

# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PREPARATION PROVIDER MONTHLY EMAIL

Dear Believe and Prepare Community,

Happy July! We hope that all of you enjoyed your 4th of July holiday.

As we are gearing up for the start of another amazing year, we want to inform you that starting this school year, we will highlight YOU! There are so many amazing things happening in our prep provider community, and we want to spotlight your programs that are doing amazing work to further enhance and develop teachers so they can grow our students.

Areas we will spotlight include, but are not limited to, data around teacher candidates' successful Praxis scores due to a new resource you have implemented in your program (could be personnel or a new Praxis prep course). We want to spotlight case studies highlighting your program in an area that targets teacher development, professional growth, or the implementation of an innovative residency model. We could also spotlight take-aways from interviews that highlight your resident teachers' residency experiences (could incorporate mentor teachers, building level administrators, program administrators, field supervisors, and of course- resident teachers). Lastly, we would love to spotlight success stories, upcoming events, and insights about how your program is implementing HQIM and HQPL to enhance your methods courses.

We are truly excited to hear about all of the wonderful things that are happening throughout our prep provider community. More information regarding the submission process will be provided at a later date.

Cheers to the start of something new and exciting in our community as we embrace the upcoming school year full of hope and growth.

Arthur M. Joffrion, Jr., Ed.D.  
Deputy Assistant Superintendent of Educator Talent and Workforce Development

## **UPCOMING DEADLINES**

**July 10:** [Full Applications](#) Due for Program Approval

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**July 15:** Certification Monthly [call](#)

**July 24:** New Teacher Experience Kick-Off

**July 31:** Preparation Provider [monthly call](#)

## **NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Preparation Provider Monthly Webinar**

Please join the next monthly webinar on Wednesday, July 31.

#### **Webinar Details:**

- **Webinar Date and Time:** July 31, 10 - 11 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/440246097>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
- **Meeting ID#:** 440 246 097

# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PREPARATION PROVIDER MONTHLY EMAIL

Please contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov) with questions.

## **Summer Literacy Tour**

The Literacy and ELA Divisions will be traveling the state for the 3rd Annual [Louisiana Literacy Regional PD Tour](#).

- July 9 - Bossier City
- July 11 - Alexandria

Contact [louisianaliteracy@la.gov](mailto:louisianaliteracy@la.gov) with any questions.

## **New Teacher Experience Kick-Off: REGISTRATION IS STILL OPEN**

The Louisiana Department of Education will host the Summer Kick-off for the New Teacher Experience on **July 24 from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.** in Baton Rouge for 500 new teachers. The goals of the event are to:

- Welcome new teachers to the profession,
- Understand the components of Louisiana's New Teacher Experience,
- Engage in high-quality professional learning around topics relevant to new teachers, and
- Provide statewide networking opportunities for new teachers.

Please share this date with your graduating seniors. [Registration](#) is now open for the first 500 teachers. Contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov) with any questions.

## **Bayou Bridges Curriculum Guide**

The LDOE has published a new [curriculum guide](#) to support teachers and instructional leaders as they implement Bayou Bridges materials. The guide provides in-depth information on the program's guiding principles, design, key components and resources, unit and lesson study tools, along with sample lesson annotations.

Teachers and leaders should use this resource to help them navigate the curriculum, better understand its key components, and effectively plan and implement Bayou Bridges lessons.

This guide will continue to be updated as additional units are published.

Please contact [classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov](mailto:classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov) with questions.

## **Geaux Teach Scholarship Program**

[Act 463](#) of the 2022 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature established the Geaux Teach Program, which provides scholarships to students who are enrolled in teacher preparation programs at the state's postsecondary institutions that are approved by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE). Funding is also available to students attending certified alternative teacher preparation programs approved by BESE.

# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PREPARATION PROVIDER MONTHLY EMAIL

Students may receive up to \$5,000 annually to cover the cost of tuition fees, textbooks, and instructional materials required for enrollment.

Additional information about the Geaux Teach Program, including eligibility requirements, the [Geaux Teach Application](#), and answers to [Frequently Asked Questions](#) may be accessed on the [LOSFA website](#).

Please contact [deborah.paul@la.gov](mailto:deborah.paul@la.gov) with questions.

## **Literacy Coursework Submission**

The LDOE literacy team has reviewed all submissions of course descriptions to determine if they are aligned with the Science of Reading dyslexia course requirements. Feedback will be sent to providers to inform them of the findings from review or to inform them if additional information is needed to complete review.

