessionals pursuing teacher certification and licensure.

These opportunities are intended to strengthen EL staffing capacity within CIR/UIR schools by supporting educators in completing the preparation and certification needed for their respective roles.

Eligibility

Funding is available for eligible educators currently employed at **CIR/UIR schools**. Individuals receiving support must remain employed at the identified CIR/UIR school while receiving funds through this initiative.

Systems should confirm participant eligibility for the applicable pathway prior to requesting funding through SuperApp.

Funding Opportunities

EL Teachers Serving Under an OFAT

Systems may request up to **\$7,000 per teacher** to support currently employed EL teachers serving under an Out-of-Field Authority to Teach (OFAT) in obtaining full EL certification.

Funding may support tuition, certification, testing, and related costs during the 2027–2028 school year.

SuperApp Question: How many currently employed English Learner (EL) teachers at eligible CIR/UIR schools are serving under an Out-of-Field Authority to Teach (OFAT) and require financial assistance to obtain full EL certification during the 2027–2028 school year?

Funding Request: Up to **\$7,000 per eligible teacher**

ESL Add-On Endorsement

Systems may request support for currently certified teachers at eligible CIR/UIR schools in obtaining the Louisiana ESL Add-On Endorsement, with support valued at up to **\$7,000 per teacher**.

Participants will complete the **four courses required for the [ESL Add-On Endorsement](#)** through the preparation provider selected by LDOE. Support will include approved coursework, endorsement-related certification costs, and required instructional materials and resources.

The selected preparation provider will support participants throughout the endorsement process, including:

- admission and enrollment;
- completion of the four required courses; and
- required books, instructional materials, and other resources needed to complete the coursework.

SuperApp Question: How many currently certified teachers employed at eligible CIR/UIR schools would pursue an ESL Add-On Endorsement if financial assistance were available during the 2027–2028 school year?

Funding Request: Up to **\$7,000 per eligible teacher**

EL Paraprofessionals Pursuing Teacher Certification

Systems may request up to **\$12,500 per candidate** to support currently employed EL paraprofessionals at eligible CIR/UIR schools in completing a teacher preparation program leading to Louisiana teacher certification and licensure.

Funding may support tuition, certification, testing, and related costs during the 2027–2028 school year.

SuperApp Question: How many currently employed EL paraprofessionals at eligible CIR/UIR schools would be eligible and interested in completing a teacher preparation program leading to Louisiana teacher certification and licensure if financial assistance were available?

Funding Request: Up to **\$12,500 per eligible candidate**

Additional Guidance

Systems should confirm that participants are employed at an eligible CIR/UIR school, meet the criteria for the applicable pathway, and intend to participate during the 2027–2028 school year.

Funding requests should reflect the number of eligible participants and may not exceed the maximum amount established for the applicable pathway. Participants must remain employed at the **CIR/UIR school identified in the funding request while receiving support through the initiative**.

Submission of a funding request does not guarantee funding. Awards will be based on participant eligibility, available funding, and LDOE review of SuperApp requests.

Additional information regarding participation and implementation will be provided to systems receiving funding.

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