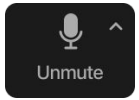
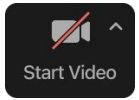
LEA-Authorized Charter Schools Monthly Call

November 4, 2026

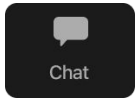
Zoom Meeting Preparation



- Please make sure your phone or computer is muted to minimize background noise.
  - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Mute.”



- Please make sure you have turned off your camera to save bandwidth and prevent any connectivity issues.
  - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Stop Video.”



- Please submit questions during the presentation in the “Chat” function located on the bottom of your screen.

If you require an interpreter or have other accessibility needs for future LDOE meetings, please contact LDOEcommunications@la.gov.

Contact Information

Please provide your **name** and **email address** in the chat box. A copy of the presentation will be sent to you after this meeting.

To access slide decks from previous calls, you may visit the LDOE Monthly Call webpage.

Agenda

- Monthly Call Goals
- Key Dates
- Consideration of Application Recommendations
- Public Meeting Requirements
- Departmental Updates
- Charter School Program Grant Updates

Monthly Call Goals

WELCOME

Goals for Local Authorizer Monthly Calls

To provide pertinent information and updates.

How will this be accomplished?

- Being **INTENTIONAL**
- Listening to your requests
- Each month provide reminders and upcoming key dates pertaining to the authorization process
- Each call will provide leaders with information tied to the Charter RFA process

******REMINDER: Monthly calls are held every 2nd Wednesday @ 11:00 am******

Key Dates



LDOE Submission Due Dates- Local Authorizers

Date	Action
November 15	**2026-2027 Health and PE in Schools Survey:** School leaders should complete the 2026-2027 Health and PE in Schools Survey by November 15. State law requires schools to provide students with daily physical activity and recess and requires the LDOE to monitor and evaluate health, recess, physical activity, and employee training in schools. Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.
November 16	**LEA/Subgrantee eGMS Claims and PER Deadlines:** November 16 is the deadline for federal awards ended 9/30/2026. Please contact ldoe.federalclaims@la.gov with questions.
November 18	**Applications Open: Support Employee & Health Service Provider of the Year:** The application process for the 2026–2027 Outstanding School Support Employee of the Year and School Health Service Provider of the Year is now open. The LDOE will host virtual help calls throughout the application window to provide an overview of the programs, answer questions, and assist with the application process. **November Application Process Review** Date and Time: November 18 at 11:30 a.m. Webinar Link: https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98307646668 Webinar Phone Number: 346 248 7799 Meeting ID#: 983 0764 6668 Please contact excellenteducators@la.gov with questions.

2026 Mid-Year Charter School Application Process Timeline

To begin operation in 2027-28

Date	Annual RFA Process
June 1, 2026	LDOE application opened for Type 2 and 4
June 8, 2026 (by 5 p.m.)	Letters of Intent were due to LDOE.
July 6, 2026 (by 5 p.m.)	Eligibility Determination Forms Due to LDOE.
July 20, 2026 (by 5 p.m.)	LDOE submission deadline for the full application for Types 2, 4, and 5 applicants.
Fall 2026	Capacity Interviews for Type 2 and 4 applicants conducted by Third Party Reviewer.
December 8, 2026	Types 2 and 4 Applicants: BESE considers applications for new charter schools.

2026 Mid-Year Charter School Application Process Updates

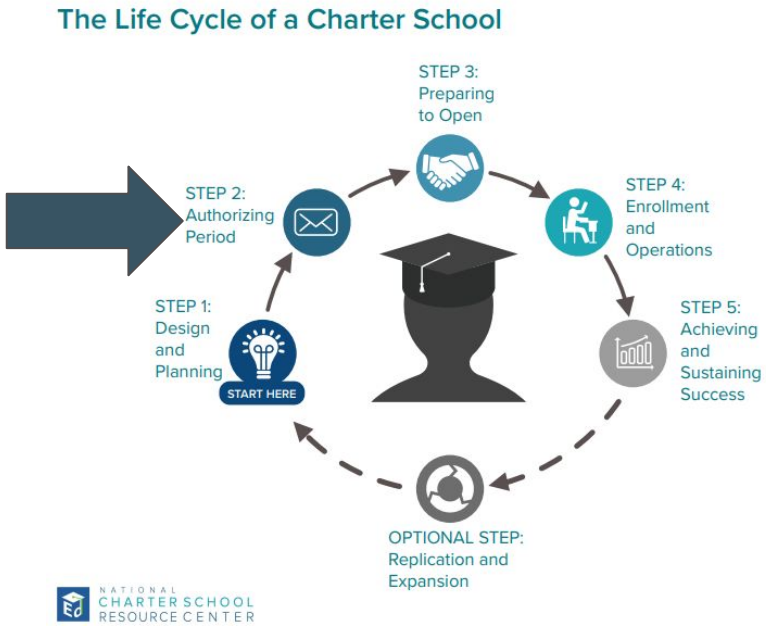
Applicant Name	Charter School Type	District
Community Roots Leadership Academy	Type 2	East Baton Rouge Parish
Louisiana Community and Technical College Charter School	Type 2	East Baton Rouge Parish

