

LDOE Weekly Newsletter: July 30, 2024

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Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- Preparation Provider Monthly Call: [July 31 at 10 a.m.](#)
- System Leaders Monthly Call: [August 2 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Federal Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [August 6 at 1 p.m.](#)
- EdLink Workforce Dashboard Office Hours: [August 12 at 9 a.m.](#)
- EdLink Workforce Dashboard Office Hours: [August 14 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR) Monthly Call: [August 15 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Nonpublic Programs Monthly Call: [August 21 at 2 p.m.](#)
- School Systems Financial Services Monthly Call: [August 21 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Certification Monthly Call: [August 26 at 10:30 a.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- [SPED Fellow Academy](#) Application Deadline: July 31
- [LES Informational Webinar-School Leaders Option 1](#): July 31 at 8:30 a.m.
- [LES Informational Webinar-School Leaders Option 2](#): July 31 at 2:00 p.m.
- [Perkins Career and Technical Education Fall Leaders Retreat](#): Aug. 1 at 8:30 a.m.
- FY 2024-2025 Annual Operating Budget Due: August 1
- [LES Informational Webinar-Teachers/Counselors: Option 1](#): Aug. 1 at 10:00 a.m.
- [LES Informational Webinar-Teachers/Counselors: Option 2](#): Aug. 1 at 3:00 p.m.
- [Pupil Appraisal Summer Institute](#): August 22, Baton Rouge
- [Accountability Preview Webinar, Central Office Employees](#): August 26 at 10 a.m.
- [Accountability Preview Webinar, High School Principals](#): August 27 at 11 a.m.
- [Accountability Preview Webinar, Teachers Option 1](#): August 27 at 3 p.m.
- [Accountability Preview Webinar, Middle School Principals](#): August 28 at 10 a.m.
- [ACT® Work Ready Communities Boot Camp](#): August 28-29, Northshore Technical College
- [Accountability Preview Webinar, Elementary School Principals](#): August 29 at 10 a.m.
- [Accountability Preview Webinar, Teachers Option 2](#): August 29 at 4 p.m.
- [Accountability Preview Webinar, Counselors](#): August 30 at 10 a.m.
- [Early Childhood Conference](#): September 7, Shreveport
- Teacher Exit Survey Submission Deadline: September 13
- [Early Childhood Conference](#): October 5, Baton Rouge

Executive

Campus and Classroom Disruptions

Please share with school and system leaders.

Dr. Brumley shared a [letter regarding campus and classroom disruptions](#) with system leaders on Monday. Please share this update with applicable staff at the system and school levels.

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

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](#).

- Core Knowledge Foundation - Core Knowledge Language Arts (CKLA) ELA Skills Strand, Grades K-2 (©2013)
- EL Education, Inc. - EL Education Language Arts Curriculum 2nd Edition, Grades 6-8 (©2019)
- Carolina Biological Supply Co. - OpenSciEd, Carolina Certified Version, Grades 6-8 (©2022)

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.

Educator Talent and Workforce Development

The New Teacher Experience: Professional Learning Modules

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

The LDOE, in partnership with A+PEL, has developed monthly professional learning modules on topics that are critical for new teacher success. These modules include online asynchronous content followed by an in-person learning lab where participants practice and apply these concepts. These five modules are designed to build learning throughout the year. Teachers are expected to complete the entire series of Professional Learning Modules.

- Module 1: Classroom Management/Classroom Environment
- Module 2: Standards and Curriculum
- Module 3: Data Literacy
- Module 4: Literacy for 21st Century Learners
- Module 5: Parent and Community Engagement

This year, the LDOE is offering 245 complimentary seats. Half are reserved for the northern location (Monroe) and half for the southern location (Port Allen). Once those seats are exhausted, teachers may still attend but there will be a cost of \$1,272.00 per teacher to complete the series of modules. Teachers will be asked to receive approval to attend from their school leader.

[Registration](#) is now open. Once teachers complete the registration, participants will receive details on selected training locations. Participants will also receive an invitation to access the online asynchronous modules.

Please contact laurie.carlton@la.gov with questions.

2024-2025 Program Approval Spring Cycle

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

New program application window will open September 1 for the spring cycle for teacher preparation programs, [mentor teacher](#), [content leader](#), and ECAC. All Notice of Intents are due by October 1. Applications will be reviewed to ensure applicants meet all policy requirements to obtain approval before being moved to the application phase. Full applications for all new programs are due December 10.

A [guide](#) for teacher preparation providers applying for initial program approval is available in the [Preparation Library](#) on the LDOE website.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

LEADS Teacher Training

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

School leaders wishing to provide additional information on LEADS to teachers may utilize the in-person one-day LER Teacher Training materials. Detailed notes have been provided on the [slide deck](#) to assist school leaders with the presentation. A [Presenter's Guide](#) and [Participant Guide](#) are also available. The full training may be completed over the course of one full day or may be broken into multiple days. School leaders may also wish to use the materials over the course of several days during teacher collaboration. An [In-Person 90 minute slide deck](#) is also available. An asynchronous training will be available for teachers in the Louisiana Professional Learning Platform by mid-August.

