



Preparation Provider Newsletter



Dear Believe and Prepare Community,

Louisiana's [English Learner \(EL\) Framework](#) provides a clear structure for how schools and preparation programs can work together to ensure every teacher is ready to support English Learners in their classrooms. Organized around five focus areas — Leadership and Program Development, Rigorous Instruction and Collaborative Planning, Data-Informed Decisions, Planning for Future Success, and Family Support Systems — the Framework highlights the shared responsibility of developing instruction that promotes both language growth and academic success.

For preparation providers, the Framework serves as a tool for aligning coursework and field experiences with the instructional practices that most benefit English Learners. It encourages teacher candidates to understand how language development connects to content learning and how to plan lessons that include meaningful language supports. When new teachers learn to use scaffolds, model vocabulary, and create structured opportunities for discussion and writing, they are better equipped to make rigorous content accessible for all students.

The Framework also emphasizes collaboration and data use as essential components of strong instruction. When preparation programs model these practices, teacher candidates enter the classroom ready to plan with colleagues, analyze student progress, and adapt instruction to meet learners' needs.

By connecting teacher preparation to the Louisiana EL Framework, preparation providers play a vital role in building a workforce of educators who are confident, knowledgeable, and prepared to help every English Learner thrive.

For more information and resources, visit the [English Learners Resources](#) page.

Best regards,

Arthur M. Joffrion, Jr., Ed.D.

Deputy Assistant Superintendent of Educator Talent and Workforce Development
Louisiana Department of Education



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NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Upcoming Events

November 19: [Preparation Provider Monthly call](#)

December 3: [Bayou Bridges Office Hour](#)

December 10: [Social Studies Competency Focus Group](#)

December 11: [Social Studies Competency Focus Group](#)

Preparation Provider Spotlight Form

We want to share your good news! We invite all of our providers to complete the [provider spotlight Jotform](#) so that the amazing things happening throughout our teacher preparation provider community can be shared across our great state. Please include information regarding new grant opportunities, innovative initiatives, research/case studies around the advancement of your program(s), or faculty and residency student highlights. We are excited to hear about all the things you are doing well to grow educators who will grow students.

EDUCATOR DEVELOPMENT

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 enrolled in teacher preparation programs at the state's postsecondary institutions 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 tuition, fees, textbooks, and other instructional materials required for enrollment. Billing dates for the fall semester/term are **November 1**; for the spring semester/term, **May 1**; and for the summer semester/term, **July 1**, when applicable.

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.



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Quarter 2 Pre-Educator Pathway System Lead Support Webinar

Offered quarterly, the Pre-Educator Pathway System Lead Support Webinars are virtual opportunities for Pre-Educator Pathway/Grow Your Own System Leads to share best practices related to developing and expanding access to the Pre-Educator Pathway. Preparation providers are encouraged to attend and contribute by sharing resources, strategies, and partnership models that strengthen educator preparation pipelines and support pathway participants' successful transition into teacher education programs.

- Webinar date/time: November 20 at 10:30 a.m.
- Webinar link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95052635005?pwd=klbmmE6bSixqLTZcn4b4Ye1zNgCtAZ.1>
- Meeting ID: 94121632402
- Phone: 470-250-9358

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

Pre-Educator Pathway Site Visit

System leaders, teacher leaders, and postsecondary teacher preparation partners are invited to attend site visits for a day of learning and community building. During site visits, participants will have an opportunity to observe Grow Your Own work that is being done in another school system and strategize to improve Grow Your Own efforts in their system. Please complete the [registration form](#) to attend the visit in Lafayette Parish on **February 3**.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

EDUCATOR PREPARATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Teacher Preparation Quality Rating Performance Profiles

Teacher Preparation Performance Profiles are ready for review. Deans and directors will receive an email with information regarding profile release and meeting options for this year.

2023-2024 TPQRS Performance Profiles will be released in November, and LDOE will email instructions on how to access the Performance Profiles and schedule debriefing meetings. Providers who have effective ratings or higher in both pathways will not require a debrief session. Debrief sessions are tailored to each provider and will provide insight into 2023-2024 Quality Rating Scores, as well as support programs that score Needs Improvement in one or more pathways. The TPQRS Performance Profiles will be released publicly to the Louisiana Believes Preparation Library in January 2026.

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



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Policy Implementation Timeline Guide

To navigate key policy changes affecting Louisiana's teacher preparation community, a [Policy Implementation Timeline Guide](#) has been developed. This resource outlines updates in literacy, dyslexia, numeracy, computer science, and English learners. The document will be updated in the coming months to reflect the August BESE policy changes.

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

Spring 2026 Program Approval Cycle

The [new program application window](#) opened on **September 1** for the spring cycle for teacher preparation programs, mentor teacher, content leader, and early childhood ancillary certificates. All applications are due by **December 10**. A notice of intent must have been received by **October 1**, for an application to be considered for program 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	September 1	October 1	December 10	December 11	February 15	TBD	April TBD

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

Program Approval Reminders

When considering a change to a program, email believeandprepare@la.gov. The preparation team will meet to determine whether the change is minor or major. If the change is minor, the change must be noted on the letterhead and signed by the dean. If the change is major, the provider must undergo the program approval process to obtain approval for the change. This process is crucial for candidates to obtain certification upon completing their coursework.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

Winter LAER Training

Training on the Louisiana Aspiring Educator Rubric (LAER) will be held this upcoming school year. Training dates are as follows:



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- [January 15-16, 2026](#), University of Louisiana at Monroe
- [January 29-30, 2026](#), University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Please share the registration links with residency/placement coordinators, university supervisors, or those responsible for observing and evaluating residency students.

