

LDOE Weekly Newsletter: March 11, 2025

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Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- High School Science Leaders Support Monthly Call: [March 12 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- Local Authorizer Monthly Call: [March 12 at 11 a.m.](#)
- Child Welfare and Attendance Monthly Call: [March 13 at 8 a.m.](#)
- BESE Authorized Charter Monthly Call: [March 13 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Educational Technology Monthly Call: [March 13 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Certification Monthly Call: [March 17 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- Computer Science Standards Implementation Webinar: [March 18 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call: [March 18 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Act 260 Numeracy Training Office Hours: [March 19 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Computer Science Standards Implementation Webinar: [March 19 at 2 p.m.](#)
- School System Financial Services Monthly Call: [March 19 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Nonpublic Schools Monthly Call: [March 19 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Computer Science Office Hours: [March 20 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR) Monthly Call: [March 20 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [March 20 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Preparation Provider Monthly Call: [March 26 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: [March 26 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Diverse Learners Office Hours: [March 26 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Safe and Healthy Schools Monthly Call: [March 27 at 2 p.m.](#)
- LEADS Implementation Monthly Call: [April 2 at 12 p.m.](#)
- Data Coordinator Monthly Webinar: [April 10 at 1 p.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- Launching Louisiana Tiered Pathways for Literacy Support Framework for System Leaders: [March 12](#)
- SFA Summer Feeding Plan Survey Deadline: March 17
- Last day to administer LEAP Connect, ELPT, and ELPT Connect: March 19
- Reading Intervention in Secondary Schools Webinar Session 3: [March 26](#)
- Launching Louisiana Tiered Pathways for Literacy Support Framework for School Leaders: [March 27](#)
- SFA Sponsor and Congregate Site Applications for Summer Feeding Deadline: March 31
- Nutrition Support Quarterly State Update: [April 2 at 8:30 a.m.](#)
- Title IV, Part A Program Evaluation Submission Deadline: April 4
- SFA Non-Congregate Site Requests: April 7
- LA GATOR Scholarship Student Application Deadline: [April 15](#)
- Jump Start Construction Scholarship Application Deadline: [April 22](#)

- Reading Intervention in Secondary Schools Webinar Session 4: [April 30](#)
- CSI/TSI Plan Submission Deadline in eGMS: May 2
- English Learner Institute Session 4, Baton Rouge: [May 14](#)

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

International Program Opportunities and Exchanges

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

The LDOE provides several international opportunities and exchange programs for interested students, teachers, schools, and communities through the state of Louisiana's international government partnerships.

These opportunities range from virtual to in-person teacher and class language and STEM exchanges to the recruitment of international associate teachers for world languages programs.

Schools and systems interested in learning more about potential opportunities should review the [International Program Opportunities and Exchanges Flyer](#) and complete the interest survey by May 1.

Please contact language.acquisition@la.gov with questions.

Instructional Support: Instructional Materials Reviews

Please share with content supervisors, literacy coaches, and school leaders.

The LDOE conducts ongoing reviews of instructional materials to support school systems in adopting curricula in all core subjects. Newly rated Tier 1 materials are listed below. All tiered reviews can be found on the [annotated reviews](#) web page. The status of all instructional materials submissions can be found in the [weekly report](#).

- Kendall Hunt Publishing - BSCS Biology Understanding for Life, Biology (©2022)

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.

K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Computer Science Implementation Webinar

Please share with content supervisors and system leaders.

School System leaders and content supervisors should attend an upcoming [K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Computer Science](#) Implementation Webinar. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of the Key Actions for school systems within Louisiana's comprehensive [K-12 Computer Science Education Plan](#), and learn how the Landscape Analysis Tool can help assess your school's current computer science offerings.

