

Aspiring Principal Fellowship 2025-2026

Overview

The Louisiana Department of Education is excited to offer the fifth cohort of the Aspiring Principal Fellowship for the 2025-2026 school year. This transformative fellowship will equip up to 50 individuals with the essential knowledge and skills to step into the principal role. Through this selective statewide program, aspiring school leaders will begin a unique year-long journey to elevate their leadership potential.

Fellowship participants will collaborate throughout the year, exploring best practices with regional and national experts. They will engage in immersive full-day school visits, working hand-in-hand with exemplary practicing principals while participating in professional learning aligned with current state initiatives. All content is aligned with Louisiana's Education Priorities and academic vision. By the end of this fellowship, participants will emerge with a robust leadership portfolio, valuable insights from Louisiana's leading principals, and a strong network of lifelong colleagues.

Vision and Mission

Vision: Every student, teacher, school, and community deserves an educational leader who is competent, capable, and determined to provide an education focused on high-quality instruction, safety, and strong, effective management.

Mission: The mission of the Aspiring Principal Fellowship is to provide the essential knowledge and skills to step into the principal's leadership role with the confidence and capabilities to succeed for students and teachers.

APF cohort participants will explore content related to the following topics

- Using the Louisiana Educator Rubric to facilitate high-quality coaching and foster collaboration around best instructional practices within the schools they will lead.
- Staffing and scheduling sessions to guide strategically organizing schedules and staffing to impact and drive student learning positively within the schools they will lead.
- Math and Literacy content, knowledge, skills, and concrete resources to provide high-quality, content-rich, and curriculum-specific professional development to teachers in their school/school system.
- Effective implementation of high-quality instructional materials (HQIM) to impact student learning.
- Strategies for effectively using data for school improvement to ensure continual growth within the schools they lead.

APF cohort participants will attend meetings throughout the year. The participants will be assigned to one of the two cohorts. The dates for each session are listed below.

- Introductory meeting at the Teacher Leader Summit June 10-June 12, 2025
- August 21, 2025 – Group Meeting in Baton Rouge
- September 23/24, 2025 School Site TBD
- October 21/22, 2025 School Site TBD

- January 27/28, 2026 School Site TBD
- March 10/11, 2026 School Site TBD
- April 23, 2026 – Group Meeting in Baton Rouge

Application Details

All applications must be submitted via this [Aspiring Principal Application Jotform link](#) no later than **April 7, 2025**.

Candidates will be notified of acceptance status and next steps by May 9, 2025.

The tuition for this program is \$1,000.00. Additionally, all travel costs (mileage, food, hotel) are the school system's responsibility. The application requires a current copy of an EDL1 License or proof of eligibility documentation.

Applicants must provide an assurance ([sample letter here](#)) from their existing school leader and superintendent stating support:

- to attend all modules at varying locations across the state,
- to reimburse travel inclusive of mileage, hotel, and food; and,
- to pay the \$1,000 tuition by **October 31, 2025**

A link for tuition payment will be sent upon acceptance. Participants may request to cancel their enrollment before the first school visit in September by sending a refund request letter to the program manager. Once the program begins in September, no refunds will be issued. This policy applies to position changes, transfers between school systems, and resignations.

Questions can be emailed to louisianaleaders@la.gov.