

LDOE Weekly Newsletter: July 15, 2025

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Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- Nonpublic Monthly Call: [July 16 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR) Monthly Call: [July 17 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [July 17 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Certification Monthly Call: [July 21 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- School System Financial Services Monthly Call: [July 23 at 2 p.m.](#)
- System Leaders Monthly Call: [August 1 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [August 5 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Attendance Monthly Call: [August 7 at 8 a.m.](#)
- Diverse Learners Office Hours: [August 12 at 2 p.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- Foundations of Freedom: Summer Civics Institute: [July 15-17](#)
- Special Education Parent Summit, Baton Rouge: [July 21](#)
- Governor's Office of Disability Affairs Conference: [July 22-24](#)
- Connecting the Dots: Counselors, Internships, and Student Readiness Webinar: [July 29](#)
- Physical Education Standards Review Committee Application Deadline: [July 31](#)
- Teacher Leader Advisor Application Deadline: [July 31](#)
- English Learner Institute- Session 1: [August 25](#)
- Principal Bootcamp Application Deadline: [September 8](#)

Teaching and Learning

Diverse Learners

Updated 2024-2025 Seclusion and Restraint Verification Report

Please share with special education leaders.

The LDOE is required to collect and annually report data on the use of seclusion and restraint for students with disabilities. To be included in the final report, all updates in SER and the submission of new or revised policies were due July 1. School systems should have thoroughly reviewed their data for accuracy. To support this, LDOE is now requiring school systems to sign an assurance confirming their data has been reviewed and is complete and accurate. An updated Seclusion and Restraint Verification Report for signatures is available in the Data Manager FTP. Signed reports should be emailed to bernetta.sims@la.gov by July 29.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

2024-2025 Special Education Camera Data Collection

Please share with federal programs supervisors, finance supervisors, and special education leaders.

The LDOE will release its 2024-2025 Special Education camera data collection in the electronic Grants Management System (eGMS) on July 21. School systems will be required to report the following for SY 2024-25: the number of parent requests for cameras, the number of parent requests approved, the amount of the original allocation spent, and the amount of maintenance funds spent. All data and relevant receipts must be submitted in eGMS by August 22.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

Educator Talent and Workforce Development

Mentor and Content Leader Provider Data Needed

Please share with system leaders.

The LDOE is requesting that all Mentor and Content Leader Providers submit their [Data Enrollment Reporting Templates](#) from August 2022 - July 2023 AND August 2023 - July 2024 to MentorandContentLeaders@la.gov as soon as possible. Even if this data has been previously submitted, please resend the templates. This data must be included in the BESE Mentor and Content Leader Training Provider Effectiveness Report.

Please contact mentorandcontentleaders@la.gov with questions.

Mentor Teacher and Content Leader Portfolio Assessment Vendor Application Open

Please share with content leader providers and mentor teachers.

LDOE is seeking applications from qualified vendors to score portfolio assessments for the Mentor Teacher and Content Leader programs. Selected vendors will evaluate the portfolios of educators who complete an approved course of study, using LDOE-approved rubrics.

Scope of Work:

- Vendors may apply to assess Mentor Teacher Portfolios, Content Leader Portfolios, or both.
- Portfolios must be scored using the approved LDOE rubrics, following a required training provided/approved by LDOE to ensure fidelity, alignment, and inter-rater reliability.

The [application](#), which includes a list of required responsibilities, is due by July 18, and selected vendors will be notified in late July.

Please contact mentorandcontentleaders@la.gov with questions.

LEADS Training for Teachers

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

All school systems will fully implement LEADS evaluations in 2025-2026. To support systems in preparing teachers for the transition, training materials are available in the [Professional Learning Platform: LEADS Public Collections](#). Systems may utilize the Teacher Training Materials, located under the [LEADS Training Materials](#) header. These materials include a full-day training with video clips, speaker notes, and a participant guide; the training has also been adapted to a 90-minute session. The asynchronous module, [Louisiana Educator Evaluation Training for Teachers](#), is also available.

