

LDOE Weekly Newsletter: May 14, 2024

In This Issue

[Message from the Superintendent](#)
[Important Dates for School Systems](#)
[Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics](#)
[Career and College Readiness](#)
[School Choice](#)
[Teaching and Learning](#)

Message from the Superintendent

Dear Colleagues,

Teacher Appreciation Week was the perfect time to learn that PK-12 education in Louisiana improved in another national ranking. Last week, *U.S. News & World Report* released its annual Best States rankings. Louisiana PK-12 education improved from 41st to 40th, which marks the state's highest ranking in this national indicator. This comes a year after Louisiana Pre-K-12 education jumped five places in these same rankings.

This positive growth reflects the efforts of students and teachers. While I'm encouraged, I also realize we have more work ahead to provide a high-quality education for every student.

I'm grateful for what we've done together to get our state heading in the right direction, and excited about what lies ahead as we make bold moves to reach the next level of success.

Dr. Cade Brumley
State Superintendent of Education

Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- EdLink Workforce Dashboard Office Hour: [May 15 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Nonpublic Schools Monthly Call: [May 15 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR) Monthly Call: [May 16 at 10 a.m.](#)
- School Choice Office Hours: [May 16 10:30 a.m.](#)
- Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [May 16 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Certification Monthly Call: [May 20 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- School Choice Office Hours: [May 21 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call: [May 21 at 3:45 p.m.](#)
- Preparation Provider Monthly Call: [May 22 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: [May 22 at 1 p.m.](#)
- School Systems Financial Services Monthly Call: [May 22 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Safe and Healthy Schools Monthly Call: [May 23 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [June 4 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Child Welfare and Attendance Monthly Call: [June 6 at 8 a.m.](#)
- Diverse Learners Office Hours: [June 25 at 2 p.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- Last day to administer LEAP 2025 Spring Assessments: May 17
- 2024-25 LSP Site Registration Ends: May 24
- [Teacher Leader Summit 2024](#): May 28-30, New Orleans
- Congregate Feeding Application Deadline: May 31
- Final Day to Upload Final SCP Roster to FTP: May 31
- Deadline for EEF recipients to obligate EEF funds: June 30
- Summer EBT Application Portal Opens: July 1
- [2024 Louisiana School Safety Summit](#): July 10-11, **virtual event**
- Deadline for EEF recipients to submit Final 6/30 PERs: July 15

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

LEAP 2025 High School Non-Senior Score Release

Please share with school leaders and testing coordinators.

LEAP 2025 high school individual score reports and school rosters are now reporting in DRC INSIGHT. Schools and systems are responsible for issuing individual school reports to students. The department will not issue score reports to parents and all requests will be referred back to school systems. No score results will be reported for the Civics field test.

The deadline to request rescoring for eligible students is June 19. The rescore form as well as details regarding student eligibility, cost and procedures for requests are on pages 20-21 of the LEAP High School Test Coordinators Manual. All grade 12 student assessments have been automatically rescored and are not eligible for an additional rescore.

LEAP scores for grades 3 through 8 will be released in late July. No results will be returned for the social studies field test.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Act 394 of the 2023 Louisiana Legislature: LA FIRST

Please share with data managers, school leaders, and system leaders.

LA FIRST is a longitudinal data system and research program for Louisiana established by [Act 394 of the 2023 Louisiana Legislature](#) that integrates data across several state agencies, including the LDOE, and city, parish, or other local public schools. LA FIRST is established and maintained by the Louisiana Board of Regents and administered by the Blanco Public Policy Center at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette to conduct in-depth research on Louisiana public policy issues.

The law instructs state agencies and each city, parish, or other local public school to share personally identifiable information that will enable the Blanco Public Policy Center Information Division team to match and link records across state agencies for this research.

To implement this project, the LA FIRST project at the Blanco Public Policy Center is requesting city, parish, or other local public school districts to review the executed [LA FIRST Data Sharing Agreement](#) and submit the [LA FIRST LEA Opt In Addendum](#) via the [Submission Link](#) or submitting to ldedata@la.gov, which will permit the LA FIRST project at the Blanco Public Policy Center to receive student PII in data files. The law further limits the use of PII to only be used in creation of a unique identifier and requires that PII be removed from the research data to protect student confidentiality.

Please contact rachel.veron@louisiana.edu or ldedata@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

2024 Louisiana School Safety Summit Registration

Please share with emergency preparedness coordinators, mental health providers, school counselors, school system leaders, and system safety coordinators.

The LDOE, State Police, the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness and the Louisiana Center for Safe Schools will host the 2024 Louisiana School Safety Summit July 10-11, **virtually**.

[Registration for the 2024 Louisiana School Safety Summit](#) is currently open on a first-come, first-serve basis and will close when capacity is reached. This cost-free, virtual conference aims to bring school system leaders, local and state law enforcement and governmental agencies along with mental health providers together for an opportunity to share best practices around school safety and emergency preparedness.

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions.

Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management Training

Please share with mental health professionals, principals, school resource officers, school safety/ emergency preparedness staff, and system leaders.

The Louisiana State Police, in partnership with the Louisiana Association of Principals, is providing statewide regional [training](#) related to the development, implementation and operation of behavioral threat assessment and management processes. Contact janice.ihaza@la.gov for more information about this partnership and training.

