

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PREPARATION PROVIDER MONTHLY EMAIL

Dear Believe and Prepare Community,

Happy New Year! 2023 was full of growth and success for our students, educators, and preparation programs in Louisiana. We still have more to do in 2024 to lead us to the next level of our Vision for Success.

There are many upcoming opportunities for your faculty to join our educators in professional learning experiences focusing on literacy, math, professional learning structures, and educational leadership. The LDOE's signature event, our annual [Teacher Leader Summit](#), is one of the great opportunities for your faculty to stay connected and abreast of Louisiana's academic strategy and implementation in order to make connections to your programs. This year's theme, Leading the Next Level, will focus on strengthening the instructional leadership team and teacher collaboration structures using teacher leaders to lead our teachers and students to the next level. It is also an opportunity for faculty to present on the successes of your programs' impact in school systems. Registration and presenter application information is listed below.

I look forward to seeing you and your teams throughout the spring.

Em Cooper
Deputy Assistant Superintendent of Educator Development

UPCOMING DEADLINES

January 19: Deadline to submit [proposals](#) for Louisiana's Educators Rising state conference
February 2: Teacher Leader Summit early bird registration closes.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 16: Pre-Educator site visit in Bossier
January 19: Regional Educators Rising Conference at McNeese
January 31: Preparation provider [monthly call](#)
February 7: Regional Educators Rising Conference at Northwestern
February 15: HQIM Support [Office Hours](#)
February 16: Regional Educators Rising Conference at LSU-Alexandria
February 29: Louisiana State Educator's Rising conference at ULM

NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Preparation Provider Monthly Webinar

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

Webinar Details:

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

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Please contact nicole.bono@la.gov with questions.

Louisiana Educators Rising State Conference

Save the date for the Louisiana Educators Rising State Conference, which will be held on **February 29** at ULM. This year's state conference theme is Discover Your Legacy.

Registration is currently open for participants and exhibitors. The Deadline for attendee/exhibitor [registration](#) is **Thursday, February 1**.

Applications are currently being accepted for session proposals. **January 19** is the session proposal deadline; selected presentations will be announced by **February 2**. Review the [Call for Proposal](#) to view additional details to help prepare a session proposal submission.

Your students can register to compete by completing this [registration](#) before **January 19**.

Please contact weems@ulm.edu with questions.

Aspiring Educators Regional Conferences

Various universities will be hosting regional conferences for students engaged in the pre-educator work.

- **January 19:** McNeese will host *Unlock Education* at McNeese State University. [Registration](#) deadline is January 9.
- **February 7:** Northwestern University will host a regional conference. [Registration](#) closes on December 13.
- **February 16:** LSUA will host their 6th Annual Educators Rising Regional Conference. If you would like further information, please contact Morgan Willis at mwillis@lsua.edu or Maegan Schopper at maegan.schopper@rpsb.us.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

Pre-Educator Pathway Site Visit

System Leads, Teacher Leaders, and Postsecondary Teacher Preparation Partners are invited to attend a Learning Visit for a day of learning and community building. During Learning Visits, participants will have an opportunity to observe Grow Your Own work that is being done in another school system and strategize to improve Grow Your Own efforts in their system. Please use this [registration link](#) to sign up for a visit.

- Bossier Parish- January 16
- St. Bernard/New Orleans- March 5

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

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January Summit Extensions

January [Summit Extensions](#) will continue to support school systems in utilizing the [Professional Learning Roadmap](#) and the implementation of system-level long range plans that have clear alignment to school ILTs and Teacher Collaboration. The [Professional Learning Roadmap](#) intends to guide and support school systems and school leaders in their implementation of essential professional learning structures: school system instructional team, school instructional leadership team, and teacher collaboration. The Shreveport Summit Extension has been canceled.

Registration is currently open for the Lake Charles Summit Extension. All prep providers are encouraged to attend.

- January 23: [Shreveport](#) (Canceled)
- January 24: [Baton Rouge](#) (At Capacity)
- January 26: [Lake Charles](#)

Contact events@emergentmethod.com with any questions.

Teacher Leader Summit

We're counting down the days until the annual [Teacher Leader Summit](#) – May 28th through May 30th! Join us in New Orleans for our annual professional development conference, bringing together Louisiana's birth to grade 12 educators and content experts. Teacher Leader Summit Early Bird [registration](#) opened January 5 with regular registration opening February 3. Teacher Leader Summit [Presenter applications](#) and [Education Expo applications](#) also opened January 5 and are due February 2. Join Louisiana educators as we begin "Leading the Next Level" and preparing for the 2024-2025 school year.

Please contact events@emergentmethod.com with questions.

Staffing and Scheduling Bootcamps: Save the Date

In order to assist schools and systems in developing dynamic and effective schedules aligned with best practices, the Department is hosting four staffing and scheduling bootcamps in February. Both an elementary and a secondary bootcamp will be held in the southern region of the state and the northern region of the state. The full day bootcamp will include an overview of the staffing and scheduling best practices and allow system/school leaders to build effective schedules aligned to best practices. Registration is first-come, first-served, with registration opening **January 5**. Additional Details can be found on the [Staffing and Scheduling Bootcamp Overview](#).

Educational leadership faculty are invited to attend. Please contact louisianaleaders@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

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approved by BESE.

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 with questions.

K-3 Literacy Screener

State law mandates that all kindergarten through third grade students participate in a single statewide literacy screening three times per year. This includes students with IEPs or IAPs, English learners, non-readers, and students who qualify for alternate assessment based on the [K-2 Alternate Assessment Participation Decision-making Tool](#) for K-2 and the LEAP Connect criteria for grade 3.

Amplify was chosen as the vendor for the statewide screener that will be used by all public school systems for the mandated screening.

