

SCHOOL REDESIGN VISION AND BACKGROUND

Over the past several years, Louisiana educators have made progress in reducing the number of students in struggling schools. **In 2015, more than 10,000 fewer students attended D and F schools than did in 2013 across the state. However, a sizable number of schools continually struggle to provide an excellent education to students. In all, 225 schools (17% of schools) received a letter grade of D or F in each of the 2014, 2015, and 2016 school years, and 97,441 students attend these schools (14% of all Louisiana students).**

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that school systems and states intervene with persistently struggling schools.

TO IMPROVE STRUGGLING SCHOOLS:



THE STATE IS REQUIRED TO:



Identify persistently struggling schools



Fund strong evidence-based plans for improving struggling schools



Intervene in schools that do not improve over time



SCHOOL SYSTEMS ARE REQUIRED TO:



Develop an evidence-based school improvement plan for each struggling school within their school system



Engage families and local stakeholders in the development of the plan

WHAT IS A “PERSISTENTLY STRUGGLING SCHOOL” IN LOUISIANA?

- Title I schools receiving a D or F for each of the past 3 school years
- Schools with a graduation rate less than 67%
- New (non-takeover) Title I schools receiving a D or F for each of the first and second years of operation

Reference the [School Redesign list](#) for the Louisiana schools that meet these criteria.

SCHOOL REDESIGN GRANT OVERVIEW

The LDOE will provide additional, competitive funding via the [School Redesign Grant](#) to those districts who create strong, evidence-based plans to support their most struggling schools.

The grant [application](#), due September 29, 2017, will serve as that plan. **Every school system with a school on the [list](#) must submit a plan in one of two grant cycles in the 2017-2018 school year.**

Reference the [School Redesign Grant guidance](#) for additional information.

SCHOOL REDESIGN GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS

During the 2017-2018 school year, the LDOE will run two cycles of the School Redesign Grant.

All school systems with a school identified as being in need of “comprehensive support” must complete a full School Redesign Grant application in one of the two cycles. Districts may choose to submit a planning grant in Round 1 or not submit at all in Round 1, and then submit a School Redesign Grant in Round 2.

There are two options in the first cycle:

- **School Redesign Grant:** This three-year grant is an opportunity for school systems with strong plans to apply for ESSA funds.
- **Planning Grant:** This is an opportunity for school systems to fund planning time needed to develop a strong improvement plan with a partner organization.



ROUND 1	AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2017	NOVEMBER 2017	JANUARY 2018
ROUND 2	FEBRUARY-MARCH 2018	APRIL 2018	SUMMER 2018

WORKING WITH PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Research shows that often schools that improve do so with the support of an external partner that brings new expertise to support turnaround efforts. Earlier in 2017, the Department hosted the School Redesign Summit, which brought together nearly 50 external partners to meet with Louisiana school systems.

For the full grant application, school systems are strongly encouraged to engage highly-qualified external partners to support them in conducting needs assessments, developing strong improvement plans, and implementing their plans.

**VIEW
PARTNER
PROFILES**

RESOURCES

School Redesign grant materials can be found in the School Redesign library: <https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/school-redesign-summit>