

System Leaders Monthly Call



April 4, 2025



TEACHER LEADER SUMMIT 2025

A *New Story* for LOUISIANA EDUCATION

Registration will be closing soon for the [2025 Teacher Leader Summit](#) taking place on **June 10-12** at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. All school and system leaders are encouraged to attend.



*Scan for registration
and event details.*

Please contact LDOEvents@la.gov with questions.



Asst. Superintendent of Early Childhood Education

Please join us in welcoming **Barry Carter** as the new Assistant Superintendent of Early Childhood Education at LDOE.

Barry brings over 20 years of educational experience, including twelve years as a teacher in Lincoln and Desoto Parishes, and eight years as an administrator. He served five years as a principal in Desoto Parish, where he was recognized as Louisiana Middle School Principal of the Year.

Under his leadership, his school achieved an A rating for four consecutive years and received the Louisiana Comeback School award. Barry also contributed to the “Let Teachers Teach” initiative, demonstrating his commitment to empowering educators.



Governmental, Administrative, Public Affairs, and Operations

Ken Bradford, Chief of Staff



2025-2026 Super App: Amendment 1

- All competitive and estimated formula (ESSA, IDEA and Carl Perkins) funding for 2025-2026 Super App will be loaded in eGMS after April BESE.
- Actions required:
 - Create **Amendment 1** of the 2025-2026 Super App
 - Complete the **Administration** section and **Budget Details** for each Section of the application.
 - The Allocations tab in the eGMS will allow LEAs to allocate funding to the appropriate sections, enabling them to complete their respective Budget Details.
- Deadline: Amendment 1 must be submitted by **June 30** in order to ensure the LEA meets all requirements for **Substantial Approval**.

Please contact LDOE.grantshelpdesk@la.gov with questions.



Approval, Funding, and Implementation Summary

The 2025-2026 Super App Approval, Funding, and Implementation (AFI) Summary was emailed to federal program directors, business managers, and superintendents of CIR/UIR-A sites on March 28.

This document includes:

- Outcomes of the LDOE's review of the proposed CIR/UIR strategy and requests for competitive funds
- Eligible expenditures for any awarded funds
- Recommended steps for the implementation of the approved CIR/UIR strategy

Please be sure to review the AFI Summary carefully upon receipt, as it contains vital information for your LEAs planning and budget allocation.

Please contact LDOEoperations@la.gov with questions.



CSI/TSI Plan Submission



Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) & Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) Plan

ESEA section 1111(d)(1)(B) requires LEAs, in partnership with stakeholders (including principals and other school leaders, teachers, parents, and, as applicable, Tribes), to develop and implement a plan for a school identified for CSI (CIR-A and UIR-A) to improve student outcomes.

1. is informed by all indicators described in ESEA section 1111(c)(4)(B), including student performance against State-determined long-term goals;
2. includes evidence-based interventions;
3. is based on a school-level needs assessment;
4. identifies resource inequities, which may include a review of LEA and school-level budgeting, to be addressed through implementation of such comprehensive support and improvement plan;
5. is approved by the school, LEA, and State; and
6. upon approval and implementation, is monitored and periodically reviewed by the State.

LEAs must develop comprehensive support and improvement (CSI) and targeted support and improvement (TSI) plans based on labeled status under 1111(d)(1). LEAs will be required to submit a CSI/TSI plan to eGMS. The deadline to submit is May 2, 2025.

LEA Name: _____ School Name: _____

Plan Type*: (TSI) Targeted Support and Improvement Plan ▾

*If your site is labeled as both CIR & UIR, submit a CSI plan.

Date of Plan Implementation: _____

Date of Plan Update: _____

(LEAs) are required to develop and submit a **Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI)** or **Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI)** plan.

- Plans must be based on the **labeled status** under **Section 1111(d)(1)** of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- LEAs are required to submit the CSI/TSI plans through **eGMS by May 2, 2025**.

If LEAs need assistance or have questions about the plan development or submission process, please contact LDOEoperations@la.gov.