- **Amplify:** The name of the publisher providing the testing platform
- **mCLASS:** The name of the screening technology platform
- **DIBELS 8th:** The name of the actual screening instrument (this is the same screener that was used in the fall by all school systems)

Please share this information with your literacy instructors. For questions about testing administration, contact assessment@la.gov. For questions about policy and data-driven decision making, contact LouisianaLiteracy@la.gov.

FLAME Update

[FLAME](#) Units 1 and 2 are now available. These resources complement high-quality instructional materials by building students' accuracy, efficiency, and flexibility with grade-appropriate fluency skills.

FLAME provides

- activities designed to build grade-level foundations;
- formative tools for teachers to understand students' learning; and
- unit reports for sharing with parents.

Please share this information with your math instructors. To learn more, view the [FLAME Kickoff Webinar](#).

ELA Guidebooks

- ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) [FUEL \(Fluency Utilized to Engage Learners\)](#) overview available
 - ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) unit-aligned lessons to support fluency
 - FUEL materials available on the [Louisiana Curriculum Hub](#) spring 2024
- ELA Guidebooks 6-8 (2024)
 - Overview [webinar recording](#) is now available
 - [Overview document](#)
 - [Writing progression](#)

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Please share this information with your ELA instructors. Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with any questions.

Bayou Bridges Updates

All Grade 3 [Bayou Bridges Units](#) are now available for download. Grade 6 units will begin to post by December 20.

Please see the [Bayou Bridges Detailed Release Schedule](#) for publishing dates for all other grade levels and units.

Consult the [Professional Learning Partner Guide](#) for information on Bayou Bridges professional learning partners.

Please share this information with your social studies instructors. Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

2022-2023 Teacher Prep Provider Performance Profile Verification

The window to verify 2022-2023 TPP completer rosters for Performance Profiles and upload completer consent forms will open on **February 1, 2024** in the [File Transfer Portal \(FTP\)](#). An email with instructions will be sent on January 31. Providers may attend an optional office hour to receive support:

Date and time: February 1 at 1 p.m.

Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96258402693?pwd=c1RDbE5hTGZLTDRjMWhXYnhib3ZJUT09>

Meeting ID: 962 5840 2693

Passcode: 815107

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

ETS Reports Available for Review

Title II Reporting Services [ETS portal](#) will open **February 1, 2024** in order for educator prep providers to review 2022-2023 completer data. Please complete this review by **February 29, 2024**. Programs that need to make changes to rosters after this time period will incur a \$1,500 fee from Title II for each requested change. ETS will be sending out email reminders soon.

If you have questions regarding this process, please contact believeandprepare@la.gov

Annual Teacher Exit Survey Released

The annual [Teacher Exit Survey](#) highlights the progress of Louisiana's comprehensive recruitment and retention strategy. This report includes data Louisiana Teacher Preparation Providers may use to inform educational and recruitment strategies. This past year saw the following improvement:

- For the first time in four years, there was an increase in the total teacher workforce, resulting in the largest teacher workforce in over a decade.
- The rate of exiting teachers dropped from 14 to 13 percent.

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The 2022-2023 [Teacher Exit Survey](#) is available in the [Workforce Attributes Library](#).

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

High-Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM) and Professional Learning

Teacher Preparation Providers (TPPs) have identified purchasing HQIM as a financial barrier to providing quality experiences for their candidates. LDOE is guiding TPPs with the purchase and implementation of HQIM most chosen by local school systems. This assistance will help better align coursework with Birth-12 clinical experiences and more strongly prepare graduates for their Louisiana classrooms.

Deans and Directors will receive an email at the end of the month with their allocation, a survey to gather information and assurances, and directions on the processes. The following office hours will be held to answer questions and offer support.

Date and Time: February 15 at 10 a.m.
Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93514104094>
Meeting ID: 935 1410 4094

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

Certification Reminders

Resident Certificates. For resident certificates with the January 2024 - December 2024 residency term, if issued, they will show as **invalid** until January 2024. Please check resident certificates recently issued to ensure the validity matches the residency term.

Please contact certification@la.gov with questions.

Certification Monthly Call

The Certification Office conducts a monthly call devoted solely to certification. 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, January 22**.

Webinar link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97801045748?pwd=N1JobWIDU1gvNnNYQk40Wjl3YmpxUT09>
Meeting ID: 978 0104 5748
Passcode: 959091

Please contact Arthur.Joffrion@la.gov or Christy.Bellue@la.gov with questions.

FTP Updated Link

The [FTP](#) (File transfer portal) has recently undergone maintenance, and the [link](#) has been updated. If

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you are having difficulties accessing the [FTP](#), please try the new access [link](#). If you continue to have difficulties accessing the FTP, please contact believeandprepare@la.gov.

TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM APPROVAL

April 2024 Program Approvals Full Application Now Under Review

Teacher, early childhood ancillary certificate program, educational leader proposals for initial approval, and mentor and content leader training proposals are accepted and considered by BESE twice per year. A panel of reviewers will evaluate proposals that meet all initial submission requirements to ensure they meet policy requirements. Applications that were submitted by December 10 are currently under review.

See the [Preparation Library](#) for program [approval resources](#), including application rubrics. Programs submitting applications for review should use these materials to ensure their applications align with policy requirements.

Cycle	Application Window Opens	Notice of Intent Due	Full Application Due	Round 1 Evaluation Period Begins	Notification of Pending Decisions	Round 2 Evaluation and Notification (as needed)	BESE Consideration
Spring	September 1	October 1	December 10	December 11	February 15	TBD	April TBD
Fall	May 1	June 1	July 10	July 11	August 26	TBD	October TBD

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

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 quality of the programs once at least every four years. There will be no on-site reviews this fall. The LDOE will soon be providing more details about the next cycle of on-site reviews.

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 to request a change.