Please contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov) or [certification@la.gov](mailto:certification@la.gov) with questions.

## **Math Competencies**

[Act 347](#) of the 2023 Regular Session states that BESE shall revise teacher certification requirements and the requirements of teacher education programs to require instruction on foundational numeracy skills standards for candidates seeking certification to teach students no later than December 31, 2023.

[Bulletin 746 §507.B.12](#) Beginning September 1, 2028, an applicant for initial certification must have earned coursework or equivalent contact hours in alignment with the adopted foundational numeracy competencies.

The [competency crosswalk](#) document can be found in the [Preparation Library](#).

Please contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov) with questions.

## **High-Quality Instructional Material (HQIM) Update**

The LDOE has been granted an extension in funding to order High-Quality Instructional Materials. Deliverables are currently being shipped to providers from vendors who could meet the June 30th deadline. Orders from vendors who could not make the June 30th deadline will be placed in July.

The planning phase of High-Quality Professional Learning (HQPL) for the HQIM purchased is tentatively scheduled for late fall. HQPL around the foundational use of HQIM will be provided by Deans for Impact and HQPL around unpacking HQIM materials will be provided by vendors who were commonly purchased from across our provider community.

More details regarding all HQIM and HQPL will be disclosed as details are finalized.

# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PREPARATION PROVIDER MONTHLY EMAIL

Should you have any questions regarding HQIM deliverables or upcoming HQPL training sessions, please contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov).

## **2024-2025 LEADS Learning Year Evaluator Training**

In addition to the upcoming pre-service rubric training this fall, preparation providers are encouraged to attend the summer evaluation training for both the Educator Rubric and the Leader Rubric so that the processes and components can be incorporated into coursework. Please visit the [registration landing page](#) to sign up for a training session in your region.

When registering, enter.

- Job title: Other
- School System: Provider Name
- School: Provider Name

Please contact [leads@la.gov](mailto:leads@la.gov) with questions.

## **Louisiana Aspiring Educator Rubric (LAER) Training**

Training on the new Louisiana Aspiring Educator Rubric (LAER) will be held in August across four regional areas. Training dates are as follows:

- August 1-2 at Tulane University (*New Orleans*)
- August 13-14 at Northwestern University (*Natchitoches*)
- August 22-23 at ULM (*Monroe*)
- August 27-28 at University View (*Baton Rouge*)

If you did not receive an email with the link to register for a training session, please contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov). The targeted audience of participants includes the residency/placement coordinators and university supervisors or those responsible for observing and evaluating residency students.

Additional seats are available across each training site. Should providers need to attend a training at another location due to schedule conflicts or wish to include additional faculty members, please contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov) by July 12.

Webinars will be offered for those providers who are already NIET, ATR, and/or LER trained. The focus of the webinar series is to highlight the alignment between the LER and AER rubric expectations and best practices. More information will be forthcoming.

Should you have any questions regarding the upcoming AER training sessions or webinars, please contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov).

# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PREPARATION PROVIDER MONTHLY EMAIL

## **NASDTEC**

The National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) offers a reliable resource for comprehensive teacher licensure information across all 50 states.

NASDTEC invites your organization to become a member and gain exclusive access to our NASDTEC KnowledgeBase. This invaluable tool provides detailed insights into teacher licensure requirements from every state in the US, empowering you with the knowledge needed to navigate the complex landscape of teacher licensure seamlessly and assist you in meeting both the requirements of the USDOE related to occupational licensure notification and the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) to teacher candidates.

As a member of NASDTEC, you'll enjoy a multitude of benefits, including:

- Twenty-five (25) user accounts with full access to all NASDTEC resources in the Online Community.
- Access to the NASDTEC KnowledgeBase: Gain unparalleled access to comprehensive teacher licensure information from all 50 states, ensuring you stay informed and prepared.
- Networking Opportunities: Connect with education professionals and policymakers nationwide, fostering collaborations and sharing best practices.
- Professional Learning Resources: Access exclusive resources, webinars, and training opportunities designed to help prepare teacher candidates and those already in the field.
- Advocacy and Support: Join a community dedicated to advocating for the highest standards in teacher preparation and licensure, with access to guidance and support.

Associate membership for an educator preparation provider is only \$500 annually and as stated above, allows your organization to have 25 user accounts. For more information on membership benefits and to join, visit our website at <https://www.nasdtec.net/page/Membership>.

