

## LDOE Weekly Newsletter: February 18, 2025

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### Message from the State Superintendent

Dear Colleagues,

Last week, I had the opportunity to visit more than a dozen school systems across our great state. From urban to rural communities, public to private schools, and elementary to high schools, I saw firsthand the wide range of educational experiences Louisiana offers.

These visits allowed me to sit down with educators, step into classrooms, speak with teachers, and learn more about what's working — and where we can improve. I always value these conversations because they help shape the work we do at the state level to better support schools, educators, and students.

Thank you for welcoming me back into the classroom. Your dedication and hard work are truly making a difference for Louisiana children.

Dr. Cade Brumley  
State Superintendent of Education

### Important Dates for School Systems

#### Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- Act 260 Numeracy Training Office Hours: [February 19 at 9 a.m.](#)
- School Systems Financial Services Monthly Call: [February 19 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Computer Science Standards Implementation Webinar: [February 19 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR) Monthly Call: [February 20 at 10 a.m.](#)
- eScholar Office Hours: [February 20 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [February 20 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Certification Monthly Call: [February 24 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- Ed Link Weekly Q&A Session: [February 25 at 11 a.m.](#)
- Assessment and Accountability Office Hours: [February 25 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Preparation Provider Monthly Call: [February 26 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: [February 26 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Computer Science Office Hours: [February 27 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Safe and Healthy Schools Monthly Call: [February 27 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Social Studies Office Hours: [March 5](#)
- Data Coordinator Monthly Webinar: [March 6 at 1 p.m.](#)

- System Leaders Monthly Call: [March 7 at 9 a.m.](#)
- LEADS Implementation Monthly Call: [March 10 at 12 p.m.](#)
- Zearn Support for Leaders: [March 11 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [March 11 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Early Childhood Community Network Office Hours: [March 11 at 3 p.m.](#)
- High School Science Leaders Support Monthly Call: [March 12 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- Child Welfare and Attendance Monthly Call: [March 13 at 8 a.m.](#)
- Educational Technology Monthly Call: [March 13 at 9 a.m.](#)

## **Upcoming Events and Deadlines**

- Launching Louisiana Literacy MTSS for System Leaders: [February 13](#)
- Computer Science Standards Implementation Webinar: [February 19 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Work-Based Learning Teacher Workshop Vendor Application Opens: [February 21](#)
- 2025 Fast Forward Convention and Child Welfare and Attendance Summit: [February 25](#)
- 2025 BESE Charter Renewal Cohort Sessions: [February 25 at 12 p.m.](#)
- Reading Intervention in Secondary Schools Webinar Session 2: [February 26](#)
- 2025 Future Law Enforcement Youth Academy Application Deadline: [February 28](#)
- LA GATOR Scholarship Program Student Applications Open: [March 1](#)
- Data Coordinator Webinar: [March 6 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Launching Louisiana Literacy MTSS for System Leaders: [March 12](#)
- Last day to administer LEAP Connect, ELPT, and ELPT Connect: March 19
- Reading Intervention in Secondary Schools Webinar Session 3: [March 26](#)
- Launching Louisiana Literacy MTSS for School Leaders: [March 27](#)
- Title IV, Part A Program Evaluation Submission Deadline: April 4
- LA GATOR Scholarship Program Student Application Deadline: [April 15](#)
- Jump Start Construction Connect Scholarship Deadline: [April 22](#)
- CSI/TSI Plan Submission Deadline in eGMS: May 2
- English Learner Institute Session 4, Baton Rouge: [May 14](#)

## **Teaching and Learning**

### Academic Content

#### **K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Computer Science Implementation Webinar**

Please share with content supervisors and system leaders.

School system leaders and content supervisors are encouraged to attend the upcoming [K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Computer Science Implementation Webinar](#).

- **Webinar Date and Time:** February 19 at 3 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** [https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/71v\\_GTFL\\_E1sJPTIRHwX](https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/71v_GTFL_E1sJPTIRHwX)

Registration must be submitted at least one hour before the start of the webinar. Please see the [K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Computer Science Implementation Webinar](#) information document for more details and registration links.

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

#### **Office Hours for K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Computer Science Implementation**

Please share with content supervisors, school leaders, and system leaders.

Beginning on February 27, the LDOE will hold virtual office hours on the third Thursday of each month at 10 a.m. Content supervisors, school leaders, and system leaders are encouraged to attend [Computer Science Office Hours](#) to support the implementation of computer science standards.