The webinar will be held on the following dates:

- **Webinar Date and Time:** March 18 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** [https://ldoe.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYtf-utqDssHNGJiQ_egVvjcn8_wibiVORN](https://ldoe.zoom.us/join/https://ldoe.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYtf-utqDssHNGJiQ_egVvjcn8_wibiVORN)
- **Webinar Date and Time:** March 19 at 2 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** [https://ldoe.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlkc--tpz4jEt2Y1xCSavylAA4dNeSDZVug](https://ldoe.zoom.us/join/https://ldoe.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlkc--tpz4jEt2Y1xCSavylAA4dNeSDZVug)

Prior registration is required. For further details and registration links, please see the [K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Computer Science Implementation Webinar](#) information document.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

Educator Talent and Workforce Development

Quarterly Pre-Educator Support Call

Please share with pre-educator system leads and teacher leaders.

The 3rd Quarter Pre-Educator Support Call will be held in person on March 21 at the Aspiring Educators State Convention at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. Please visit the [ULL Educators Rising Collegiate website](#) for details about the conference.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

Pre-Educator Pathway Site Visit

Please share with pre-educator system leads and teacher leaders.

Learning visits are an opportunity to see another system's Grow Your Own Strategy up close. Visits may include opportunities to observe Pre-Educator Pathway classrooms or extra-curricular organizations. Participants will engage with system leads, teacher leaders, and pathway students to gather best practices in developing and expanding supports for aspiring educators. Please register to attend the Rapides Parish [2024-2025 Grow Your Own Learning Visit](#).

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

2025 LEADS Evaluator Training

Please share with human resource directors, school leaders, and systems leaders.

All systems will implement LEADS evaluations in 2025-2026. All evaluators and designated observers must attend face-to-face training and take a certification assessment before observing/evaluating. Training participants must attend all full, consecutive days to qualify for the evaluator/observer assessment. Training begins promptly at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 4:30 p.m. with a one-hour lunch off-site. Participants are encouraged to register early in order to provide time to reschedule should conflicts arise.

Registration for [2025 LEADS Evaluator Training](#) is now available on [Eventbrite](#).

Please contact leads@la.gov with questions.

Boosting Your School System's Workforce: March 2025 Staffing Webinar

Please share with school board members, superintendents, and system level leaders.

School systems looking for teachers or school leaders are invited to join the Educator Talent and Workforce Development Staffing Webinar. This webinar will cover staffing pathways and support resources to help strengthen the educator workforce. Superintendents, system-level leaders, and school board members are encouraged to attend this important discussion.

- **Webinar Date and Times:** March 24 at 10 a.m. or 2 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/3455048179?omn=99487621302>

Please contact arthur.ioffrion@la.gov with questions.

Literacy

Good Cause Exemption Documentation for Third Grade Promotion

Please share with school and system leaders.

A [Good Cause Exemption Documentation](#) form can now be found in the [Literacy Library](#) to assist with preparation for third grade promotion. Please consult the [Third Grade Promotion Guidance](#) for more information.

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.

Adolescent Literacy Professional Learning Opportunity

Please share with literacy coaches, school leaders, system leaders, and teachers.

The literacy team is offering two full-day virtual trainings through Keys to Literacy on adolescent literacy. The two sessions being offered are [Advanced Word Study and Keys to Adolescent Literacy](#). Advanced Word Study will focus on instructional practices in teaching advanced word study skills to combine knowledge about both the sound-spelling correspondences and the meaning units. Keys to Adolescent Literacy will offer an overview of adolescent literacy instruction for students in grades 5-12 in all subject areas.

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.

Teacher Leader Summit

Teacher Leader Summit 2025 Early Bird Registration Closes March 14

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

Early bird registration for Teacher Leader Summit 2025 closes March 14. The early bird registration cost for the three-day professional learning conference is \$249, and the registration link is now live on the [Teacher Leader Summit webpage](#). Regular registration will be from March 15 until April 18. The regular registration cost is \$299. Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

Invoice downloads are available on the registration confirmation page. Only system-level checks will be accepted and must be received by April 4. **Please note that this is a change to the originally posted date.** To change the payment method from check to credit card, log in to the registration and click "Select Payment."

To update missing or incorrect information on a registration, log in to the registration and select "Modify Registration." While refunds are not available, registrations can be transferred. To transfer a registration, log in to the registration and select "Transfer Registration."

The Cvent app link for Teacher Leader Summit 2025 will be emailed to attendees closer to the event. The app will include sessions and more summit-related information.

Teacher Leader Summit 2025 will be held June 10-12 at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.