Please contact leads@la.gov with questions.

LES Evaluation Closeout

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

Systems should continue to finalize educator evaluations in the Louisiana Evaluation System (LES) portal. Evaluations can be finalized (including VAM teachers) if all components of the evaluation are complete and data is available to report for SLTs. VAM scores will be added on the backend when available.

Evaluations should be marked incomplete for any employee who should have been evaluated by LEADS (or Legacy system) but did not receive a 2024-2025 evaluation. Refer to [Bulletin 130](#) for the conditions that allow an evaluation to be marked incomplete.

Please contact LEADS@la.gov with questions.

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

Act 356 of the 2025 Regular Legislative Session: 10-Point Grading Scale

Please share with counselors, data managers, principals, registrars, and teachers.

Under Act 356 of the 2025 Legislative Session, all schools, including nonpublic schools, must use a 10-point grading scale for courses used to calculate TOPS eligibility, beginning with grades earned during the 2024–2025 school year. This requirement applies only to TOPS core courses and does not affect local grading practices for report cards or class rank. Nonpublic schools that did not use the 10-point scale during the 2024–2025 school year must rescale and resubmit grades for affected graduates by August 3.

For step-by-step instructions on implementing the grading scale change, see the [Implementation Guidance for Act 365](#) document.

Please contact systemsupport@la.gov with questions

Career and College Readiness

Pre-Apprenticeship and Registered Apprenticeship Webinar

Please share with CTE leaders, principals, and school counselors.

[Registration](#) is now available for the July 23 webinar, “Leveraging Pre-Apprenticeship and Registered Apprenticeship to Meet Employer and Jobseeker Needs,” hosted by the Louisiana Workforce Commission. Participants will learn the basics of pre-apprenticeship and registered apprenticeship, discuss how these programs align with and amplify the impact of WIOA-funded services, and explore how one target population — out-of-school youth — can engage in and benefit from pre-apprenticeship and registered apprenticeship.

The application deadline is July 18.

Please contact apprenticeshipla@lwc.la.gov or contact the LWC Apprenticeship Division at (225) 342-7820 with questions.

Perkins CTE Summer Leaders Retreat

Please share with CTE Supervisors.

[Registration](#) is open for the virtual Perkins CTE Summer Leaders Retreat. The virtual event will be held on July 30 and will focus on aligning education with industry. Prior to the event, registrants will receive an invitation to the Zoom meeting.

Please contact careerandtech@lctcs.edu with questions.

Career Development Fund End-of-Year Reporting

Share with counselors, CTE supervisors, principals, secondary supervisors, and testing coordinators.

The [2024-2025 Career Development Fund \(CDF\) End-of-Year Expenditure Report](#) is available for school systems to complete. The deadline to report on 2024-2025 CDF expenditures is August 12. Systems should include the total expenditures for the year in this report.

School systems should reference the [2024-2025 Guidelines for Use of CDF Allocation](#) when completing the form.

CDF funds support increased student access to high-value Career and Technical Education courses and training. Examples of allowable expenses include transportation, tuition, teacher trainings towards attainment of Jump Start credentials, and internship expenses not covered by partner businesses. CDF funds are 6% of the MFP State and Local Base Cost Per Pupil (\$241) provided for each qualifying student course enrollment in grades 9-12.

Please contact fastforward@la.gov with questions.

School Choice

Charter Schools

2025 Mid-Year RFA Application Deadline

Please share with school and system leaders.

The application deadline for the 2025 Mid-Year RFA Application Cycle will be due on July 18. Applicants must submit the full application and completed overview template by email to charters@la.gov. Note: The application will only be reviewed if a Letter of Intent and Eligibility Determination form were received by the due date and the applicant received confirmation from the LDOE of meeting eligibility criteria. Any applications submitted without adherence to the Letter of Intent and Eligibility Determination due date requirements will not be reviewed.

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.