

LDOE Weekly Newsletter: July 21, 2026

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Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- School System Financial Services Monthly Call: [July 22 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Safe and Healthy Schools Monthly Call: [July 23 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Preparation Provider Monthly Call: [July 29 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [August 4 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Attendance Monthly Call: [August 6 at 8 a.m.](#)
- System Leaders Call: [August 7 at 9 a.m.](#)
- School Safety Monthly Call: [August 12 at 10 a.m.](#)
- EdTech Monthly Call: [August 13 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Attendance Office Hours: [August 20 at 8:30 a.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call: [August 20 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Career and College Readiness Monthly Call: [August 20 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Certification Monthly Call: [August 24 at 10:30 a.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- K-12 Science Summer Professional Learning for Leaders: [July 22, or July 27](#)
- K-12 Science Summer Professional Learning for Educators: [July 23, or July 28](#)
- Failure to Report Form (Bullying Compliance Report) deadline: [August 1](#)

View our [School System Support Calendar](#) for the full schedule.

Teaching and Learning

Educator Talent and Workforce Development

Mentor and New Teacher Scope and Sequence of Responsibilities: NOW OPEN

Please share with system leaders, school leaders, mentor teachers, and new teachers.

Developed in conjunction with local system and school leaders, The Mentor and New Teacher Scope and Sequence of Responsibilities is designed to strengthen mentor support for new teachers throughout their first year. Organized by key points in the school year — from pre-service preparation through end-of-year reflection — it outlines suggested responsibilities for both mentors and new teachers. The resource also highlights relevant [Louisiana Educator Rubric \(LER\)](#) focus areas to guide conversations, reflection, and goal setting, while providing optional tools and resources to support implementation. Emphasizing collaboration, continuous professional learning, and responsive, individualized support, this scope and sequence is intended to help mentors meet the evolving needs of new teachers throughout the year.

The Mentor and New Teacher Scope and Sequence of Responsibilities course can be found by logging in as a 'LEARNER' on the [Professional Learning Platform](#) using the Course Code 51018F65.

Please contact MentorandContentLeaders@la.gov with questions.

Mentor and Resident Fall Data Collection Webinar

Please share with system leaders and HR directors.

The Fall 2026 Mentor and Resident Funding call will review important information related to the funding eligibility criteria and required data reporting process to ensure compensation is provided to both mentors and residents during the 2026-2027 school year. Participants will have the opportunity for questions and answers at the conclusion of the presentation.

Mentor Resident Data Collection Webinar

Webinar Date and Time: August 6, 2026 at 1 p.m.

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97164622679?pwd=Mv0aZfxAqHwpuvNJlj2jO6hGaYcDkS.1>

Webinar Phone Number: 1-470-250-9358

Meeting ID#: 971 6462 2679

Please contact LouisianaLeaders@la.gov with questions.

School System Hiring Practices

Please share with system leaders and human resource directors.

When considering an individual for employment, [LA R.S. 15:587.1](#) and [LA R.S. 17:15](#) direct school system leaders to:

- Conduct criminal background checks (CBC) through the Louisiana State Police (LSP) bureau of criminal identification and information and
- Conduct a State Central Registry (SCR) check through Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Child Abuse and Neglect System (CANS).

Charter and Nonpublic schools are not exempt from these hiring practices.

Please note that third-Party background check businesses do not provide fingerprint-based state and federal CBCs run through LSP's Bureau and are therefore not compliant with state law. Under La. R.S. 17:15(B), public school systems may rely on the background check that was run for certification, resulting in a "Clear Credential" rather than requiring the individual to be fingerprinted again for employment when hiring credentialed/certificated staff. This is an important efficiency as it reduces duplicate fingerprinting and unnecessary burden on educators and HR offices.

In addition to CBCs, LA R.S. 15:587.1, as revised by Act 409 last fall, the SCR check through CANS is required on all individuals hired on or after August 1, 2025. SCR is a repository of information on individuals who have been reported, investigated, and found substantiated as abusive or neglectful. Anyone new being hired for the upcoming school year would be subject to the check. This applies broadly to teachers, administrators, substitutes, support staff, and contracted employees regardless if certificated or not. Having a Clear Credential does not exempt an employee from this registry check. Refer to the [February 2026 Certification Monthly Webinar slide deck](#) for CANS access and usage tips, including the CANS User Guide.

Please contact EducatorClearance@la.gov with questions.

LEADS Training for Teachers

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

As a reminder, 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.

2025-2026 LES Evaluation Closeout

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

Systems should continue to finalize educator evaluations in the Louisiana Evaluation System (LES) portal. Evaluations can be finalized (including VAM teachers) if all evaluation components are complete and SLT data have been entered. 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 but did not receive a 2025-2026 evaluation. Refer to [Bulletin 130](#) for the conditions under which an evaluation may be marked incomplete.

Please contact LEADS@la.gov with questions.

Literacy

K-2 Skills Unit and Lesson Preparation

Please share with instructional leaders and CLSD 3.0 Coordinators. The session is open to all instructional leaders and K-2 teachers across the state.

These sessions provide a foundational understanding of healthy Tier I core instruction using the Tiered Pathways for Literacy Support (TPLS) framework. K-2 Skills Unit Preparation will have participants trace the progression of literacy skills through unit and lesson preparation by internalizing and implementing the K-2 Skills Unit Preparation Protocol. K-2 Skills Lesson Preparation will have participants trace how foundational literacy skills are taught, reinforced, and applied within a lesson by internalizing and implementing the two-phase lesson preparation process to support aligned, responsive instruction.