Consideration of Application Recommendations

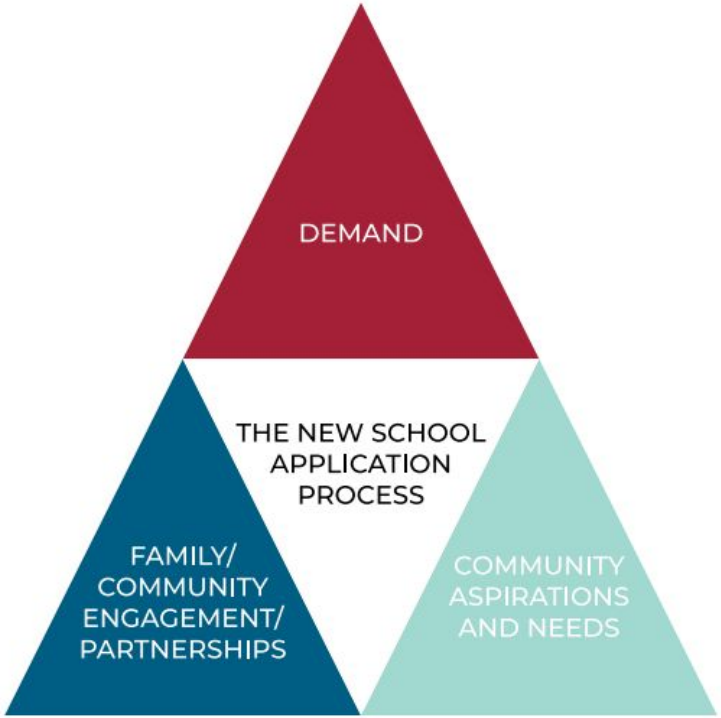
Consideration of Application Recommendations



Consideration of Application Recommendations



Consideration of Application Recommendations



Resource: NACSA-How to Supplement Your Application Evaluation Rubric

Consideration of Application Recommendations

- Authorizers must determine a threshold for recommending approval or denial and define how these decisions will be communicated.
- A recommendation report for each applicant should be provided by the third-party evaluator that summarizes the proposed charter school's model, outlines all strengths and concerns, and includes ratings based on the evaluation criteria.
- Authorizers utilize the third-party report, along with performance during capacity interviews, and internal reviews to develop an evidence-based recommendation for denial, approval, or approval with conditions.

Consideration of Application Recommendations

- Quality authorizers grants charters only to applicants who demonstrate:
    - competence to succeed in all aspects of the approval criteria; and
    - strong capacity to establish and operate a quality charter school.
- Authorizers should provide denied applicants detailed feedback to:
    - Provide a public record of why the applicant was denied; and
    - Assist the applicant in reapplying in a future cycle.

Public Meeting Requirements

Public Meeting Requirements

The Open Meetings Law, found in R.S. 42:12 – 42:28, regulates meetings of public bodies. The Open Meetings Law is meant to ensure that decisions by the government are made in an open forum.

- A meeting is a convening of a quorum of a public body to deliberate or act on a matter that the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power over.
- A quorum is a simple majority of the total membership of a public body.

Resource: LLA Open Meetings Law Guidance

Public Meeting Requirements

- Provide notice of the meeting at least 24 hours before the meeting via placement of a copy of the notice at the place of the meeting or at the body's official office;
- Allow for some means of public comment;
- Allow for recording of the meeting by the audience;
- Record minutes of the proceedings;
- Have "open" meetings – that is, observable to the public with an opportunity for public participation.
- School boards are required to allow public comment before taking any vote. The comment period shall be for each agenda item and shall precede each agenda item. R.S. 42:15(A).

