

System Leaders Monthly Call



April 10, 2026

Office of Chief of Staff

Ken Bradford, Chief of Staff



2027 Super App Amendment 1

- Competitive and Estimated Formula funding (ESSA, IDEA and Carl Perkins) will be loaded in eGMS in May.
- School systems will need to create Amendment 1 for the 2027 Super App, and complete:
 - Admin section of the application
 - Invest funding on the Allocation Page
 - Complete all required budget details
 - Complete all required Contact and Assurances information in LEA Central Data
- Deadline for submission of 2027 Super App Amendment 1 is June 30, 2026 in order to meet the requirements for Substantial Approval.

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



2027 eGMS Assurances Updates

- **2027 Compliance with Nondiscrimination Requirements Assurance**
 - The Nondiscrimination assurance has been updated with revised language.
 - The Nondiscrimination assurance that was originally signed for the submission of 2027 Super App Original application will be replaced with the updated version.
 - All LEAs will have to sign the updated assurance to submit Amendment 1.
- **2026 Competitive Super App Assurance**
 - This is a new assurance that is being added to 2027 LEA Central Data
 - This assurance applies to all competitive funding awarded to an LEA in the 2027 Super App.

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



CSI/TSI Plans

As a reminder, LEAs must develop a Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI) or Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) plan based on identification status under Section 1111(d)(1). LEAs are required to submit [CSI/TSI plans](#) in eGMS. The application opened in January and the submission deadline is **May 1**.

Important Submission Notes

- Plan previously submitted and approved = no action required
- Plan returned for changes = revise and resubmit
- Newly labeled status = submission is now required
 - [2025 Schools in Need of Intervention List](#)

Please contact LDOEOperations@la.gov with questions.



Approval, Funding, and Implementation Summary

The 2026-2027 Super App Approval, Funding, and Implementation (AFI) Summary was emailed to federal program directors, business managers, and superintendents of CIR/UIR-A sites on April 1.

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, as it contains vital information for your LEAs planning and budget allocation.

Please contact LDOEOperations@la.gov with questions.



Summer EBT Communications

The Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) has begun the process of initiating new Data Sharing Agreements (DSA) for Summer EBT.

- This DSA will allow LEAs to securely submit PII information to LDH.
- LEAs will regain access to the Summer EBT portal after LDH receives the signed DSA.

Please contact childnutritionprograms@la.gov or LDH.PEBTSupport@la.gov with questions.



Office of Chief of Staff Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Federal Support and Grantee Relations	April 16 at 10 a.m.
Nutrition Support	May 5 at 1 p.m.
Attendance	May 7 at 8 a.m.



Office of Policy and Governmental Affairs

Ashley Townsend, Assistant Superintendent



Child Neglect and Abuse Mandatory Reporter Training Compliance Requirements

- [Article 603.1](#) of the Louisiana Children’s Code requires teaching or child care providers (as defined by Article 603) to complete the online Mandated Reporter Training course provided by the Department of Children and Family Services between June 1 and August 31 annually.
- Act 409 (2025) requires employers to submit to the LDOE by September 30 a list of employees who have and have not completed the training requirement. Completion rates must be published on the LDOE website.

Please contact educationpolicy@la.gov with questions.



Office of Teaching and Learning

Dr. Jenna Chiasson, Deputy Superintendent

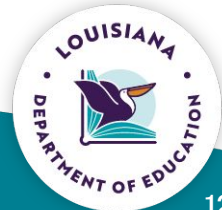


SSI & System Leader Collaborations 2026-2027

Session 1	
Monroe	September 23, 2026
Shreveport	September 24, 2026
New Orleans	September 29, 2026
Baton Rouge	September 30, 2026
Lafayette	October 1, 2026

- School Support Institutes will be held from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Regional Collaborations will be held from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- New Orleans location for SSI only. Regional collaboration participants will attend in Baton Rouge.
- Registration will open on May 1.

Please contact SSIsupport@la.gov with questions.

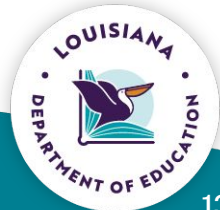


Third Grade Promotion

[R.S. 17:24.11](#) prohibits promotion to fourth grade of certain students whose reading deficiencies have not been remediated by the end of the third grade.

- [Third Grade Promotion Guidance](#) defines procedures and good cause exemptions.
- Students are given three attempts to pass above *Well Below*. All three attempts must be done within the mCLASS platform.
- [Good Cause Exemption Documentation](#) – requires Superintendent’s (or designee) signature

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.



2026 Revised Physical Education Standards: Public Comment

The Physical Education Standards Review Committee met during the fall and winter to revise the K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Physical Education.

