

# Believe & PREPARE

PREPARING LOUISIANA'S NEXT GENERATION EDUCATORS



February 23, 2017



*Adriane Meggs, Louisiana Tech clinical resident, leads a read-a-loud while mentor teacher, Shannon Embanato observes.*

My resident, Adriane Meggs is my co-teacher. She is my partner, and she is my "baby bird," as I affectionately refer to her. The students view her as a second teacher, which is clear from their respect of her and their confidence in asking her for help. If you visit our classroom, it is hard to tell which one of us has multiple years of experience and which is an aspiring teacher completing the second half of her residency year. In a classroom of twenty-two to twenty-six children, we all know it is difficult to meet the needs of all the children every day.

Click [here](#) to read Shannon's full blog.

*Shannon Embanato is a third grade teacher at Sallie Humble Elementary in Monroe City Schools. She is a ten-year veteran teacher serving as mentor for the first time.*

**In This Issue:**

[Upcoming Events and Deadlines](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND DEADLINES FOR SCHOOL SYSTEMS AND PREPARATION PROVIDERS

In this edition, you will find information about the following important events:

- February 28: Attend information webinar relative to Title II reporting
- March 3: Complete Believe and Prepare Winter Community Meeting [feedback survey](#)
- March 6: [Preparation Program Provider Webinar](#) and complete [preparation provider school system contact survey](#)
- March 8: Believe and Prepare TIF districts support meeting
- March 10: Review and certify the pass rate report for your institution
- March 24: Believe and Prepare Residency Expansion Grant [Notice of Intent](#) due **(UPDATED)**
- April 28: [Believe and Prepare Residency Expansion Grant](#) full application due **(UPDATED)**

For more information contact [BelieveandPrepare@la.gov](mailto:BelieveandPrepare@la.gov).

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## EDUCATOR HIGHLIGHTS

Louisiana's Kelly Stomps along with the 2016 State Teachers of the Year from across the nation were honored at this year's college football playoff national championship game thanks to the College Football Playoff Foundation and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). Read more in Kelly's [blog](#).

Louisiana representatives will be sharing the state's approach to yearlong residencies in a featured presentation at the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education conference. Lincoln Parish Schools and Louisiana Tech University will be featured in an expert panel on March 3, 2017.

Xavier University, a historically black Catholic university in New Orleans, has established an innovative teaching residency program known as the Norman C. Francis Residency program. Dr. Francis stepped down as president of Xavier University in June 2015. At that time, he was the longest-serving college or university president in the United States. Read more in [The New Orleans Advocate](#).



*State Teachers of the Year in a final huddle. Picture courtesy of Ryan Kaiser, Maryland State Teacher of the Year.*

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## BELIEVE AND PREPARE UPDATES

### **UPDATED BELIEVE AND PREPARE RESIDENCY EXPANSION GRANT**

The [Believe and Prepare Residency Expansion Grant](#) was [released](#) last week. BESE-approved providers may apply for up to

\$250,000. In response to feedback from district and preparation leaders, the submission timeline has been moved back. **The Notice of Intent is due March 24, with the full application due on April 28.**

For more information, please contact [BelieveAndPrepare@la.gov](mailto:BelieveAndPrepare@la.gov).

## TIF DISTRICTS: SUPPORT MEETING

Providers that are planning to apply for the Believe and Prepare Residency Expansion Grant are invited to this meeting to learn about preparation models that serve rural school systems.

- **When:** Wednesday, March 8
- **Time:** 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- **Location:** [Country Inn & Suite](#) 2727 Monroe Highway, Pineville, LA 71360

For more information, please contact [BelieveAndPrepare@la.gov](mailto:BelieveAndPrepare@la.gov).

## UPDATED TEACHER PREPARATION TRANSITION GUIDE

The [Teacher Preparation Transition Guide](#) outlines the transition timeline and supports available to preparation providers and their school system partners as they align preparation experiences and partnerships to meet BESE's updated teacher preparation program requirements. The guide was updated in February 2017 to include:

- [Believe and Prepare Newsletter](#)
- [Tomorrow's Teacher: A Believe and Prepare Educator Blog](#)
- [Funding Technical Assistance Guidance](#)
- [Believe and Prepare Residency Expansion Grant Opportunity](#)
- [Partnership Tools](#)

For more information, please contact [BelieveAndPrepare@la.gov](mailto:BelieveAndPrepare@la.gov).

## PREPARATION PROVIDER SCHOOL SYSTEM POINT OF CONTACT

Several school system leaders would like to reach out to providers to gauge interest in partnership. Preparation providers program leads should complete the survey [here](#) by **Monday, March 6** to indicate your institution's point of contact. The Department will share the preparation program leader's name and e-mail address with school systems if a designee is not identified in the survey.

For more information, please contact [BelieveAndPrepare@la.gov](mailto:BelieveAndPrepare@la.gov).

## BELIEVE AND PREPARE EDUCATOR PREPARATION PROVIDER WEBINAR

Monthly educator preparation program webinars will resume on Monday, **March 6** at 2:00 p.m. Educator preparation provider leaders and faculty members are invited to participate.

- **Webinar Login Information**
- Meeting Name: Teacher Preparation
- Click [here](#) to join the meeting or go to <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/teacherpreparation/>
- Audio access via phone bridge: **1-855-240-2575**; enter the participant code **91287604** when prompted.

For more information, please contact [BelieveAndPrepare@la.gov](mailto:BelieveAndPrepare@la.gov).