Public Meeting Requirements

Notice of Action Taken- Any board action taken on such applications as part of the local district timeline shall be reported to the LDOE by January 29, 2027.

  - State Legislators- Each state senator and state representative in whose district the charter school is to be located should receive notice whether the proposal was approved or denied in the form of postal and electronic mail.

- If a proposal is not approved by the local school board, the applicant may appeal as a Type 2 Applicant to BESE.
- If the proposal is then also not approved by BESE within the same approval cycle, then the proposal shall be submitted to the local school board for its consideration during the next approval cycle prior to being submitted to BESE.

Assessment Updates



Assessment Updates

Key Dates

- October 20: Test security training for DTCs during AAA Office Hours call at 3 p.m.
- October 16: **Final day to select LEAP grade 3 paper testing in DRC INSIGHT**
    - Determine shipping dates for LEAP Materials. DTCs have information about how to update Enrollment Verification for these actions from AAA Office Hours calls.
- November 9: K-3 literacy and numeracy screening administration test setup opens; updated manuals released.
- November 10: Screening administration updates shared on weekly office hours call at 3.

LEAP High School Fall Administration

LEAP Fall high school administration will be hosted in DRC INSIGHT from November 30-December 18.

- October 19: LEAP HS Fall Test Setup Available for LEAP Fall HS window
- October 26: Manuals available
- October 31: Final day to update accommodations on IAP, IEP or EL Checklist

Reminder: Accountability codes are not needed for retesters who are in the system but are not testing.

Diverse Learner Updates

High Cost Services (HCS)

The 2026-2027 HCS Round 1 application is now open in eGMS. In Round 1, school systems can request reimbursement for current students who were enrolled in the 2025-2026 school year.

The application closes on **October 16**.

More information is available in the 2026-2027 High Cost Services State Plan.

Please contact Hillary.Robinson2@la.gov with questions.

Annual Dyslexia Reporting

School systems are required to annually report the number of students with dyslexia currently enrolled and the number of students newly identified with dyslexia in the prior school year. If there is no data to report, the school system must report zeros.

The dyslexia reporting form is currently open. The deadline for submission is **December 15**. School Systems that do not submit, will be listed in the final legislative report as non-responsive.

Dyslexia reporting guidance is available in the Students with Disabilities library.

Please email specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

Literacy Screening Gifted Referral Data Collection

Louisiana R.S. 17:24.9 mandates school systems to report the number of students identified for referral for gifted evaluation for literacy screening administration for Kindergarten through Grade 3.

The jotform is currently available. All school systems that have K-3 in its grade configuration must report. If there is no data to report, the school system is to enter zeros

Please submit the Beginning-of-Year (BOY) gifted referral data by **October 16**.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

Data Collection, Validation and Submission

- SER is a live system. As such, data entry can occur at any time; however, entries and requests that occur after the official count dates will not be captured in reporting.
- Reports that require validation are based on the collection window and the date the collection is made official. All updates to student records and requests for exceptions must be entered in SER prior to the official count dates.

Graduation Cohort Certification

The graduation validation process provides LEA with the opportunity to report accurate graduation and dropout data for reporting in:

- School Performance Scores,
- LEA Determinations, and
- Performance Profiles

The validation window opened mid-August and closes mid-December.

Annual Performance Report (APR) Indicator Outreach

Annually, Louisiana is required to calculate rate and risk ratios to determine school systems' risk of over-identification of suspension and expulsion greater than 10 days (indicator 4), over-identification of special education and exceptionality identification (indicators 9&10), timely evaluation practices (indicator 11) and timely early childhood transition (indicator 12).

LEA notification of findings will occur late October. If your LEA is identified with findings, the individual letters of findings by indicator will be uploaded to the FTP. More information will be provided in future communications.

IDEA Count Final Run

Deadline for verifying data on all IDEA Reports for the count as of October 1 is October 28th.

- eSER snapshot happens at 6 p.m. on 10/28/26 to align with EdLink snapshot on 10/29/26.)
- SER/SIS child Count Cross Check should only contain students that are receiving services in the non-public setting and are not enroll in your school system.

Educator Evaluation Updates

Louisiana Evaluation System (LES) 2025-2026 Closeout Reminders

- Systems should continue finalizing educator evaluations for the 2025-2026 school year. Evaluations (including VAM teachers) should be finalized at this time.
- Evaluations should be marked incomplete for any employee that did not receive an evaluation. Refer to Bulletin 130 for the conditions that allow an evaluation to be marked incomplete.
- The deadline for entering 2025-2026 educator evaluation data is November 30.