- [Public comment](#) on the revised standards opened on **March 9** and will close on **April 15**.

Additional information:

- [PE Standards Overview](#)
- [Standards review committee resources](#)



Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.



K-12 ELA and Math Standards Institute

- In preparation for the 2027-2028 implementation, the LDOE will host ELA and Mathematics Standards Institutes to support educator readiness and implementation of updated K-12 Student Standards for [ELA](#) and [Mathematics](#).
- K-12 ELA and Mathematics sessions will be offered statewide, with multiple learning opportunities available beginning this summer (June–July) across all regions, including sessions at Teacher Leader Summit.
- Additional details, including registration, locations, and session information, will be available on the [K-12 ELA Planning webpage](#) (Professional Learning section) and the [Louisiana Math webpage](#) (“Standards” section).
- **Registration opens April 13.**

Please contact ELAguidebooks@la.gov or math@la.gov with questions.



Louisiana Numeracy Excellence Act

Teachers are progressing through the [Louisiana Numeracy Excellence \(LANE\)](#) training.

- Teachers on track should be engaging in module 11.
- Numeracy and school leaders should monitor the quality of work and teacher progress through the courses.
- LDOE staff will be reaching out to Numeracy Leads to verify rosters.
- Office Hours: April 15 at 9 a.m.
- Please see the [Numeracy Professional Learning](#) guidance for more information.

Please contact math@la.gov with questions.



Educator Talent and Workforce Development

Louisiana Aspiring Educators Summer Academy: July 13-17

Open to high school students enrolled in the Pre-Educator Pathway or coursework aimed at attracting and developing future Louisiana educators. Student and [Academy Staff applications](#) now open.

New Teacher Experience: Louisiana's New Teacher Experience (NTE) will transition to a system-based [Train-the-Trainer \(TTT\) model](#). Systems will deliver NTE locally using LDOE-developed materials and district-trained facilitators. [Registration](#) is now open.

Aspiring Principal Fellowship: a selective, year-long leadership experience preparing educators to become principals. [Applications](#) are available until April 15.

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.



Educator Talent and Workforce Development

Retention and Recruitment Fellowship

[Applications](#) are open for the LDOE's year-long Recruitment and Retention Fellowship designed for Human Resource leaders seeking to learn innovative strategies for building an effective educator workforce. Find more details in the [Recruitment and Retention Fellowship Overview](#).

LEADS Updates

- Summer and fall training dates are available for new observers and evaluators.
 - [Louisiana Educator Rubric and Evaluation Training](#)
 - [Louisiana Leader and Counselor Rubric and Evaluation Training](#)
- The 2026-2027 LEADS evaluator recertification window is now open.

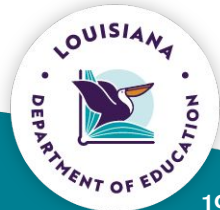
Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.



SPED Fellow Academy Application

- The Division of Diverse Learners is excited to announce that the [SPED Fellow Academy application](#) for the 2026-2027 school year is now open!
- This opportunity is designed for novice special education leaders who are eager to grow their leadership skills, enhance their expertise, and make a lasting impact in the field of special education.
- The [application](#) will close **May 1, 2026**.

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.



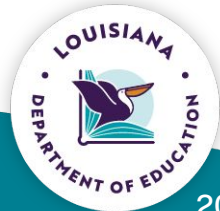
Teacher Leader Summit 2026



Registration for TLS 2026 is still open and on closes **April 17.**

Dates	Pricing
March 16-April 17	\$299

Please contact LDOEvents@la.gov with questions.



Teaching and Learning Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Diverse Learner Office Hours EdTech	<u>April 14 at 2 p.m.</u>
Numeracy Training Office Hours	<u>April 15 at 9 a.m.</u>
Teaching and Learning	<u>April 22 at 1 p.m.</u>
Preparation Provider	<u>April 29 at 10 a.m.</u>
EdTech	<u>May 14 at 9 a.m.</u>

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



Assessments, Accountability, & Analytics

Thomas Lambert, Assistant Superintendent



Spring LEAP Test Reminder

In Louisiana, all students must take ELA, math, and science at least one time in a high school grade. Spring testing in the past included a third year assessment cohort of students who had to participate in English I or II and Algebra I or Geometry regardless of course enrollment or graduation pathway

- In 2025-2026, Biology has been added to the third year assessment cohort testing requirement.
- In 2026-2027, Civics will also be added to the third year assessment cohort.
- Students who qualify for alternate assessments will take LEAP Connect.

Students will be preloaded into DRC INSIGHT for testing, and school systems will receive third year assessment cohort rosters through FTP delivery.

Contact assessment@la.gov for more information.