GAPA & Operations Monthly Calls

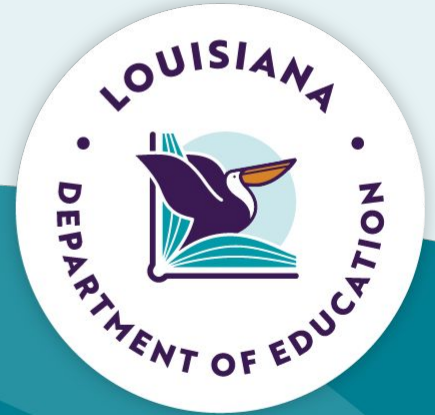
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call	April 17 at 10 a.m.
Federal Nutrition Support Monthly Call	May 6 at 1 p.m.

View our [School System Support Calendar](#) for full schedule.



Teaching and Learning

Dr. Jenna Chiasson, Deputy Superintendent



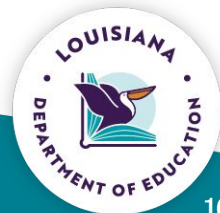
LEADS Implementation Support & Resources

The [LEADS Library](#) contains many resources to support planning LEADS implementation.

- [Evaluation Implementation Guidance for System Leaders](#)
- [LA Educator Evaluation Process: Sequence and Timeline](#)
- [LA Leader and Counselor Process: Sequence and Timeline](#)
- [Evaluation FAQ](#)
- [2025 Evaluation Training](#)

The [LEADS Public Collection](#) contains video clips to support developing a common understanding and build rater-reliability.

Please contact LEADS@la.gov with questions.



Educator Workforce Development Updates

- The [Aspiring Principal Fellowship Application](#) is now open, and the deadline to apply is April 7. Additional information about the program can be found in the [APF overview document](#).
- The application for the [Recruitment and Retention Fellowship](#) is now open. Interested candidates should complete the application by June 27.
- Join the [Spring 2025 Mentor and Resident Funding call](#) to review the funding eligibility and process. The call will take place on April 15 at 1 p.m.

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.



Alternative Pathway 4 Principal Bootcamp

- The [Alternative Pathway 4 Principal Boot Camp](#) capitalizes on leadership skills outside of education.
- Individuals of diverse professional backgrounds are eligible to participate including those holding an MBA, MPA, JD or Commissioned Officers.
- Participants are given intense supports through the help of an assigned mentor.
- There is **no cost** to participants. Interested candidates should [apply](#) quickly - limited spots are available.

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.



Novice Principal Academy

- The inaugural [Novice Principal Academy \(NPA\)](#) will begin in July 2025.
- The NPA program is tailored to meet the needs of Novice Principals, offering a year-long cohort experience that includes collaborations with experienced principals.
- The [application](#) for new principal participants is now open and must be submitted by the employing school or system. The deadline is July 7.
- The cost of this program is \$1,000.

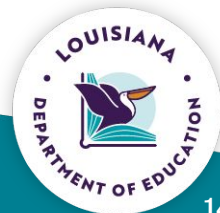
Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.



Principal Mentors Needed

- The LDOE is seeking experienced, successful principals to support the mentoring of aspiring and novice principals.
- Principals selected as mentors will receive a contract and stipend for all work required of the mentor.
- To be considered for this role, please complete the [application](#) in full.

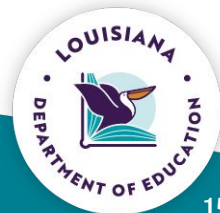
Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.



Zearn Rostering 2025-2026

- Zearn School Accounts are available for the 2025-2026 school year.
- To opt-in to continued access to LDOE-provided Zearn School Accounts, system leaders must complete the [School Account Confirmation Form](#) by May 1.
- [Math Summer Learning Guidance](#) is also available:
 - Student and teacher active engagement
 - Time on Zearn
 - Grade-level lesson completion

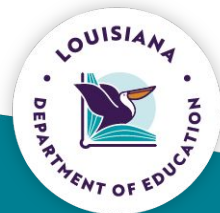
Please contact math@la.gov with questions.



Third Grade Promotion: Subsequent Year Support

- Students repeating third grade:
 - Parent notification of progress monitoring protocol, intervention plan, and suggestions for strategies to use at home
 - Daily 90-minute reading block and 30-minute intervention block
 - Trained teacher who is highly effective in reading growth
- Students promoted to fourth grade via good cause exemption:
 - Individual Academic Support Plan (IASP) for reading
 - Parent conference to share progress monitoring protocol, intervention plan, and suggestions for strategies to use at home
 - LEA support to schools and teachers for strategy implementation

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.