Please contact ldoeevents@la.gov with questions.

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

Assessment Calendar

Please share with school leaders and testing coordinators.

The [2025-2026 Assessment Calendar](#) is now available in the [Assessment Resources](#) section. This calendar contains all the statewide test administrations. The LDOE extends its gratitude to the district test coordinators who collaborated in its creation.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

K-3 Literacy Screening

Please share with school leaders and testing coordinators.

The Admin Portal will open in mCLASS on March 18 to set up classes to administer K-3 literacy screening from April 1 through April 30. All students in grades K-3 must participate in end-of-year screening. The K,1, and 2 screeners are secure forms of DIBELS that are only available for use with Louisiana's K-3 literacy program and cannot be copied, printed, shared, photographed, or memorized. Paper screening and remote administrations are not options for grades K, 1, or 2 in April.

The mCLASS system will maintain all grade 3 students who tested at the end of the year to allow for additional third-grade screening in the G3 Summer window for students who score well below grade level. Schools may not begin additional attempts before the last week of school. There must be a two-week period between the first summer attempt and the second/final summer attempt. All district test coordinators received detailed information regarding the summer administration.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

LEAP 2025 for Grades 3 through High School

Please share with school leaders and testing coordinators.

The spring LEAP 2025 spring administration window will open on April 2. On March 17, the DRC INSIGHT portal will open for DTCs and STCs to begin test setup and to assign test administrator numbers. Students have been preloaded in DRC INSIGHT from enrollment records submitted by school systems to EdLink.

By March 17, all school system district test coordinators must submit testing schedules for all school sites, including alternate sites or learning pods, using the new template provided to DTCs. The LDOE will send staff to conduct on-site monitoring at selected school sites. The [Assessment Monitor Note-Taking Guide](#) used by state-assigned monitors is available in the [Assessment Resources](#) section of the LDOE website.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

International Baccalaureate (IB) in Louisiana Orientations

Please share with counselors, principals, system leaders, and teachers.

The International Baccalaureate (IB) program is seeking schools statewide to participate in a pilot program to implement a limited selection of its Diploma Programme (DP) courses by fall 2025. The pilot will allow schools to implement teaching within the IB framework sooner, providing opportunities to train teachers and prepare schools for the full IB experience.

[Registration](#) for the in-person pilot program is currently open. Session locations and times are listed below:

- **March 19:** Baton Rouge at 11:30 a.m.
- **March 20:** Lafayette at 11 a.m.
- **March 25:** Shreveport at 11 a.m.
- **March 27:** Monroe at 11 a.m.

Please contact fastforward@la.gov with questions.

Fast Forward Convention and CWA Summit

Please share with counselors, principals, and system leaders.

All Fast Forward Convention and CWA Summit presentations are on the [Meetings and Training Opportunities](#) page.

System leaders can also reach out to fastforward@la.gov should attendance verification be needed.

Please contact fastforward@la.gov with questions.

School Choice

Charter Schools

2024-2025 Annual RFA Application Eligibility Determination

Please share with school and system leaders.

The Eligibility Determination for the 2024-2025 Annual RFA Application Cycle was due March 10, 2025. Applicants must meet the eligibility requirements listed in [LA Bulletin 126. §503](#). Note: Eligibility Determination forms will only be reviewed if a Letter of Intent was received by the due date. Any Eligibility Determination form submitted without adherence to the Letter of Intent due date requirement will not be reviewed.

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.

LA GATOR Scholarship Program

LA GATOR Scholarship Program: Student Applications Now Open

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

LA GATOR Scholarship student applications are now available at lagator.la.gov and will close on **April 15** for the 2025-2026 school year.

The LDOE has partnered with Odyssey to manage the program's application process and marketplace. Odyssey is operating the program's help desk and call center. Resources, information, and frequently asked questions are available at lagator.la.gov and on [Odyssey's website](#). Parents, schools, and service providers with questions can also use one of the following avenues for support.

- [Submit a Help Desk Ticket](#)
- Email Help Desk: help.la@withodyssey.com
- Call Center: 225-422-1538

Please contact help.la@withodyssey.com with any questions