Please contact leads@la.gov with questions.

Literacy

Third Grade Promotion Act Guidance

Please share with families, school leaders, and teachers.

Guidance is now available for [Third Grade Promotion](#) in the Literacy Library. Also, schools are encouraged to include the [Third Grade Promotion Flier](#) and the [Third Grade Promotion Family Letter](#) with the beginning of the year paperwork sent home. The family letter requires a parent signature and ensures documentation that third grade families in traditional public schools were notified of the new Third Grade Promotion Act regarding literacy.

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.

Reading and English ACT Series Launch in the Literacy Library

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

The literacy division has launched a four session series for ACT English and Reading. The slide decks and recordings can be found in the [Literacy Library](#).

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

U.S. Senate Youth Scholarship Opportunity

Please share with counselors, secondary administrators, social studies supervisors, and student council advisors.

The LDOE, in partnership with the [William Randolph Hearst Foundation](#), will select two juniors or seniors to serve as delegates for the 63rd Annual Washington Week Program March 1-8. These two students will each receive a \$10,000 scholarship after attending all sessions scheduled for that week. All information is currently available on the [LDOE website](#).

- Any junior or senior holding an elected or appointed leadership position at school, in the community, in the state, or the nation may qualify to apply.
- The Jotform application will be posted on the [Louisiana Department of Education website](#) by August 15. Once the application has been submitted, it will trigger the release of the list of essay topics and directions for the proctored writing session from the state coordinator to the school sponsor. These topics are considered test secure by the Hearst Foundation and are to be treated as such.
- The deadline for portfolio submission is October 4, at 11:59 p.m. Applications will not be returned. Finalists will be notified by October 25.

The national exam and interviews will be held on November 8 in Baton Rouge. Finalists will be notified by the LDOE in December of their selection as a delegate or an alternate for the week of March 1-8. The delegates must be able to attend all scheduled events in Washington D.C. the week of March 1-8 to receive the college scholarship.

Please contact suzette.rabalais@la.gov with questions.

National School Bus Curriculum Training

Please share with occupational therapists, physical therapists, special education administrators, and transportation administrators.

The LDOE is offering an opportunity for school systems to send a team of 4 personnel for training on [Child Passenger Safety](#). School teams should consist of one personnel from each department: transportation administrators, special education administrators, occupational therapists, and physical therapists. Registration is now open, and will be closed when the maximum capacity of 20 participants is reached.

The [National School Bus Curriculum](#) is an 8 hour course that provides an overview of the use of child safety restraint systems on school buses, with a focus on children with disabilities and chronic conditions.

Participants will:

- learn about federal, state and local laws, crash dynamics and forces, and occupant protection
- learn about the types of occupant protection that can be used on school buses, and gain knowledge on appropriate team assessments that lead to the appropriate selection of child safety restraints
- gain knowledge and skills through practice time that includes safely installing the child safety restraint system on the bus, and properly securing the occupant
- learn about securement of wheelchairs, and emergency evacuation procedures

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions.

School Choice

Nonpublic Schools

Louisiana Scholarship Program Application Phase II

Please share with nonpublic school leaders.

The LDOE is pleased to announce Phase II of the Louisiana Scholarship Program for the 2024-2025 academic year. This opportunity will provide eligible and interested Louisiana families desiring to apply to participating Non-Public Schools an abbreviated application period. Eligible students will be awarded seats at currently participating schools wishing to take part in Phase II.

It is anticipated that Phase II of the application will be launched on the [LDOE website](#) at the end of July, on a first come, first served basis, with approximately 300 seats available. Our goal is to award seats as close to the start of school as possible for families across Louisiana who choose to participate in this extraordinary opportunity.

Please contact studentscholarships@la.gov with questions.

School System Financial Services

FY 2024-2025 Annual Adopted Budget and General Fund Budget Submission

Please share with business managers and financial officials.

Louisiana R.S.17:88 requires that city/parish school boards submit an adopted balanced budget to the LDOE no later than September 30 each year. The FY 2024-2025 Adopted Budget Submission Instructions included in [The Business Manager Support Library](#) provide guidance, documents to be completed, and additional resources.

Please contact schoolfinanacehelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

School System Relations

The LDOE Names State-Level Honorees for Award Programs

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

Last week, the LDOE in partnership with [Dream Teachers](#), celebrated excellence in education at the 18th Annual Cecil J. Picard Educator Awards Gala, which was held at the World War II Museum in New Orleans. During the event, the [2025 State Elementary, Middle and High School Teacher and Principal of the Year honorees](#), the [2025 New Teacher of the Year](#), and the [2025 Early Childhood Leader of the Year and the 2025 Early Childhood Teacher of the Year](#) were announced.

In addition, the [New Teacher of the Year Finalists](#), [Early Childhood Teacher and Leader Finalists](#), [Milken Educator Award recipients](#), [Louisiana's Public Interest Fellowship recipient](#), and the [Teacher and Principal of the Year Semifinalists and Finalists](#) were honored.

Congratulations to these outstanding educators!

Please contact excellenteducators@la.gov with questions.