Special Education Updates

- Public comment is now open on LDOE's FFY25 [draft application](#) for IDEA funds. Stakeholders can submit [public comment](#) by May 18.
- The [survey](#) is now open to collect LEA local Special Education Advisory Council reports per R.S 17:1944 due May 31.
- The Act 266 Kindergarten Dyslexia Screening platform will open soon, near the end-of-year DIBELS screener. The Diverse Learner and Assessment teams will work with District Test Coordinators (DTCs) to assist with the testing process and rosters.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.



SSI/System Leader Regional Collaborations 25-26

Please mark your calendars for School Support Institutes and System Leader Regional Collaborations 2025-2026.

Session 1		Session 2	
Monroe	Sept 23, 2025	New Orleans*	Jan 21, 2026
Shreveport	Sept 24, 2025	Baton Rouge	Jan 22, 2026
New Orleans*	Sept 30, 2025	Lafayette	Jan 23, 2026
Baton Rouge	Oct 1, 2025	Monroe	Jan 27, 2026
Lafayette	Oct 2, 2025	Shreveport	Jan 28, 2026

**SSI & Business Mgrs. only*

SSI is from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. System Leader Collaborations will be held in the afternoon from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the same locations. Registration will be open on May 1.

Please contact SSISupport@la.gov with questions.



Teaching and Learning Monthly/Support Calls

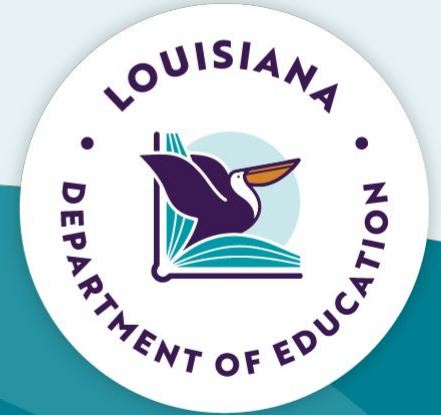
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
EdTech Monthly Call	<u>April 10 at 9 a.m.</u>
Diverse Learner Office Hours	<u>April 15 at 2 p.m.</u>
Teaching and Learning Monthly Call	<u>April 23 at 1 p.m.</u>
Certification Monthly Call	<u>April 28 at 10:30 a.m.</u>
Preparation Provider Monthly Call	<u>April 30 at 10 a.m.</u>
LEADS Implementation Monthly Call	<u>May 7 at 12 p.m.</u>

View our [School System Support Calendar](#) for full schedule.



Assessments, Accountability, & Analytics

Thomas Lambert, Assistant Superintendent



Social Studies Assessment Update

Starting in the 2027-2028 school year, the LDOE will continue efforts to reduce testing time by decreasing the number of required social studies assessments.

- Social studies assessments will only be administered in grades 3, 5, and 8, and high school civics.
- Under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), states are not federally required to administer social studies standardized tests at any grade level.
- Currently, Louisiana is one of thirteen states that require social studies testing in grades 3-8. Louisiana is the only state that requires all grades 3-8 to participate in social studies testing annually.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.



Time Reduction Details

Grade	Current Testing Time	Approximate Proposed Time
Grades 3-8	1,100 minutes	550 minutes

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.



Proposed Banded Assessments

Grade Administered	Content from Grades
Grade 3 American Story	Kindergarten
	Grade 1
	Grade 2
	Grade 3
Grade 5 World History	Grade 4
	Grade 5
Grade 8 Louisiana & American History	Grade 6
	Grade 7
	Grade 8

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.



2024-2025 Interests and Opportunities

- Louisiana Data Review (LDR) opens Monday, April 14 and closes Friday, June 6.
- Accountability contacts will use LDR to submit I&O documentation for the 2025 school performance scores.
- LDR user guides and directions will be sent to Accountability contacts.

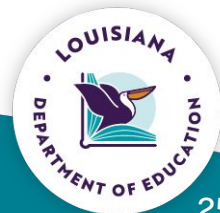
Please contact accountability@la.gov with questions.



