

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PREPARATION PROVIDER MONTHLY EMAIL

Dear Believe and Prepare Community,

After hearing from you all in the April call, we have decided to continue our monthly webinars throughout the summer. We will also continue to communicate to you via our preparation provider monthly newsletter blasts. Many of you have expressed the desire to keep the communication within our provider community open as our work to prepare for the upcoming school year happens during the summer.

We will follow our timeline of meeting the **last Wednesday** of each month at **10:00 a.m.** via Zoom.

We look forward to connecting as we value your partnership.

Arthur M. Joffrion, Jr., Ed.D.
Deputy Assistant Superintendent of Educator Talent and Workforce Development

UPCOMING DEADLINES

June 1: NOIs Due for [New Program Applications](#)

July 10: [Full Applications](#) Due for Program Approval

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 20: Certification Monthly [call](#)

May 22: Preparation Provider [monthly call](#)

May 28-30: Teacher Leader Summit

July 24: New Teacher Experience Kick-Off

NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Preparation Provider Monthly Webinar

Please join the next monthly webinar on Wednesday, May 22.

Webinar Details:

- **Webinar Date and Time:** May 22, 10 - 11 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/440246097>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
- **Meeting ID#:** 440 246 097

Please contact rebecca.stephenson@la.gov with questions.



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Teacher Leader Summit

The 12th annual [Teacher Leader Summit](#) will be held May 28-30 in New Orleans at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. The Teacher Leader Summit app, including session schedules and additional information, is available through Cvent. Download the Cvent app from the [App Store](#) or [Google Play](#) and access the event with the code **FgXJITLS24**.

Please contact events@emergentmethod.com with questions.

New Teacher Experience Kick-Off: Save the Date

The Louisiana Department of Education will host the Summer Kick-off for the New Teacher Experience on **July 24 from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.** in Baton Rouge for 500 new teachers. The goals of the event are to:

- Welcome new teachers to the profession,
- Understand the components of Louisiana's New Teacher Experience,
- Engage in high-quality professional learning around topics relevant to new teachers, and
- Provide statewide networking opportunities for new teachers.

Registration information is forthcoming.

Please share this date with your graduating seniors. Registration information is forthcoming. Contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

Teacher Preparation: Computer Science (5652) Praxis Exam

The LDOE has partnered with the Northshore Regional STEM Center to offer a free Computer Science Praxis preparation course to all public and public charter 6-12 teachers. The training will help teachers prepare for the Computer Science (5652) Praxis exam to add a certification to their teaching license. Please share this information with your students.

Four cohorts will be offered as 100% virtual training, with a fifth cohort offered in person at Southeastern Louisiana University in June. [Registration](#) is now open for the [Energize Project](#).

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

Bayou Bridges Curriculum Guide

The LDOE has published a new [curriculum guide](#) to support teachers and instructional leaders as they implement Bayou Bridges materials. The guide provides in-depth information on the program's guiding principles, design, key components and resources, unit and lesson study tools, along with sample lesson annotations.

Teachers and leaders should use this resource to help navigate the curriculum, to better understand its key components, and to effectively plan and implement Bayou Bridges lessons.

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This guide will continue to be updated as additional units are published.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

Geaux Teach Scholarship Program

[Act 463](#) of the 2022 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature established the Geaux Teach Program, which provides scholarships to students who are enrolled in teacher preparation programs at the state's postsecondary institutions that are approved by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE). Funding is also available to students attending certified alternative teacher preparation programs approved by BESE.

Students may receive up to \$5,000 annually to cover the cost of tuition fees, textbooks, and instructional materials required for enrollment.

Additional information about the Geaux Teach Program, including eligibility requirements, the [Geaux Teach Application](#), and answers to [Frequently Asked Questions](#) may be accessed on the [LOSFA website](#).

Please contact deborah.paul@la.gov with questions.