Assessment Development Educator Review Committees

The Division of Assessment will convene assessment committees for the LEAP assessment and Numeracy Screener in June and July to:

- review newly developed items for alignment and content-related criteria for ELA, math, science, social studies, and numeracy.
- score a representative sample of open-ended student responses from the field test.

Interested educators should access the [Assessment Development Educator Review Committees](#) website for information on exact dates, meeting details, and links to apply to participate on specific committees.

The deadline to submit applications is April 20, 2026.

Contact assessment@la.gov for more information.



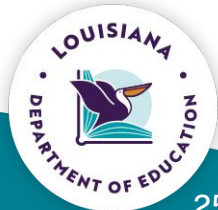
Early Childhood Accountability

All Early Childhood Spring 2026 CLASS® observations must be entered into the [EC CLASS® Portal](#) by May 15.

The [2025-2026 Early Childhood Lead Teacher Survey](#) has been shared with all birth through four-year-old teachers, including Pre-K teachers.

- Please encourage teachers to complete the survey by April 30.

Contact accountability@la.gov for more information.



EdLink 360 Data Collections

VAM Roster Verification

- Value-Added Model (VAM) rosters are currently **viewable** in the Louisiana Educator Portal (LEP). Teachers and administrators will be able to **modify** and **verify** rosters beginning Monday, April 20, 2026.

Student Interventions

- Students receiving high-dosage tutoring in ELA and/or math must be reported to EdLink 360 by Sunday, May 31, 2026, no later than 5:00 pm.

Please submit a ticket to the [Data Systems Support portal](#) for questions or additional information.



EdLink 360 Data Collections

Student End-of-Year Collection

- This collection is now open to capture comprehensive student data for the 2025-2026 school year. All extracts must be submitted to EdLink 360 no later than Wednesday, July 8, 2026 at 5:00 pm.

Staff End-of-Year Collection

- This collection is now open to capture comprehensive staffing data for the 2025-2026 school year. All extracts must be submitted to EdLink 360 no later than Wednesday, August 5, 2026 at 5:00 pm.

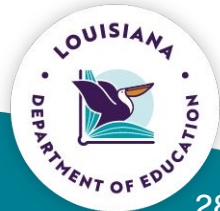
Please submit a ticket to the [Data Systems Support portal](#) for questions or additional information.



Assessments, Accountability, & Analytics Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
EdLink 360 Weekly Office Hour	April 14, 21, and 28 at 11 am
EdLink Ops-SPS Weekly Office Hour	April 16, 23, 30 at 9 am
eScholar Office Hours	April 16 and 30 at 10 am
Data Coordinator Monthly Webinar	April 9 at 1 pm
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	April 21 at 3 p.m.

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



Career and College Readiness

Dr. Ernise Singleton, Assistant Superintendent



2025-2026 School Resource Officers (SROs) Annual Report

Act 148 of the 2019 Regular Legislative Session requires that a city, parish, or other local public school system that has entered into an agreement with a local law enforcement agency to provide for school resource officers shall annually report to the LDOE the total number of school resource officers provided to the system.

School Systems Superintendents or School Safety Coordinators, please complete the [School Resource Officer Collection Survey](#) by May 29, 2026.

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions



Save the Date: Louisiana School Safety Summit

- **Date:** July 7–8, 2026
- **Location:** Lake Charles Event Center, 900 Lakeshore Drive, Lake Charles, LA
- The Safety Summit is designed for school professionals and stakeholders involved in emergency response, including emergency response coordinators, administrators, mental health professionals, and school resource officers.

Please contact safeschools@la.gov with questions.



Spring 2026 Counselor Institute

Thank you to all the attendees of the Spring 2026 Counselor Institute.

If you were unable to attend any of the three in-person session options, slide decks and handouts are located on the [Counselor Support](#) page.

Please contact candace.ioseph@la.gov with questions.



Career and College Readiness Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Office of Career and College Readiness	<u>April 16 at 3 p.m.</u>
Safe and Healthy Schools	<u>April 23 at 2 p.m.</u>
Alternative Education	<u>May 14 at 10 a.m.</u>

Please contact highschoolacademics@la.gov with questions.



School Choice

Ken Bradford, Chief of Staff



Excellence in Authorizing Community of Practice

- Cohort members will gain resources, participate in professional development, and benefit from collaboration opportunities targeting charter school authorization, accountability, and autonomy.
- Participating districts will be eligible to apply for CSP Microgrants.
- Sessions will begin in early spring and will include a hybrid schedule.
- More information will be included in upcoming [LDOE Weekly newsletters](#).

Please contact CSPGrant@la.gov with questions.



School System Relations

Trey Folsie, Assistant Superintendent



Louisiana Models of Excellence

- The Louisiana Models of Excellence Award was created to honor and spotlight schools and school systems serving as exemplary models for implementing the LDOE educational priorities.
- In March, we recognized the Plaquemines Parish School System as a Models of Excellence for their Freedom Framework implementation.