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

## Diverse Learners

### **Parental Involvement Survey Participation**

**Please share with administrators, community members, educators, and parents.**

The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) requires states to report annually through Indicator 8 of the State Performance Plan (SPP) the percentage of parents with a child receiving special education services who report that schools facilitated parent involvement as a means of improving services and results for students with disabilities (20USC 1416(a)3(A)). OSEP allows states to use a sampling plan and 22 districts and charters were selected for this year's survey. Participating school systems are:

- Ascension Parish
- Cameron Parish
- Concordia Parish
- Franklin Parish
- Lafourche Parish
- Livingston Parish
- St. John the Baptist Parish
- Washington Parish
- West Feliciana
- Zachary Community Schools
- City of Baker Schools
- Community Leaders Advocating Student Success
- Advantage Charter Academy
- Impact Charter School
- Louisiana Virtual Charter Academy
- Southwest Louisiana Charter Academy
- The Willow School
- Einstein Charter High School at Sarah Towels Reed
- New Harmony High Institute
- Athlos Academy of Jefferson Parish
- McDonogh 35 Senior High School
- Collegiate Baton Rouge

The Diverse Learners team will send detailed communications to special education leaders at participating school systems by March 1. The survey is scheduled to close on July 1.

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

## Educator Talent and Workforce Development

### **Aspiring Principal Fellowship 2025-2026 Application Available**

**Please share with principals and principal supervisors.**

The LDOE is excited to offer the fifth cohort of the Aspiring Principal Fellowship for the 2025-2026 school year. This transformative fellowship will equip up to 50 individuals with the essential knowledge and skills to step into the principal role. Through this selective statewide program, aspiring school leaders will begin a unique year-long journey to elevate their leadership potential. Fellowship participants will collaborate throughout the year, exploring best practices with regional and national experts. They will engage in immersive full-day school visits, working hand-in-hand with exemplary practicing principals while participating in professional learning aligned with current state initiatives.

Applicants must hold or be eligible for a current EDL1 certification in Louisiana. School systems must cover the \$1,000 tuition for presenters and materials, as well as travel costs. Interested candidates should complete this [Aspiring Principal Fellowship Application](#) no later than April 7. Fellowship applicants will be notified of acceptance by May 9.

Additional information about the Aspiring Principal Fellowship can be found in the [APF overview document](#).

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

## **LEADS Resources**

**Please share with human resource directors, school leaders, system leaders, and teachers.**

Resources continue to be added to the [LEADS Public Collections](#) section of the Professional Learning Platform. The first set of the [Full Length Lesson Sets](#) is now available and includes pre-conference, observation, post-conference, and PGP/coaching plan materials. The [video clip collection](#), which highlights classroom instructional best practices aligned to the Instructional Domain indicators of the [Louisiana Educator Rubric \(LER\)](#), is also available. These resources offer access to professional learning for system leaders, school leaders, teacher leaders, and teachers to support the advancement of classroom instruction and student learning. Louisiana educators can use these materials in various professional learning settings to deepen the knowledge of the LER, build rater reliability and a common language for the LER, and hone LER observation skills.

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

## Literacy

### **Launch of the Louisiana Literacy MTSS Framework**

**Please share with school leaders and system leaders.**

The Literacy Team has launched the [Louisiana Literacy MTSS Framework](#), which can be found in the [Literacy Library](#). Please see the upcoming events and deadlines above for more information on the schedule for webinars for system and school leaders. There will also be multiple sessions at [Teacher Leader Summit](#) for system leaders, school leaders, and teachers.

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

## School Improvement

### **Level Up: School Support Institutes at Teacher Leader Summit 2025**

**Please share with school leaders and system leaders.**

The final session of School Support Institutes, Level Up SSI: “Preparing for Continuous School Improvement”, required for CIR schools, will be delivered at Teacher Leader Summit 2025. One half-day session of Level Up SSI is required for three ILT members from each CIR school (principal & two others). Funds are provided through SuperApp to reimburse costs, including registration, associated with attendance for three ILT members per CIR school.

A designated Level Up registration link has been sent to system leaders. System leaders should determine whether schools register independently using the link, or the system will register their participants as a group using this link. Payments are allowed by check for system-level group registration only. If paying by check, please include your confirmation number, the system name, and a list of attendees covered by the check received. If paying by check, payment must be received by May 2. Please send payment to:

Louisiana Department of Education  
Attention: Appropriation Control  
P.O. Box 94064  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Credit card payment is required to complete the registration process for schools and individual participants.

Please note that spaces are reserved for TLS Level Up participants, and the price will not increase.