Please contact michael.comeaux@la.gov with questions.

2024-2025 PBIS funding

Please share with PBIS district coordinators, PBIS facilitators, and system leaders.

PBIS applications will be released to systems after August BESE approval. Please begin making PBIS plans for 2024-2025. The quarterly report template will be sent to PBIS Consortium contacts, and completed reports must be emailed to Candace Joseph by September 30, December 31, March 31 and June 30.

Please contact candace.joseph@la.gov with questions.

YouthForce NOLA Internship Site Visit

Please share with CTE coordinators and system leaders.

YouthForce NOLA runs a best-in-class high school internship program for over 200 students each year. CTE coordinators and administrators are invited to an immersive site visit to learn about their program through observations, panel discussions, and more. The [event](#) will occur on June 4 at the Pan American Life Center in New Orleans.

Please contact jumpstart@la.gov with questions.

School Choice

Charter School Program Grant

Please share with charter operators, non-profit organizations seeking charter authorization, system leaders.

The Year 2 CSP Application Cycle is open and set to follow the timeline below:

- [CSP Letter of Intent](#) due June 1, 2024
- [CSP Eligibility Determination Form](#) due October 15, 2024
- CSP Application due October 30, 2024

NOTE: The RFA will be updated with minor changes in the coming week. All changes to the CSP RFA will be documented on the [CSP RFA Version History PDF](#).

Once a Letter of Intent has been received, charter groups will be invited to Technical Assistance and Q&A webinars.

Please contact CSPGrant@la.gov or Tammy.Morgan3@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Diverse Learners

2022-2023 Seclusion and Restraint Draft Data Release

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. The draft data for the 2022-2023 school year annual report will be available in the DM FTP the week of May 6th. Please verify that the data is accurate as these are the counts that will be used to run the analysis and data disaggregation for the public report. If the data does not accurately reflect seclusions and restraints in your school system for the 2022–2023 school year, update the information in SER. Submit a new seclusion and restraint handbook if your LEA/charter revised a previously submitted handbook to specialeducation@la.gov. All updates in SER need to be completed and any new or revised policy submitted by Tuesday, May 14, 2024 to be reflected in the final report.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with any questions.

2023-2024 Special Education Camera Reporting Release in EGMS

Please share with federal program directors and special education leaders.

The LDOE has released the 2023-2024 special education camera reporting collection in the electronic grants management system (EGMS). School systems can now create an amendment to the application to populate the reporting collection on the “Supporting Documentation” tab for 2023-2024.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

Educator Talent and Workforce Development

Louisiana Professional Learning Platform (Canopy) for all Educators

Please share with data managers, EdLink Security coordinators, and school system leaders.

The [Professional Learning Platform](#) will be released for all school system employees at no cost to the school system. This user-friendly, statewide platform will house all 2024 Teacher Leader Summit materials, ACT 260 Numeracy Trainings, LEADS Evaluation Assessments in addition to a variety of other professional learning opportunities. Superintendents are encouraged to opt in to the [Partially Automated Teacher Access](#) process in the EdLink Security dashboard to allow the school system to submit teacher/staff records to EdLink 360 that are needed for the system to grant the Canopy Learner role to all classroom teachers in your system.

Please contact amanda.slaughter@la.gov with questions.

2024-2025 Pre-Educator Pathway Development & Expansion Funding Application

Please share with school leaders and system leaders.

Limited funding is available for school systems that are interested in developing and expanding access to the Louisiana [Pre-Educator Pathway](#).

Systems may apply for either Pathway Development Funding or Pathway Expansion Funding. If funding requests exceed the amount of available funds, priority will be given to systems requesting Pathway Development Funding. To apply, systems should complete the [funding application](#). The funding application will be open from May 22 through June 14.

For more information, please contact believeandprepare@la.gov.

2024 Louisiana Aspiring Educator Summer Academy

Please share with school leaders and teacher leaders.

The Louisiana Aspiring Educator Summer Academy is a one-of-a-kind, five-day, hybrid summer camp and professional learning experience for high school students enrolled in the Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway or any other coursework aimed at attracting and developing future Louisiana educators.

Hosted by the LDOE and staffed by a team of advisors and coaches from around the state, the Louisiana Aspiring Educator Academy will take place at the University of Louisiana Lafayette July 8-12. High schools offering Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway coursework are eligible to nominate one student and one alternate to attend the 2024 Academy. School system nominations will be accepted until all academy slots have been filled.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

EdLink Workforce Dashboard

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

The new iteration of the [EdLink](#) Workforce Dashboard will be presented at the 2024 Teacher Leader Summit. Three sessions regarding the EdLink Workforce Dashboard will be presented this year based on the participant's knowledge of EdLink.

The sessions are as follows:

- Intro to [EdLink](#) Workforce Dashboard
- [EdLink](#) and the [School System Planning Guide](#)
- What's New with the [EdLink](#) Workforce Dashboard?

Participants should bring their EdLink credentials and a laptop. Participants who do not have access to EdLink 360 should review the [EdLink 360 Permission Guide](#) before attending Teacher Leader Summit.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.