NASDTEC looks forward to welcoming you to our community of education leaders committed to excellence in teacher licensure, preparation, and ethics.

Please contact [support@nasdtec.org](mailto:support@nasdtec.org) with any questions.

## **TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM APPROVAL**

### **2024-2025 Program Approval Fall Cycle**

The [new program application](#) window opened on May 1 for the fall cycle for [teacher preparation programs](#), [mentor teacher](#), [content leader](#), and [ECAC](#). All Notice of Intents were due by June 1. Approved applicants are currently in the application stage. Full applications for all new programs were due July 10. **The next application cycle will begin September 1.**

# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PREPARATION PROVIDER MONTHLY EMAIL

Cycle	<a href="#">Application Window Opens</a>	Notice of Intent Due	<a href="#">Full Application Due</a>	Round 1 Evaluation Period Begins	Notification of Pending Decisions	Round 2 Evaluation and Notification (as needed)	<a href="#">BESE Consideration</a>
Fall	May 1	June 1	July 10	July 11	August 26	TBD	October TBD

A [guide](#) for teacher preparation providers applying for initial program approval is available in the [Preparation Library](#) on Louisiana Believes.

If you have any questions, please contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov).

## TEACHER PREPARATION QUALITY RATING SYSTEM

### **On-Site Review Updates**

The Teacher Preparation Quality Rating System (TPQRS) includes Preparation Program Experience as one of the domains. An on-site review by a third party is conducted to understand the program's quality once at least every four years. The RFP for the on-site review vendor has been selected and approved. On-site reviews are scheduled to begin in late fall. Providers who have been selected for an on-site review this fall have been notified.

Each provider received their on-site review timeframe during the performance profile debriefing calls. If your assigned on-site review interferes with any other accreditation timeframe, please email [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov) to request a change.

### **2022-2023 Teacher Preparation Quality Rating Performance Profiles**

The 2022-2023 Teacher Preparation Quality Rating Calculations are in the final calculation stages. Providers should expect to receive emails sent directly to the deans/ program directors this summer to schedule performance profile reviews.

Please contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov) with questions.

### **Louisianateacherprep.com**

The LDOE is no longer hosting preparation information on louisianateacherprep.com. All performance profiles can be found in the [Preparation Library](#). Additional information can be found on [teachlouisiana.net](http://teachlouisiana.net).

If you have any questions, please contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov).

# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PREPARATION PROVIDER MONTHLY EMAIL

## CERTIFICATION UPDATES & REMINDERS

### **Phase One of New Online System**

The new online system will be implemented in phases. Phase One includes the updating of our question submission system. The testing 'sandbox' has been created. Test users have been identified and will be testing through July 12. Thank you to all of those that have volunteered to test the system. Tentative rollout date for full implementation is the **end of July**. To access the new system, users will need a MyLa account. Teacher Preparation providers and HR users will need to make an EdLink Security request access to the Office Hours role for the Teacher Certification ZenDesk Help Center.

### **Office Hours Protocol**

The Certification Team offers [office hours](#) each week for human resource offices and program providers. Office hours are held Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. and from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. in 15-minute increments. This service is offered to **HR office personnel and program providers only**. **Individuals** with questions should submit them through the online portal.

Office hours are staffed by a Senior Specialist and a novice Specialist. As of **April 1, 2024** the following has been implemented for office hours:

- Submission of an office hours question is **required**. This office hours question is the mechanism through which our staff responds in writing to summarize the discussion held during office hours. The corresponding office hours question should be submitted prior to even scheduling the appointment; however, if an office hours question is not submitted to coincide with the appointment at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled call, the office hours appointment will be **canceled**.
- If application processing time is **15 days or less**, justification for expediting is **required at the time of reservation** for consideration. This means the certification office must have the justification at least 24 hours in advance of the call for expediting to be considered.
- Expediting requests may be denied and are at the discretion of the LDOE.

We ask that the following steps be followed to schedule an [office hours](#) call:

- Login to HR account in online teacher certification portal, TeachLA Live!
- Use the **"Ask a Question"** feature along the top ribbon of the page
- Choose "HR/Prep Provider Office Hours" in the drop-down menu
- Indicate certification questions, cases, candidates, and details around certification questions
- Submit the question case and **receive case #**

# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PREPARATION PROVIDER MONTHLY EMAIL

- Use **online scheduler** and indicate the “office hours” question case number in the reservation

## [Step-by-Step Demonstration](#)

**New Applications.** In response to the newly adopted policy coming off of Notice of Intent around May 20, **all applications** were updated on or before **June 1, 2024**. As of **July 1, 2024**, all applications are **required** to be the **June 1, 2024** version for processing.

