

The State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) met last Tuesday and Wednesday, October 11 and 12. A summary of board actions that directly impact the activities of local education agencies are listed below.

Any bulletin revisions, with the exception of emergency rules, must run in the Louisiana Register as a Notice of Intent for 90 days and complete the rulemaking process before becoming rule and appearing in the bulletins on the BESE website. For more information or questions on any of these policy changes, please contact [Ryan Gremillion](#).

Revisions to Bulletin 746, Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel, and Bulletin 996, Standards for Approval of Teacher and/or Educational Leader Preparation Program, relative to teacher preparation and certification requirements

[R.S.17:7\(6\)\(a\)\(i\)](#) requires the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) to prescribe qualifications and provide for certification of teachers in accordance with applicable law. According to the statute, certification qualifications and requirements must ensure that certification is a reliable indicator of minimum current ability and proficiency of the teacher to educate at the grade level and in the subject(s) to which the teacher is assigned. [R.S. 17:7.2](#) requires BESE to establish qualifications and requirements for the approval of teacher education programs that result in eligibility for certification, subject to the constitutional power and authority of the Board of Regents (BoR) and university system supervisory boards.

Last week, the Board approved revisions to Bulletin 746, *Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel*, and Bulletin 996, *Standards for Approval of Teacher and/or Educational Leader Preparation Program*, related to teacher preparation and certification requirements.

[Click here](#) to view the approved revisions to Bulletin 746, *Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel* and [here](#) to view the approved revisions to Bulletin 996, *Standards for Approval of Teacher and/or Educational Leader Preparation Program*.

Revisions to Bulletin 111, The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System, relative to state accountability measures

The Board approved revisions to Bulletin 111, *The Louisiana School, District, and State Accountability System*, related to the 2016-2017 high school dropout assignment policy.

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

Revisions to Bulletin 1922, Compliance Monitoring Procedures, relative to operational procedures for compliance monitoring

The Board approved revisions to Bulletin 1922, *Compliance Monitoring Procedures*, relative to activities conducted during on-site monitoring visits.

[Click here](#) to view the approved revisions to Bulletin 1922, *Compliance Monitoring Procedures*.

Approval of course providers for the Course Choice Program for 2016-2017 and reauthorization of successful providers

In accordance with state law, the Louisiana Department of Education (LDE) released a Request for Applications (RFA) for the Course Choice Program. The 2015-2016 RFA process represents a fourth call for course providers. This year, the LDE implemented a “rolling applications” process for course providers. This new process enables the LDE to accept Course Choice course provider applications throughout the year.

At last week’s meeting, the LDE recommended one course provider applicants for Board approval based on successful completion of the three specified Course Choice evaluation phases (i.e., Application, Interview, and Independent Panel Review).

[Click here](#) to view a description of the course provider applicants approved by the Board at last week’s meeting.

Approval of Allocations

The Board approved nine allocations of funding to local school systems at last week's meeting, including school improvement grants that directly support and empower districts to pursue high-quality initiatives that will transform educational opportunities for students attending Louisiana's lowest-performing schools, funding to support early childhood ancillary certificate programs, funding to support short-term and long-term education related services for districts to help them recover from a violent or traumatic event in which the learning environment has been disrupted, funding to support immersion activities, and funding to improve kindergarten readiness through enhanced adult-child interactions in early childhood settings.

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