Please contact modelsofexcellence@la.gov with questions.



State-Level Honorees Announced

- State-Level Honorees
 - 2027 Louisiana Teacher and Principal of the Year Semifinalists
 - 2027 New Teacher of the Year Finalists
 - 2027 Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year Finalists
- 20th Annual Cecil J. Picard Educator Excellence Awards Gala
 - World War II Museum
 - July 25, 2026
 - Co-sponsored by Dream Teachers

Please contact excellenteducators@la.gov for Teacher/Principal of the Year, laurie.carlton@la.gov for New Teacher of the Year and shallan.iones@la.gov for Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year.



Early Childhood Care and Education

Barry Carter, Assistant Superintendent



Early Childhood Allocations

- 2026-2027 Ready Start Network Lead Agency allocations are scheduled to be voted on during the April 15 BESE meeting.
 - A notice of BESE approval will be sent after the BESE meeting on April 15.
- Preschool Development Grant (PDG) Literacy Initiative allocations for Community Network Lead Agencies (CNLAs) are scheduled to be voted on during the April 15 BESE meeting.
 - A notice of BESE approval will be sent after the BESE meeting on April 15.
- 2026-2027 Early Childhood Education Fund allocations are scheduled to be voted on during the June 9 BESE meeting.
 - Final amounts will be subject to legislative appropriation.

Please contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions.



Early Childhood Literacy Initiative

To strengthen early literacy instruction, support early identification, and improve kindergarten readiness statewide, the LDOE is providing funding to support high-quality curriculum implementation and targeted teacher professional learning in publicly funded pre-K classrooms.

Funding was made available February 1 in eGMS and will support the following:

- Tier I Curriculum Implementation:
CNLAs will receive funding to purchase newly-rated Tier I pre-K curriculum, covering up to 100% of costs.
- Science of Reading Training Educator Stipends:
Pre-K teachers, including those who teach young children with disabilities, who complete the LDOE-developed Science of Reading (SOR) training in [Canopy](#) will receive a stipend of \$250.
 - The stipend will be issued by school districts directly to teachers who complete 3 of 6 modules by June 30, 2026.

Please contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions.

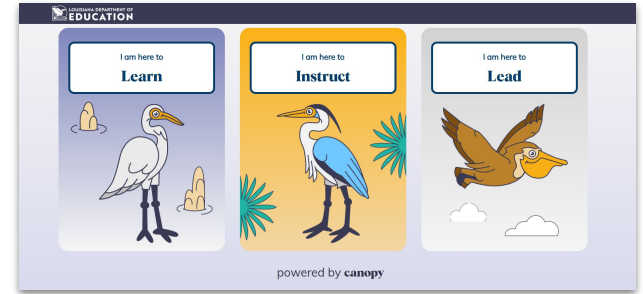


Early Childhood Literacy Initiative–SoR Training

SoR Training Modules

The Early Childhood *Science and Art of Reading* courses are now available:

- The Early Childhood *Science and Art of Reading* professional learning series aims to equip educators with a shared understanding of the knowledge and skills needed to implement scientifically-based literacy instruction.
- This professional development series is housed in our [Louisiana Professional Learning Platform](#).
- *Science and Art of Reading* course code: C100N1N9



Please contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions.



Early Childhood Spring Collaboratives

The LDOE will host the Early Childhood Spring Community Network Lead Agency (CNLA) Collaborative to provide system leaders an opportunity to connect, share progress, and deepen work on key early childhood quality processes.

- **Dates and Time:** April 16, 21, or 22 | 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
*(*All CNLAs and CCR&Rs were provided with the date they should attend.)*
- **Location:** Claiborne Building, Thomas Jefferson Room

Collaboratives will give CNLAs the opportunity to:

- Share progress on the 3 CNLA quality processes and CNLA S.M.A.R.T Goals
- Deepen learning and streamline processes for targeted support and coaching to promote teacher retention and stabilization by using data from CLASS® and TS GOLD® to drive program quality improvement
- Collaborate with CCR&Rs to meet goals
- Receive key updates and information from the LDOE relevant to CNLA work

Each CNLA should plan to have up to four staff members attend.

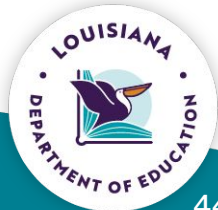
Please contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions.



Office of Early Childhood Care and Education Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Early Childhood Community Network Office Hours <i>(occurs the second Tuesday of each month from 3:00-4:00 p.m.)</i>	April 14 at 3 p.m.

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 1 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](#)

