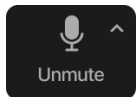
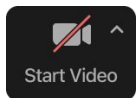


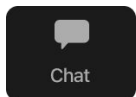
Zoom Meeting Preparation



- 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.





THE POWER OF PRESENCE
◆ **LDOE ATTENDANCE** ◆

August 2026 Attendance Monthly Call

Enhancing Academic Success Through a Statewide Attendance Strategy

Agenda

- Introduction/Sign In
- Monthly Call Focus & Purpose
 - Setting The Standard: Communicating the importance of attendance and proactive strategies
 - First quarter dip days
- Updates

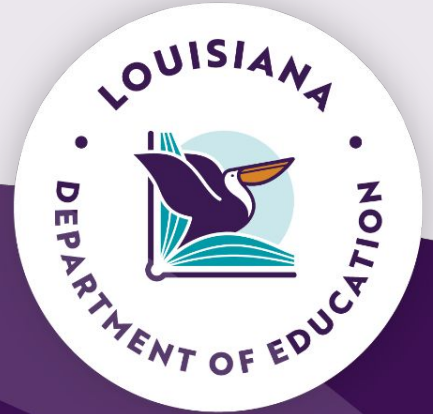
Please email attendance@la.gov with questions.



Setting the Standard

Communicating the importance of attendance for the beginning of the school year.

Every day present is a day of opportunity.



The First Weeks Set the Tone

THE THRESHOLD

10%

of school days missed defines chronic absenteeism. Just two days a month, from day one can create attendance challenges.

THE PATTERN

Attendance in the first six weeks of school is one of the strongest predictors of attendance for the entire year.



For Families

Every day matters, starting now. Partner with families early to promote consistent routines before small gaps become a pattern.



For Students

Being present supports belonging and success. Students' presence in the classroom is directly tied to their academic growth.



For School Teams

Create your Attendance Team, set shared goals, and greet every student as they enter the school.



Please email attendance@la.gov with questions.

The First Weeks — An Action Timeline

A simple sequence school teams can follow to set the standard from the very first day.

1

BEFORE DAY 1

Launch & Prepare

The Attendance Team should set shared goals and prepare welcome messaging for every family.

2

WEEK 1

Set the Tone

Take attendance seriously from the first bell. Greet every family and student with a clear, positive message.

3

WEEKS 2-3

Watch & Reach Out

Monitor daily data closely. Follow your attendance protocol. Address concerns early before they become patterns.

4

WEEKS 4-6

Analyze & Adjust

Review attendance patterns as a team and provide at-risk students with early intervention support before habits set in.

Please email attendance@la.gov with questions.



A Tiered Strategy to Address Attendance

Not every student needs the same level of support — attendance messaging should scale with risk.

TIER 1 · PROACTIVE

All Students

Proactive, school-wide environment: positive attendance messaging, family communication, and connections for every student, every day.

TIER 2 · EARLY INTERVENTION

At-Risk Students

Early outreach regarding absences: personal check-ins, mentoring, and problem-solving with families before patterns take hold.

TIER 3 · COMPREHENSIVE

Chronically Absent & Truant Students

Conferencing by the Attendance Team, individualized plans, and targeted support to overcome barriers to attendance.



Please email attendance@la.gov with questions.



A Tiered Strategy to Address Attendance

Proactive strategies focus on all students are the foundation of effective attendance initiatives.

Proactive strategies to consider and promote from the first day of school:

- Providing relevant, engaging instruction
- Addressing parental misconceptions about attendance
- Utilizing clear and timely processes to communicate information about attendance with parents
- Incentivizing attendance through recognition programs, contests, and rewards
- Cultivating student belonging through engagement with activities and organizations
- Fostering family and community involvement through targeted engagement opportunities

Please email attendance@la.gov with questions.



Best Practices for Tiered Strategy Implementation

- Monitor attendance data daily so the attendance team can recognize early warning signs before they become larger issues.
- Ensure schools' attendance protocols are consistent, responding to absences quickly and in a way that promotes connection.
- Reach out before absenteeism becomes a pattern and let families know their child was missed and that the school is ready to support them.
- When early attendance concerns are identified, the attendance team engages - focusing on problem-solving and solutions to challenges.
- Problem-solving may include connecting families with transportation assistance, counseling services, mentoring opportunities, community resources, or other supports that address barriers to regular attendance.

Best Practices for Tiered Strategy Implementation

- Attendance teams must meet regularly to review attendance patterns.
- Use data to identify students beginning to show signs of chronic absenteeism or truancy and proactively move them into early interventions before attendance habits become entrenched.
- **Early intervention** is one of the most effective ways to improve attendance outcomes.

Key Takeaway: Consistent messaging, daily monitoring, timely outreach, and early intervention create the foundation for strong attendance all year long.



First Quarter Dip Days

Identifying potential attendance challenges early to proactively address.

Communicating that everyday matters.



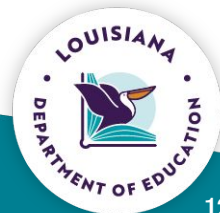
The "Fall Slide" — Real (and Predictable)

Analysis of years of attendance data found that the well-known spring attendance dip has a fall mirror image.

This is a predictable seasonal pattern schools can plan for and improve.

Questions to consider:

- What historical data should attendance teams review to identify potential dip days or reduced attendance seasons?
- How can proactive strategies be planned and implemented to promote attendance during predicted dates or seasons of concern?



The "Weekend Effect" — Mondays and Fridays

Data shows that students were about 17% more likely to be absent on Mondays and about 22% more likely to be absent on Fridays, relative to midweek.

Since the pandemic, this weekend effect has actually strengthened.

The effect is often elevated in higher-poverty areas and in secondary schools.

Questions to consider:

- What does your attendance data reveal about Monday and Friday attendance patterns?
- What communication tools and/or incentives could be utilized to reduce Monday and Friday absences?

The "Holiday Effect" — Days Flanking Breaks

Absenteeism often rises around holidays, with somewhat higher percentages of students being absent in the days just before and after school breaks.

First-quarter days to flag specifically: the Friday before Labor Day weekend, the day after Labor Day, the days around Halloween, and the days immediately before Thanksgiving break.

Questions to consider:

- In your system or school, what days during the fall semester have show high absenteeism rates in the past?
- What misconceptions about attendance on these days may need to be addressed?



Not All Absences Are the Same

Messaging and support planning should reflect different absence types.

Excused absences generally increase with illness seasons.

Unexcused absences patterns are more likely to reflect family or student decisions, not illness or emergency.

Questions to consider:

- Does your attendance strategy consider how to support students with different types of absence patterns?
- How do you communicate students' opportunities to recover missed learning regardless of absence type?





Questions?

Resources

Louisiana Attendance Planning

- State-Wide Attendance Strategy
- Attendance Policy and Statutes
- Attendance Data
- Attendance Team Documents
- Attendance Tiered Strategy Template

[Power of Presence Attendance Webpage](#)



Please email attendance@la.gov with questions.





Up Next

2026-2027 System Leader Regional Collaboration registration is now open!

Use the QR code below to register for the Attendance Pathway.





Updates

- Previous presentations can be found on the [LDOE Monthly Calls](#) webpage
- Next Attendance Monthly Call
 - September 3, 2026 at 8:00 a.m.