Please contact leads@la.gov with questions.

Louisiana Evaluation System (LES) Updates for 2026-2027

- Systems are encouraged to begin setting SLTs and conducting observations.
- In accordance with Bulletin 130, evaluators and evaluatees must meet to discuss SLTs.
- The LES Timeline and the LES Technical Guide are resources available for this process.

Safe and Healthy Schools Updates

National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

Key Awareness & Impact

September is dedicated to raising awareness around suicide prevention and mental health support.

- **Second Leading Cause:** Suicide is the second leading cause of death for young people (NAMI, Youth.gov, SAMHSA).
- **Universal Role:** Everyone has a role to play in prevention, and every community is impacted.
- **Key Spaces:** Schools serve as critical hubs for awareness, connection, and support.

Support & Resources

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline
24/7 free, confidential support for anyone in distress

SAMHSA Digital Toolkit
Suicide Prevention Awareness media & educational assets

CDC Public Health Strategy
Comprehensive public health approach to suicide prevention

Please contact Robyn.Thomas@la.gov with questions.

Children's Hospital School Support

Ventilator Assisted Care Program (VACP)

Support and Training

Provides training and technical assistance to LEA personnel for students with chronic health conditions.

Statewide Resources

Offers comprehensive statewide support for students with complex medical needs.

Inclusive Education

Deploys staff to train school personnel, enabling students to remain in their Least Restrictive Environment (LRE).

Expert Guidance

Advises LEAs and stakeholders on medical, academic, and social factors for successful classroom integration.

Please contact Healthyschools@la.gov with questions.

Vape-Free School Resources

The Louisiana Department of Health - WellAhead provides the following resources to support youth vaping prevention:

Vape-Free Schools Administrators Training

An online module designed to assist school leadership in establishing vape-free environments by implementing clear policies, maintaining high educational standards, and providing accessible cessation support.

Vape-Free Schools Toolkit

A comprehensive digital resource library created to help K-12 educators across Louisiana incorporate tobacco prevention and education into their classroom curriculum.

Please contact Terrell.Gill@la.gov with questions.

Naloxone Shelf-Life Extended

ACT 183 (2026) grants civil and criminal immunity to those who distribute, prescribe, or administer expired naloxone or opioid antagonists in good faith during a suspected overdose.

- Protection excludes instances of gross negligence or willful misconduct.
- Shields licensed practitioners from disciplinary action.
- Protections do not supersede federal regulations for federally certified entities.

Please contact Healthyschools@la.gov with questions.

House Resolution 74 (2026): Seizure Disorders Survey

Deadline & Mandate

Survey Requirement

House Resolution 74 (2026) requires school systems to complete the required survey on student seizure disorder accommodations by **October 22, 2026**.

Survey Scope

Required Topics

Survey questions will include student action plans, medication accessibility, and evidence of compliance with R.S. 17:436.4.

Reporting & Metrics

Accurate Data Submission

Accurate figures must be provided via the survey to the LDOE to support statewide metric calculations and policy planning.

Compliance Mandate

Biennial Seizure Training

Under R.S. 17:436.4, all relevant school staff and bus operators are required to complete biennial seizure training.

Please contact Healthyschools@la.gov with questions.

Charter School Program Grant Updates



CSP Supplemental Awards

The FY26 CSP supplemental funding application remains open in eGMS.

Select Fiscal Year 2026 in eGMS to submit amendments, enter budget details, and draw down the supplemental award funding.



The funding period for the CSP supplemental awards ends June 30, 2027.
In order to complete data collection and reimbursement in a timely manner, all funds must be drawn down by March 30, 2027.

Please contact cspgrant@la.gov with questions.

Helpful Links

Resource	Description
Charter School Library	This webpage includes links to charter school finance, guidance, reviews, and pre-opening information.
Newsletter	This webpage offers a links to all newsletters offered by the LDOE.
Charter Inbox	Please reach out to us through the Charter Inbox with your questions.

Questions

For further inquiries, please reach out to:

Charter Authorization

charters@la.gov

Ex. Director of Charter Authorization

Jade.Gambino@la.gov



Upcoming LEA-Authorized Charter Monthly Call



December 9, 2026 at 11:00 a.m.

Topics: Local Authorization RFA Determinations and Annual RFA Process for Type 2 and 4 Charters