Interests and Opportunities: Nonpublic Schools

- The I&O Jotform survey for calculating 2024-2025 Scholarship Cohort Index will be open from April 14 to May 21.
- Superintendent validations are due by May 23.
- Survey information will be sent to principals and Scholarship Program contacts.

Please contact accountability@la.gov and studentscholarships@la.gov with questions.



Assessments, Accountability, & Analytics Monthly Calls

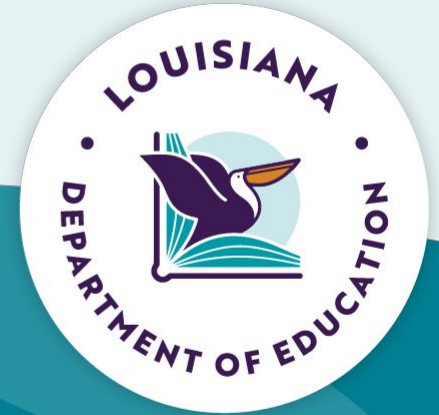
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
EdLink Weekly Q&A Session	<u>April 8, 15, 22, 29 at 11 a.m.</u>
eScholar Office Hours	<u>April 10 and 24 at 10 a.m.</u>
Data Coordinator Monthly Webinar	<u>April 10 at 1 p.m.</u>
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	<u>April 29 at 3 p.m.</u>

View our [School System Support Calendar](#) for full schedule.



Career and College Readiness

Dr. Ernise Singleton, Assistant Superintendent



Fast Forward Convention and CWA Summit

- All presentations from the Fast Forward Convention and CWA Summit are on the [Meetings and Training Opportunities page](#) of the LDOE website.
- System leaders can also reach out to fastforward@la.gov should attendance verification be needed.

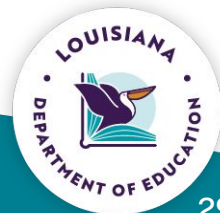
Please contact fastforward@la.gov with questions.



LDOE High School Summer Internship Opportunity

- This summer, the LDOE will hire up to 5 high school students for internships in various offices within the agency.
- Interns will be employed for 160 hours from June 16 to July 14 with a pay rate of \$10 per hour.
- The application forms are now available and must be submitted by **noon April 7** to be considered for an interview.
 - [LDOE Summer Internships Release](#) (if the student is under 18)
 - [LDOE Student Application](#)
 - [LDOE Summer Internship Supplemental Application](#)

Please contact stephanie.marcum@la.gov with questions.



Career and College Readiness Monthly Calls

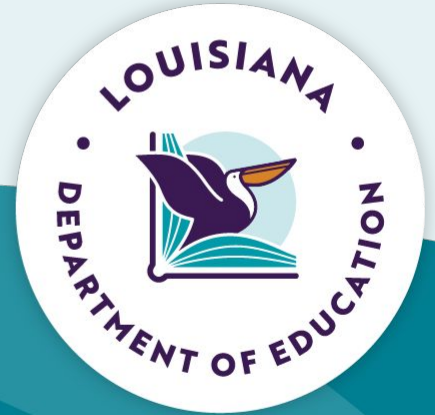
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Alternative Education	<u>April 10 at 10 a.m.</u>
Office of Career and College Readiness	<u>April 17 at 3 p.m.</u>
Safe and Healthy Schools	<u>April 24 at 2 p.m.</u>
Child Welfare and Attendance	<u>May 1 at 8 a.m.</u>

View our [School System Support Calendar](#) for full schedule.



School Choice

Germain Gilson, Assistant Superintendent



BESE-Authorized Charter Schools Request for Applications Timeline

Date	Process
February 3	LDOE application window opens for Types 2 and 4 applicants
February 10 (5 p.m.)	Letters of Intent due
March 10 (5 p.m.)	Eligibility Determination forms due to LDOE
March 31 (5 p.m.)	LDOE submission deadline for the full application for Types 2 and 4 applicants
April 4	LDOE to notify local school system leaders of the submission of charter school applications within their districts
June	Types 2 and 4 applicants: Capacity Interviews conducted by third-party evaluator
August 19	Types 2 and 4 applicants: BESE considers applicants for new charter schools

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.