## HIGH-COST NEEDS POOL APPLICATION

The Department received eleven requests for funding for high-cost needs. BESE will be asked to consider allocations between \$15,000-\$25,000 for all proposals. BESE will consider allocations in March and April.

For more information, please contact [BelieveAndPrepare@la.gov](mailto:BelieveAndPrepare@la.gov).

## LOUISIANA TEACHER PREPARATION COMPETENCIES

The [Louisiana teacher preparation competencies](#) for initial teacher certification, available in the [preparation library](#), define what a teacher candidate must know and be able to do in order to be eligible for certification upon completion of a BESE-approved teacher preparation program. BESE approved these competencies in October.

### ON-SITE REVIEW PILOT MATERIALS

The on-site review model is designed to provide teacher preparation providers with meaningful feedback on the quality of coursework and practice experiences. Louisiana's on-site reviews are based on the inspectorate model, which has been in place in the United Kingdom since 1984. A Louisiana-specific on-site review model has been developed in partnership with several preparation leaders and is being piloted in 2016-2017.

On-site review resources, including a [brief](#) about the development process, are now available in the [preparation library](#).

Please email [Jaime.Finane@la.gov](mailto:Jaime.Finane@la.gov) with questions or feedback.

### REMINDER: DEADLINE FOR FEDERAL TITLE II RESOLUTION PERIOD IS MARCH 3

As per the federal Higher Education Act, all teacher preparation programs that prepare teachers for initial certification must annually report information relative to their programs. This information is published annually in a state report on the Title II website. The resolution period for the 2015-2016 licensure assessment pass rates is now underway and pass rates must be reviewed by March 3, 2017.

#### Action items

- Attend the informational webinar relative to Title II reporting on **February 28, 2017** (Note: Westat will send the details to all Title II coordinators)
- Review and certify the pass rate report and send corrections to the Department (for private providers) or to the Board of Regents (for universities) by **March 3, 2017**

Email [Sara.Strickland@LA.gov](mailto:Sara.Strickland@LA.gov) with any questions.

### WINTER BELIEVE AND PREPARE COMMUNITY MEETING

If you attended the Believe and Prepare community on February 13, please complete the [feedback survey](#) by **Friday, March 3**. All meeting materials are available in the [preparation library](#) under Winter 2017 Community Meeting.

For more information, please contact [BelieveAndPrepare@LA.gov](mailto:BelieveAndPrepare@LA.gov).

### 2016-2017 EDUCATOR WORKFORCE REPORTS

The 2016-2017 District Educator Workforce Report provides district leaders with a detailed overview of decisions they are charged with making regarding the educators and education leaders in their districts.

Data in the Educator Workforce Report is organized according to the following sections and may be used to inform decisions related to:

- **Recruiting and hiring**
- **Evaluating results**
- **Compensating teachers and school leaders**
- **Retaining, promoting, and granting tenure**

The Educator Workforce Report has been improved based upon feedback from the pilot year and will be released in early March.

The educator workforce report will be discussed at the March Supervisor Collaborations. Reports will be shared in each district's FTP. Reports will *not* be posted publicly. However, district leaders may choose to discuss these reports with preparation partners.

Email [Sara.Strickland@LA.gov](mailto:Sara.Strickland@LA.gov) with any questions.



*This map displays the regional categories that will be used in the workforce report.*

## NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

### DEANS FOR IMPACT - IMPACT ACADEMY

**Deans for Impact** is a nonprofit organization focused on educator preparation and elevating the teaching profession. Deans for Impact offers the [Impact Academy](#), which supports Deans as they lead educator preparation programs that are data-informed and outcomes-focused. Over the course of the year-long fellowship, Deans will participate in in-person sessions, receive ongoing leadership coaching, and develop a plan to improve their educator-preparation programs. The deadline to apply is March 1, 2017.

### MARCH SUPERVISOR COLLABORATION EVENT

The [March Supervisor Collaborations](#) will take place in the following locations.

- March 14 in Harvey
- March 15 in Baton Rouge
- March 16 in Ruston

Key preparation **provider leaders and faculty leading design efforts** interested in attending should contact their school district partners to register for this event.

Please contact [louisianateacherleaders@la.gov](mailto:louisianateacherleaders@la.gov) with questions about this event.

### NATIONAL CERTIFICATION IN BRAILLE

Louisiana Tech University is hosting a webinar to prepare individuals to take the National Certification in Unified English Braille exam. They have also arranged for discount testing fees to take the NCUEB exam in March. Further information is available [here](#).

### NATIONAL FIELD EXPERIENCE CONFERENCE

The [National Field Experience Conference](#) pre-conference registration deadline is **March 1, 2017**.

This is an opportunity to share information, practices, policies, and research pertaining to teacher candidates' experiences in school settings with colleagues across the nation. All Believe and Prepare governance team members, school system leaders

who coordinate with teacher preparation providers on residency development, and clinical faculty should attend.

**Date:** April 5-7, 2017

**Location:** Louisiana Tech University

**Presented by:** Louisiana Tech University and University of Northern Colorado

For more information, visit the NFES website at <http://www.unco.edu/cebs/nfec/>.

## UPDATED ESSA FRAMEWORK RELEASED

The Department released an updated [ESSA framework](#) for public comment on February 6, 2017. Please see the Department's [ESSA web page](#) for more information about Louisiana's ESSA plan and a [presentation](#) on how the framework has evolved since it was first released last September.

Please email [essalouisiana@la.gov](mailto:essalouisiana@la.gov) with questions or to submit your feedback.

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