

Last week, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) took several actions that directly impact the activities of or are significant interest to local education agencies. A summary is provided below. For more information or questions, please contact [Ryan Gremillion](#).

Approval of revisions to Bulletin 111, *The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System*, relative to accountability and assessment

Louisiana's state education plan pursuant to the Federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) includes an Interests and Opportunities school accountability system indicator, which is scheduled to be implemented for the 2019-2020 school year and comprises five percent of the School Performance Score (SPS). The purpose of the Interests and Opportunities index is to measure the degree to which schools are providing students with access to a well-rounded education by offering diverse areas of learning to develop skills and talents. BESE approved revisions that establish the 2019-2020 school year as a baseline year, whereby the Interests and Opportunities indicator will be based on principal completion of an online survey (grades K-12) and course enrollment in physical education, visual arts, performing arts, and world languages (grades K-8).

Further, Louisiana was the first state to win approval under the U.S. Department of Education's Innovation Assessment Demonstration Authority (IADA) pilot. As a result, beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, Louisiana has partnered with school systems to pilot an innovative LEAP 2025 humanities assessment, combining English language arts (ELA) and social studies. The Board approved revisions which establish a transition policy for schools participating in the LEAP 2025 humanities assessment pilot, beginning with the 2019-2020 school year. When calculating these schools' SPS during the transition, the LDE will use the higher of the two scores, either the most recent LEAP 2025 score for each school or the actual score in the current year.

[Click here](#) to view the approved revisions to Bulletin 111, *The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System*.

Approval of revisions to Bulletin 746, *Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel*, regarding teacher certification

BESE approved revisions to Bulletin 746 which allow successful out-of-state teaching experience for the issuance of teaching or educational leadership certificates, clarify the PRAXIS examination(s) that are accepted for issuance of the Algebra I add-on endorsement, and align the required score for the Social Studies PRAXIS exam (5086) with the score recommended by the ETS Multi-State Standard-Setting Study. The approved policy revises the required score to 153.

[Click here](#) to view the approved revisions to Bulletin 746, *Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel*.

Approval of Allocations

The Board approved several allocations of funding to local school systems at last week's meeting, including funding to support Birth-5 and Grades 3-12 ELA initiatives, funding to improve statewide school health infrastructure, funding for Early Childhood Care and Education Network lead agencies, and funding for professional development for infant-teacher interactions.

[Click here](#) to view the list of allocations approved at last week's meeting.