2024-2025 LEADS Learning Year Evaluator Training

In addition to the upcoming pre-service rubric training this fall, preparation providers are encouraged to attend the summer evaluation training for both the Educator Rubric and the Leader Rubric so that the processes and components can be incorporated into coursework. Please visit the [registration landing page](#) to sign up for a training session in your region.

When registering, enter.

- Job title: Other
- School System: Provider Name
- School: Provider Name

Please contact leads@la.gov with questions.

Math Competencies

[Act 347](#) of the 2023 Regular Session states that BESE shall revise teacher certification requirements and the requirements of teacher education programs to require instruction on foundational numeracy skills standards for candidates seeking certification to teach students no later than December 31, 2023.

[Bulletin 746 §507.B.12](#) Beginning September 1, 2028, an applicant for initial certification must have earned coursework or equivalent contact hours in alignment with the adopted foundational numeracy competencies.

The [competency crosswalk](#) document can be found in the [Preparation Library](#).



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Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Louisiana Aspiring Educator Rubric

The Louisiana Department of Education (LODE) has partnered with the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching (NIET) to provide a rubric to directly support improvements in classroom instruction in teacher preparation programs which aligns to the new Louisiana Educator's Rubric (LER).

The goal of this partnership is to ensure that the LDOE evaluation system is a structure of professional learning opportunities tied to evaluation used to recruit and retain effective teachers.

Training around the new rubric for aspiring teachers is scheduled for the fall. More information regarding registration, spot allocations, and dates is forthcoming in an email to all deans.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Literacy Coursework Submission

The LDOE is currently reviewing course descriptions for all updated Science of Reading courses, including the dyslexia course. Providers should expect feedback during the month of June. If you have not submitted in the portal, please do so by the end of the week.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov or certification@la.gov with questions.

NASDTEC

The National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) offers a reliable resource for comprehensive teacher licensure information across all 50 states.

NASDTEC invites your organization to become a member and gain exclusive access to our NASDTEC KnowledgeBase. This invaluable tool provides detailed insights into teacher licensure requirements from every state in the US, empowering you with the knowledge needed to navigate the complex landscape of teacher licensure seamlessly and assist you in meeting both the requirements of the USDOE related to occupational licensure notification and the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) to teacher candidates.

As a member of NASDTEC, you'll enjoy a multitude of benefits, including:

- Twenty-five (25) user accounts with full access to all NASDTEC resources on the Online Community.
- Access to the NASDTEC KnowledgeBase: Gain unparalleled access to comprehensive teacher licensure information from all 50 states, ensuring you stay informed and prepared.
- Networking Opportunities: Connect with education professionals and policymakers nationwide, fostering collaborations and sharing best practices.
- Professional Learning Resources: Access exclusive resources, webinars, and training opportunities designed to help prepare teacher candidates and those already in the field.

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- **Advocacy and Support:** Join a community dedicated to advocating for the highest standards in teacher preparation and licensure, with access to guidance and support.

Associate membership for an educator preparation provider is only \$500 annually and as stated above, allows your organization to have 25 user accounts. For more information on membership benefits and to join, visit our website at <https://www.nasdtec.net/page/Membership>.

NASDTEC looks forward to welcoming you to our community of education leaders committed to excellence in teacher licensure, preparation, and ethics.

Please contact support@nasdtec.org with any questions.

TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM APPROVAL

2024-2025 Program Approval Fall Cycle

[New program applications](#) window opened May 1 for the fall cycle for teacher preparation programs, [mentor teacher](#), [content leader](#), and ECAC. All Notice of Intents are due **June 1**. Applications are reviewed to ensure applicants meet all policy requirements to obtain approval.

Cycle	Application Window Opens	Notice of Intent Due	Full Application Due	Round 1 Evaluation Period Begins	Notification of Pending Decisions	Round 2 Evaluation and Notification (as needed)	BESE Consideration
Fall	May 1	June 1	July 10	July 11	August 26	TBD	October TBD

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

If you have any questions, please contact believeandprepare@la.gov.