When completing a group registration using the link, the following information will need to be entered for each person being registered:

- Name
- Email Address
- Job Title
- Mobile Phone #

- Content Taught/Supported (if applicable)
- School Label (CIR)
- School Name
- Position/Role
- Grades Taught (if applicable)
- System Type (traditional)
- System Name
- Grades Supported
- ASL Needed?
- T-Shirt Size (Sm to 5XL)
- Dietary Restrictions (Vegan/ Gluten-Free/Dairy Free/None)

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

## Teacher Leader Summit

### **Teacher Leader Summit 2025 Early Bird Registration Open**

**Please share with educators, school leaders, and system leaders.**

The Teacher Leader Summit will be held June 10-12 at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. Early bird registration for the three-day professional learning conference is \$249 and is open until March 14. Please visit the [Teacher Leader Summit webpage](#) to register. The registration fee will be \$299 when regular registration opens on March 15. Registration is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Paying by check should only be used as a last resort for systems that do not have the means to pay by credit card. Checks from individual schools or individuals cannot be accepted. If paying by check, please include your confirmation number, the system name, and a list of attendees covered by the check received. If paying by check, please send payment no later than May 2 to:

Louisiana Department of Education  
 Attention: Appropriation Control  
 P.O. Box 94064  
 Baton Rouge, LA 70804

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

## Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

### **Assessment Development Educator Review Committees**

**Please share with school leaders, school system leaders, and teachers.**

The Division of Assessment Content will convene assessment committees for the LEAP assessment in May and June to:

- Review newly developed items for alignment, content-related criteria, and appropriateness for all Louisiana students (Science and Social Studies)
- Develop expectations for scoring field-tested LEAP constructed-response items and extended-response tasks (Science, Math, and Social Studies)

Interested educators can find information on specific dates, meeting details, links, and deadlines to apply to participate on specific committees in the [Assessment Content Educator Review Committees](#) document.

The deadline to complete the applications is March 14.

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

## Career and College Readiness

### **Spring 2025 Counselor Institute Presentation**

**Please share with administrators, CTE supervisors, and school counselors.**

We hope all who attended the Spring 2025 Counselor Institute sessions benefitted from the Counselors and Attendance, Registered Apprenticeship/Internships, and ASVAB presentations. The [slide deck](#) is available for review. Please share with colleagues as appropriate.

Details regarding the Fall 2025 Counselor Institutes, including dates, locations, topics, and registration procedures, will be released at a later time.

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

### **Work-Based Learning Vendor Application**

**Please share with counselors, CTE supervisors, school system administrators, and vendors.**

BESE adopted new policy in April of 2024 concerning work-based learning instructor requirements for teacher certification. The policy requires that a work-based learning teacher shall hold one of the following:

- Valid CTTIE Certification or Agriculture Certification
- Valid Level 2 Louisiana Teaching Certificate with
  - at least three years of work experience other than classroom instruction
- Valid Level 2 Louisiana Teaching Certificate with
  - completion of a work-based learning workshop by an approved provider

The [WBL Vendor Application](#) will open on February 21 and will close on March 21.

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

## School Choice

### Charter Schools

#### **Charter School Program Grant Application Cycle**

**Please share with charter school leaders, new charter applicants, and system leaders.**

The final due date for Subgrant Applications in the winter/spring CSP grant cycle is March 12. Charter school developers who have submitted LOIs and the Eligibility Determination Form will receive a formal determination of their eligibility no later than February 24, 2025.

March 12 is the deadline for CSP Subgrant Applications and is the final due date in the winter/spring CSP grant cycle. By February 24, charter school developers who have submitted their Letters of Intent (LOIs) and Eligibility Determination Forms will receive a formal determination regarding their eligibility.

Please contact [cspgrant@la.gov](mailto:cspgrant@la.gov) or [tammy.morgan3@la.gov](mailto:tammy.morgan3@la.gov) with questions.

### LA GATOR Scholarship Program

#### **Student Application Preparations**

**Please share with charter, nonpublic, and public school leaders.**

LA GATOR student applications will be available at [lagator.la.gov](http://lagator.la.gov) starting **March 1**. Applications will close on April 15.

Participating LA GATOR schools and interested families should review the [Parent Training Instructions](#) for required documents and application details. Additional resources are available in the [School Communications Toolkit](#).

Please contact [help.la@withodyssey.com](mailto:help.la@withodyssey.com) with any questions.

## School System Financial Services

### **Cooperative Agreements Between School Systems**

**Please share with business managers and financial officials.**

In accordance with Article VII, Section 14 of the Constitution of Louisiana, governmental entities may engage in cooperative endeavors with each other. As Senate Resolution No. 166 of the 2024 Regular Session specified, simplifying the procurement processes for school systems could increase efficiencies and create cost savings. The LDOE encourages systems to enter into cooperative endeavor agreements for purchasing materials and supplies and/or services to utilize funds efficiently by receiving favorable pricing, which could potentially result in savings to contribute additional funding for education initiatives.

Please contact [schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov) for more information.