**Literacy Exam Requirements.** Beginning **January 1, 2024**, **Out-of-State** applicants authorized to teach grades K-3 and not meeting exam requirements with experience will need to take the Teaching of Reading exam in addition to content and pedagogy exams. **Initial applicants** completing **in-state** preparation programs already enrolled in the year-long residency and holding either the PL or R credential **prior to January 1, 2025**, are not subject to taking the Teaching of Reading exam. **Add-on** policy is effective **September 1, 2024**. Keep in mind if an applicant is applying for initial certification **with an add-on**, if the add-on area requires the exam, the Certification Office will be looking for the exam effective 9/1/2024.

The 5205 is **not interchangeable** with the 7002. The 7002 includes the ELA portion of the multiple subjects exam and the teaching of reading exam. The 5205 is only the teaching of reading elementary exam. It does not include the ELA portion of the elementary subjects exam. Teacher candidates in the elementary grades need both the ELA portion and a teaching of reading. Therefore, candidates can take the 5002 + the 5205, or the 7002 to meet these requirements.

**New Literacy Exam Option.** BESE adopted the Louisiana Elementary Multiple-Subjects exam, which includes as a part of the English Language Arts subtest, the Teaching of Reading exam. It :

- Allows for an option with the same number of exams as currently required
- Includes grades K-3 (PK-3, 1-5, Special Education areas)

The passing score increases over time to gradually increase Science of Reading skill mastery for teacher candidates. The current Teaching of Reading exam (5205/5206) is not being phased out; neither is the current Elementary Multiple subjects exam (5001). Effective June 1, 2024, the newly adopted test will be available through ETS. The LDOE has been made aware that the 7001 is not yet available on the ETS website for Louisiana. ETS has been contacted and they are working on the issue. The 7001 should be available for Louisiana students to register soon.

**Add-On Literacy Requirements (General).** For add-on purposes, general reading and literacy hours may be fulfilled with the indicated semester hours, equivalent contact hours, or passing the adopted Teaching of Reading exam. Successful completion of the BESE-approved literacy foundations training may be accepted for the number of hours approved per program. Anyone using LTRS training will need to submit all LTRS certificates of completion to [LouisianaLiteracy@la.gov](mailto:LouisianaLiteracy@la.gov) for verification. The email verification from [LouisianaLiteracy@La.gov](mailto:LouisianaLiteracy@La.gov) must be included with the add-on application to receive credit for the training for add-on purposes.

**Add-On Literacy Requirements (Grades K-3, Special Education).** Effective 9/1/2024,



# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PREPARATION PROVIDER MONTHLY EMAIL

teachers wishing to add-on certification areas granting authorization to teach grades K-3 and Special Education add-on areas will require the general literacy semester or contact hours AND Teaching of Reading Elementary exam. For add-on purposes, 5205/7002 cannot satisfy both the literacy hours requirement and the Teaching of Reading exam requirement. Please use the [Literacy Exam and Coursework Guidance for Preparation Providers](#) guidance document for additional information.

**Foreign Equivalency Transcripts.** New foreign equivalency transcript requirements include that a credentialing agency must be an endorsed member in good standing with either:

- [National Association of Credential Evaluation Services \(NACES\)](#)
- [Association of International Credential Evaluators \(AICE\)](#).

The adopted policy was effective **May 20**. Updated information is available on [teachlouisiana.net](http://teachlouisiana.net).

Please contact [certification@la.gov](mailto:certification@la.gov) with questions.

## **Certification and Credentialing Monthly Call**

The Certification Office conducts a monthly call devoted solely to certification and now credentialing. Participants for this call should include individuals responsible for the implementation of certification policy in teacher preparation programs and school systems. Topics include legislative and policy updates, certification processing updates, and frequently asked questions. It will generally fall on the third **Monday** of each month at **10:30 a.m.** Any changes due to BESE meetings or holidays will be included on the [school system support calendar](#). The next call is **Monday, July 15**.

**Webinar link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97801045748?pwd=N1JobWIDU1gvNnNYQk40Wjl3YmpxUT09>

**Meeting ID:** 978 0104 5748

**Passcode:** 959091

Please contact [Christy.Bellue@la.gov](mailto:Christy.Bellue@la.gov) with questions.