BESE-Authorized RFA Cycle Updates

- All applications for the RFA will undergo two reviews:
 - First by an independent third-party review team
 - Second by the Internal Review Committee
- Both review panels will utilize the application review rubrics for determining standards being met or unmet.
 - [New Operator Rubric](#)
 - [Experienced Operator Rubric](#)

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.



Excellence in Authorizing - Community of Practice

- School system leaders are invited to participate in the 2025 Excellence in Authorizing - Community of Practice. LDOE has invited NACSA to lead the Community of Practice in developing authorizing tools.
- Participating districts can share experience, gain knowledge, and develop best practices to improve charter school authorizing across the state. Participating districts will also earn CSP microgrant opportunities.
- Invitations to [register](#) for and participate in the Excellence in Authorizing -Community of Practice have been sent to charter contacts and Superintendents. Please see the [Charter Schools Program Grant](#) page for more information.

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.



Office of School Choice Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Local Authorizer Monthly Call	April 9 at 11 a.m.
BESE-Authorized Charter Monthly Call	April 10 at 9 a.m.

View our [School System Support Calendar](#) for full schedule.



School System Relations

Trey Folse, Assistant Superintendent



State-Level Honorees Announced

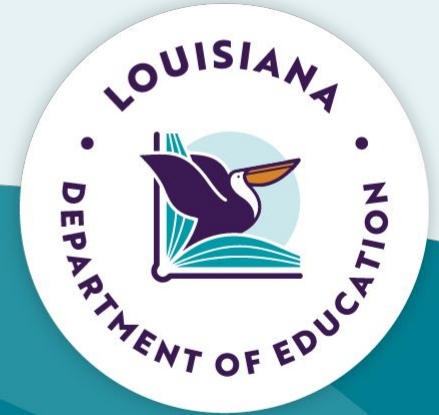
- State-Level Honorees
 - [Louisiana Teacher and Principal of the Year Semifinalists](#)
 - [New Teacher of the Year Finalists](#)
 - [Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year Finalists](#)
- 19th Annual Cecil J. Picard Educator Excellence Awards Gala
 - Saturday, July 26
 - The National World War II Museum in New Orleans
 - Co-sponsored by [Dream Teachers](#)

For any questions, please contact:
excellenteducators@la.gov for Teacher/Principal of the Year | laurie.carlton@la.gov for New
Teacher of the Year | shallan.jones@la.gov for Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year



Early Childhood Care and Education

Barry Carter, Assistant Superintendent



Early Childhood Allocations

- 2025-2026 Community Network Lead Agency and Ready Start Network allocations are scheduled to be voted on during the June 4 BESE meeting
 - A notice of BESE approval will be sent after the BESE meeting on June 4
- 2025-2026 Early Childhood Education Fund allocations are also scheduled to be voted on during the June 4 BESE meeting
 - Final amounts will be subject to legislative appropriation

Contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions.



Requirement of Licensure

According to [Bulletin 137 - Louisiana Early Learning Center Licensing Regulations](#), the following situations require licensure:

- A prekindergarten program operated by a public school serving children in grades kindergarten and above, and in which all children have not reached age 4 by September 30 of the current school year
 - This applies to schools serving children age 3 with IEPs at the school site
- A prekindergarten program operated by a private school serving children in grades kindergarten and above, and in which all children have not reached age 3 by September 30 of the current school year

See [R.S.17.24.8](#) for more information.

Contact ldelicensing@la.gov with questions.



Early Childhood Care and Education Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Early Childhood Community Network Office Hours <ul style="list-style-type: none">occurs the second Tuesday of each month from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.	April 8 at 3 p.m. Meeting Link

View our [School System Support Calendar](#) for full schedule.



Questions



Thank you for joining today's call!

Our next System Leaders Monthly Call is Friday, May 2 at 9 a.m.

Schedules, access links, and information on webinars can be found in the [LDOE Weekly Newsletter](#) and the [School System Support Calendar](#).

Helpful Links

- [LDOE Website](#)
- [School Improvement Library](#)

Support Toolboxes

- [Teacher](#)
- [System](#)
- [Principal](#)
- [Counselor](#)