K-2 Skills Unit Preparation

- **Webinar Date and Time:** August 11 from 8 to 11 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96711547707?pwd=HOLqRFZykyDQ5St7QbJsi2bWRdpUKa.1>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID:** 967 1154 7707
- **Passcode:** 786743

K-2 Skills Lesson Preparation (Phase One)

- **Webinar Date and Time:** August 25 from 8 to 10 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93240867644?pwd=WKkeQrQFN631linBMiwQFMewo83rpd.1>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID:** 932 4086 7644
- **Passcode:** 896249

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.

3-12 ELA Knowledge Unit and Lesson Preparation

Please share with instructional leaders and CLSD 3.0 Coordinators. The session is open to all instructional leaders and 3-12 ELA teachers across the state.

These sessions provide a foundational understanding of healthy Tier I core instruction utilizing the Tiered Pathways for Literacy Support (TPLS) framework. 3-12 ELA Knowledge Unit Preparation will have participants trace the progression of knowledge and skills through instruction and assessment by internalizing and implementing the 3-12 ELA Knowledge Unit Preparation Protocol. 3-12 ELA Knowledge Lesson Preparation will have participants internalize and implement Phase One of the ELA Lesson Preparation Protocol to plan for effective instruction by determining

the purpose of lesson activities and questions within HQIM to develop intentional lesson objectives, identifying student exemplars, and selecting effective instructional approaches to support lesson outcomes.

3-12 ELA Knowledge Unit Preparation

- **Webinar Date and Time:** August 11 from noon to 3 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98068424158?pwd=vXHqfU1oWuVoKM0THG7YiHa3zUT3U8.1>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID:** 980 6842 4158
Passcode: 980273

3-12 ELA Knowledge Lesson Preparation (Phase One)

- **Webinar Date and Time:** August 25 from noon to 2 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95981648893?pwd=8xaNaFgO0xrZbYXO8FeWmAWDhktbdr.1>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID:** 959 8164 8893
Passcode: 085897

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.

Numeracy

Funding Available for Math HQPL

Please share with system leaders and curriculum leaders.

A special funding allocation is available to support professional learning focused on improving HQIM implementation in mathematics. To qualify for funding, a system must have adopted Tier 1 rated HQIM for mathematics. Interested system leaders should complete the [application](#) by August 7. Reach out to math@la.gov with questions.

Tutoring

Outcomes-Based Contracting for High-Dosage Tutoring Webinar

Please share system leaders.

As school systems begin planning for the upcoming school year, we invite you to join us for an informational webinar on Outcomes-Based Contracting (OBC) for Accelerate: High-Dosage Tutoring. Beginning with the 2026-2027 school year, all external provider contracts funded with state Accelerate: High-Dosage Tutoring allocations must be outcomes-based. School systems planning to use an external provider should join this webinar.

During this webinar, the LDOE tutoring team will:

- Review the [OBC guidance](#) and key implementation considerations
- Walk through a sample OBC contract and discuss its components
- Share best practices and lessons learned from the OBC pilot

Outcomes-Based Contracting for High-Dosage Tutoring Webinar

- **Webinar Date and Time:** July 23 at 10 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/91461441329>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 914 6144 1329

Career and College Readiness

Bullying Reporting Requirements and Compliance

Please share with school system leaders.

Under Bulletin 741 §1303, any school employee who witnesses or receives a report of bullying must report it to a school official. Failure to do so requires an investigation by the school governing authority.

School administrators shall be investigated if they fail to:

- Notify a parent/guardian of a bullying report
- Investigate the report in a timely manner
- Take prompt, appropriate disciplinary action
- Report criminal conduct to law enforcement

Each school system, charter school, and non-public school must report the number of employee suspensions related to failure to report bullying.

Please submit the [Failure to Act Reporting Form](#) by August 1.

Please contact tiffany.thomas@la.gov with questions.

Jump Start 2.0 Enhancements

Please share with system leaders and CTE supervisors.

The window to request enhancements for Jump Start 2.0 is open and will close on October 1 at 11:59 p.m. Jump Start enhancements are based on recommendations made by CTE supervisors and approved by the Jump Start 2.0 Review Committee and BESE.

Requests can be submitted through the [Jump Start 2.0 Enhancement Request Form](#).

Please contact fastforward@la.gov with questions.

Career Development Fund End of Year Reporting

Share with CTE supervisors, secondary supervisors, and finance.

The [2025-2026 Career Development Fund \(CDF\) Final Report](#) is available for school systems to complete. The deadline to report on 2025-2026 CDF expenditures is August 12. Systems should include the total expenditures for the year in this report. School systems should reference the 2025-2026 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 training 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 bonnie.lefort@la.gov with questions.

Course Choice Reporting for Fall and Full Year

Please share with school administrators and school counselors.

The [Course Choice Portal](#) is open for reporting enrollments. The deadline for reporting Private Provider enrollments is September 18. The deadline for public higher education is October 23.

Please contact coursechoice@la.gov with questions.

School System Financial Services

FY 2026-2027 MFP Formula Allocations

Please share with business managers and financial officials.

An updated MFP Budget Letter for July 2026 will be posted in the [MFP Library](#) under the 2026-27 MFP Budget Letter Section. MFP allocations may be viewed in the Charter schools' secure EdFin FTP sites.

Please contact ldoemfphelpdesk@la.gov with questions.