Should providers wish to include faculty members who are not the residency or placement coordinators or university supervisors, please contact believeandprepare@la.gov.

LAER as a Coaching Tool

The [Louisiana Aspiring Educator Rubric \(LAER\) as a Coaching Tool](#) module is now available on the Professional Learning Platform. This module is designed to support preparation providers, mentor teachers, and school leaders who work with new teachers who have been trained on the LER to utilize the LAER as a coaching tool. This does not replace the in-person training for the LAER certification.

Course Code: 35299E95

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

Specialized Dyslexia Training

Preparation providers are invited to take part in one of the following trainings to fulfill the “special training” outlined in [Bulletin 996](#) for instructors teaching the dyslexia coursework.

Bulletin 996 states, “... taught by a faculty member who has been provided specialized training in instructing teacher candidates on pedagogical methods for teaching students with dyslexia.”

Options for the instructor’s specialized training are as follows:

- Complete the [Overcoming Dyslexia](#) course from Coursera.
- Outsource the course to the speech department.
- Complete a dyslexia certification.

Please contact diverselearnerssupport@la.gov with any questions or for more information.

LDOE Teacher Preparation Training

Educator Preparation, in partnership with the Literacy, Numeracy, and Diverse Learners teams, is offering the following opportunities.

- **Diverse Learners:** Improving Outcomes for ELs: Louisiana’s Framework, [December 4 at 10 a.m.](#)



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Please [sign up](#) and share the sign-up link with faculty and staff who will benefit from these courses. A calendar invite with the Zoom links will be sent once the sign-up form is completed.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

Bayou Bridges Office Hours

Preparation Providers are invited to join the LDOE for the fourth social studies office hours of the 2025–2026 school year. Scheduled for **December 3 at 3:15 p.m.**, the office hour will focus on Using Strategy Sheets with HQIM. It will also offer an opportunity to address any questions related to [Bayou Bridges: A K-8 Louisiana Social Studies Curriculum](#) and [Foundations of Freedom: A Louisiana Civics Program](#). Join the session using the link provided below, or by accessing the [Social Studies Office Hours Flyer](#) located on the K-12 Social Studies Planning webpage.

- Webinar Date and Time: December 3 at 3:15 p.m.
- Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97436075546>
- Webinar Phone Number: 346 248 7799
- Meeting ID#: 974 3607 5546

Please contact socialstudies@la.gov with questions.

Social Studies Competencies Focus Groups

The LDOE is seeking teacher preparation participants to join a focus group to assist in creating Louisiana social studies competencies. If you would like to participate, please complete the [Jotform](#) to indicate your interest by **Friday, November 28, 2025**.

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

CERTIFICATION AND EDUCATOR BACKGROUND CREDENTIALING

Louisiana Educator Certification Portal (LEC)

To support systems with the transition to LEC, training materials are available on www.teachlouisiana.net. These resources include user guides and video recordings designed to assist with navigating the LEC platform. Materials are available for each user role, including: applicants, public and non-public schools, preparation providers, and early childhood centers.

Please contact the [Teacher Certification Help Portal](#) with any questions.



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Praxis Free After Three

Beginning October 1, 2025, Praxis offers free retakes for test takers who have completed three attempts on the same Praxis test. Please see the [frequently asked questions](#) one-pager for additional information.

Status of Fingerprinting and Clear Credential

Applicants have multiple options to check the status of fingerprinting.

- The applicant can check fingerprinting status on IdentoGO's website: [IdentoGo Status Check](#).
- All stakeholders can check [TeachLouisiana.net](#) to verify the certification record, which will show the "Clear Credential" if fingerprinting has been completed under our service code.
- When clicking "Add New Application" in the [Louisiana Certification System \(LEC\)](#) system, if the applicant is provided a full menu of application types, then the applicant is cleared; an employer or program provider will be able to send a cleared applicant any application, not just the "Fingerprint Clearance" application.

If an applicant is not cleared with the "Clear Credential" in three weeks or less following fingerprinting under service code **27N5HQ**, email EducatorClearance@la.gov or submit a question through the [Teacher Certification Help Portal](#) using the topic "Background and Professional Conduct".

Certification and Background Credentialing Monthly Calls

Calls will be held on the following dates for the 2025-2026 school year. The link has been updated on the [school system planning calendar](#); the link and reminder may be added to individual calendars for the entire series.

August 18, at 10:30 a.m.	September 15, at 10:30 a.m.	October 20, at 10:30 a.m.
November 17, at 10:30 a.m.	December 15, at 10:30 a.m.	January 26, at 10:30 a.m.
February 23, at 10:30 a.m.	March 16, at 10:30 a.m.	April 20, at 10:30 a.m.
May 18, at 10:30 a.m.	June 15, at 10:30 a.m.	July 20, at 10:30 a.m.