



Teacher Leader Newsletter



Special Edition March 2026

Teacher Leader Advisors (TLAs) are accomplished educators who partner with the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) to strengthen teaching and learning across the state. TLAs work to support the review, development, and implementation of high-quality instructional materials and professional learning for Louisiana teachers. In this role, TLAs contribute to the state's [Instructional Materials Review \(IMR\)](#) process, develop [Instructional Support Resources](#), and design and lead both virtual and in-person professional learning opportunities for educators statewide. Christina Holland, Leslie Davidson, and Elise Barkemeyer are current TLAs who understand what it's like to serve in this role and the impact the experience has had on their professional growth and on classrooms across Louisiana.



Christina Holland, ELA IMR TLA, 5 years

Christina Holland shares that serving as a Teacher Leader Advisor strengthens her leadership and instructional practice. Through this work, she refines her ability to evaluate and develop high-quality curricula while collaborating with educators across the state. These opportunities allow Teacher Leader Advisors to work toward shared goals that support strong teaching and learning for Louisiana students.



Leslie Davidson, Math IMR TLA, 1 year

Leslie Davidson shares that serving as a Teacher Leader Advisor strengthened her instructional practice and expanded her leadership impact. The program provided a supportive professional network and deepened her understanding of decision-making at the district and state levels. She now contributes to policy conversations, leads school-wide initiatives, and mentors colleagues with greater confidence. Overall, the TLA experience amplified her voice as an educator and empowered her to drive meaningful change for learners and teachers in her community.



Elise Barkemeyer, Social Studies IMR TLA, 4 years

Elise Barkemeyer currently serves as a social studies Teacher Leader Advisor. Participating in the program has allowed her to collaborate with other teachers across the state to review high-quality instructional materials. She has also improved her communication skills and advocated for quality materials for all students in Louisiana.

In This Issue

- [Academics](#)
- [Educator Opportunities](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

Academics

Public Comment on Revised Physical Education Standards

The LDOE is seeking public comment on the [revised physical education standards](#). These revised standards reflect the collaborative efforts of the steering committee and workgroups, which included stakeholders such as professional Louisiana educators, leaders from community health organizations, and university representatives. A summary of the review process and committee goals can be found in the [Physical Education Standards Overview](#). All stakeholders can review the revised standards and submit feedback through the [2026 K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for PE Public Review Form](#) from March 9 at 8 a.m. until April 15 at 4 p.m.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

Educator Opportunities

Instructional Materials Review Teacher Leader Advisor Applications Now Open

The LDOE is now accepting applications for K-12 social studies and science [Instructional Materials Review Teacher Leader Advisors](#) (IMR TLAs). IMR TLAs play a key role in the state's review process by evaluating instructional materials submitted to the LDOE and identifying the degree of alignment to state student standards. These reviews help local school systems make informed decisions when selecting high-quality instructional materials for their classrooms. Interested educators should submit their [applications](#) by **April 10 at 4 p.m.**

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

Dyslexia Intervention Instructional Materials Review Teacher Leader Advisor Applications Now Open

The LDOE is excited to announce that applications are now being accepted for [Literacy Teacher Leader Advisors](#) to support **Dyslexia Intervention Instructional Materials Review**. Selected TLAs will participate in Louisiana's statewide review of dyslexia-specific intervention programs submitted for consideration. In this role, TLAs will review K-12 dyslexia intervention materials using the Louisiana Dyslexia IMR rubrics, apply Louisiana dyslexia laws and policies to evaluate instructional design and implementation requirements, and participate in calibration sessions. Interested educators should submit their [applications](#) by **April 10 at 4 p.m.**

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

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