TEACHER PREPARATION QUALITY RATING SYSTEM

On-Site Review Updates

The Teacher Preparation Quality Rating System (TPQRS) includes Preparation Program Experience as one of the domains. An on-site review by a third party is conducted to understand the program's quality once at least every four years. The RFP for the on-site review vendor has been selected and approved. On-site reviews are scheduled to begin late fall. Providers who have been selected for an on-site review

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this fall will be notified.

Each provider received their on-site review timeframe during the performance profile debriefing calls. If your assigned on-site review interferes with any other accreditation timeframe, please email believeandprepare@la.gov to request a change.

CERTIFICATION

Document Alteration

The LDOE has recently seen an increase in the submission of altered documents. Documents submitted are legal documents and submitted as evidence for certification. Sections of documents or applications that are already signed by the educator should not be altered in any way after signatures are obtained. Documents that clearly indicate an alteration after a signature **will not** be accepted.

Examples of this include but are not limited to: changing the date on the educator's professional conduct form, filling out the professional conduct form for the educator, altering the out-of-state attestation form, etc.

Office Hours Protocol

The Certification Team offers [office hours](#) each week for human resource offices and program providers. Office hours are held Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. and from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. in 15-minute increments. This service is offered to **HR office personnel and program providers only**. **Individuals** with questions should submit them through the online portal.

Office hours are staffed by a Senior Specialist and a novice Specialist. As of **April 1, 2024** the following has been implemented for office hours:

- Submission of an office hours question is **required**. This office hours question is the mechanism through which our staff responds in writing to summarize the discussion held during office hours. The corresponding office hours question should be submitted prior to even scheduling the appointment; however, if an office hours question is not submitted to coincide with the appointment at least 24 hours prior to the scheduled call, the office hours appointment will be **canceled**.
- If application processing time is **15 days or less**, justification for expediting is **required at the time of reservation** for consideration. This means the certification office must have the justification at least 24 hours in advance of the call for expediting to be considered.
- Expediting requests may be denied and are at the discretion of the LDOE.

We ask that the following steps be followed to schedule an [office hours](#) call:

- Login to HR account in online teacher certification portal, TeachLA Live!
- Use the **"Ask a Question"** feature along the top ribbon of the page

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- Choose “HR/Prep Provider Office Hours” in the drop-down menu
- Indicate certification questions, cases, candidates, and details around certification questions
- Submit the question case and **receive case #**
- Use **online scheduler** and indicate the “office hours” question case number in the reservation

[Step-by-Step Demonstration](#)

Certification Reminders

New Applications. In response to the newly adopted policy coming off of Notice of Intent around May 20, **all applications** will be updated. The expected timeline for all applications to be updated is **June 1, 2024**. Some applications will be posted prior to this date with a June 1 revision date.

Beginning **July 1, 2024**, all applications are **required** to be the **June 1, 2024** version for processing.

Foreign Equivalency Transcripts. New foreign equivalency transcript requirements include that a credentialing agency must be an endorsed member in good standing with either:

- [National Association of Credential Evaluation Services \(NACES\)](#)
- [Association of International Credential Evaluators \(AICE\)](#).

The adopted policy is effective **May 20**. Updated information is available on teachlouisiana.net.

Please contact certification@la.gov with questions.

Certification Monthly Call

The Certification Office conducts a monthly call devoted solely to certification. Participants for this call should include individuals responsible for the implementation of certification policy in teacher preparation programs and school systems. Topics include legislative and policy updates, certification processing updates, and frequently asked questions. It will generally fall on the third **Monday** of each month at **10:30 a.m.** Any changes due to BESE meetings or holidays will be included on the [school system support calendar](#). The next call is **Monday, May 20**.

Webinar link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97801045748?pwd=N1JobWIDU1gvNnNYQk40Wjl3YmpxUT09>

Meeting ID: 978 0104 5748

Passcode: 959091

Please contact Christy.Bellue@la.gov with questions.