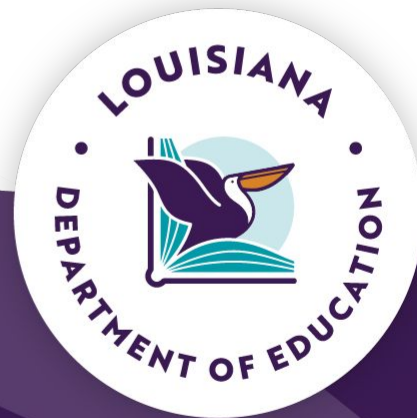


BESE-Authorized Charter Schools Monthly Call



April 10, 2025

Contact Information

Please add your **name** and **email address** in the chat. A copy of the powerpoint will be sent to you after this meeting.



Agenda

- Welcome
- Upcoming Submissions
- Educator Evaluation Updates
- Anya Randle - Finance
- Questions

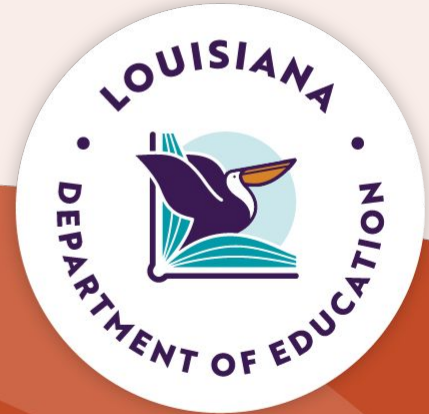


WELCOME

Our Goals for BESE Authorized Monthly Calls

We will provide pertinent information and updates.

- Being **INTENTIONAL**
- Listening to your requests
- Each month provide reminders and upcoming required submissions from all departments in the LDOE
- Each call will provide leaders with information tied to the Charter School Performance Compact.



REMINDER: Monthly calls are held every 2nd Thursday @ 9:00 am

Department Accountability

- Office of School Choice
- Germain Gilson, Assistant Superintendent
- Kaleb Moore, Chief of Staff
- Samantha Carter, Executive Director of Charter Accountability
- Christina Woods, Director of Charter Accountability
- Shantel Reynard, Director of Charter Accountability
- Theresa Jackson, Operations Manager



Charter Accountability Reporting

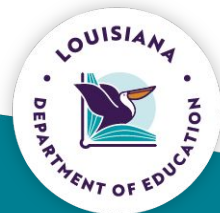
Utilize the [Reporting Calendar](#) as a tool for directions, links to forms, and submission due dates.

If you submit to Charters@la.gov, also CC your school's Director.

- Christina Woods - christina.woods@la.gov
- Shantel Reynard- shantel.reynard@la.gov

The [Charter School Library](#) is a great resource!

Subscribe to the LDOE [Newsletter](#)!



2025 Upcoming Submissions

March	April	May
No Submissions	<u>Quarterly Waitlist Report</u> <u>SLT and Evaluator Ratings</u> <u>Quarter 3 Financial Report</u> <u>PERs</u>	<u>SLT and Evaluator Ratings</u> <u>Local SEAC Reporting</u> <u>Act 108</u> <u>Board Financial Disclosure</u>

Reminder: If any staff changes occur please let your director know so that Contact Sheets may be updated.



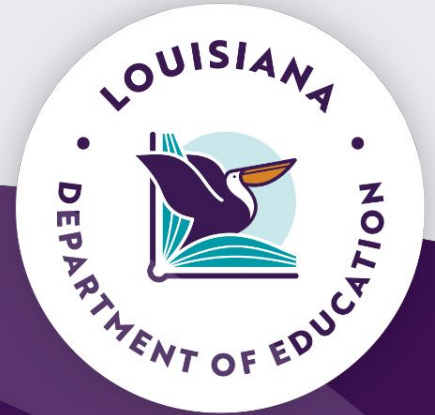
Material & Non-Material Amendment Submission Deadlines

Material Amendment Requests & Supporting Documentation Due to Charter Accountability Team	BESE SIT Committee Meeting
April 10, 2025	June 10, 2025
June 13, 2025	August 19, 2025
August 15, 2025	October 15, 2025

Reminder: If any staff changes occur please let your director know so that Contact Sheets may be updated.



Educator Evaluation Updates



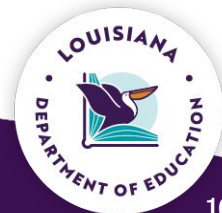
LEADS Evaluation and Training

- All school systems will participate in the LEADS 2025-2026 Implementation Year.
- Training for all system and school-level leaders and observers is being offered this spring and summer.
- Training is required for all first-time LEADS evaluators and designated observers. Register on [Eventbrite](#) for selected training.

Systems may apply annually to use an [alternate rubric](#) for the observation component of evaluation; however, all other components are required.

- The waiver should be submitted by the end of August each year.
- The rubric must align and follow a rating scale of 1-5.
- Evaluators will still be required to take an annual assessment.

Please contact LEADS@la.gov with questions.



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 Collections](#) contains video clips to support developing a common understanding and build rater-reliability.

Please contact LEADS@la.gov with questions.



2024-2025 Evaluation Data Reporting

[LES](#) is being used for all evaluation data. Even if using legacy systems (COMPASS or approved alternate observation tools) rather than transitioning to LEADS, data must still be entered into LES.

Some notes about LES:

- Rosters pre-populate from EdLink.
- Staff information related to eScholar and EdLink 360 data should be up to date.
- Users will access [EdLink Security](#) for LES.

Resources are available to review the operations and functions of LES.

[LES for System Leaders](#)

[LES for System Leaders \(recording\)](#)

[LES for School Leaders](#)

[LES for School Leaders \(recording\)](#)



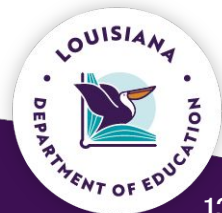
Louisiana Evaluation System (LES) Reminders

Please use the [LES 2024-2025 Timeline](#) to monitor data entry into the Louisiana Evaluation System (LES). The following tasks should be placed in LES at this time:

- SLTs
- At least one observation
- Coaching Plan/PGP link

As LES features are updated and/or enhanced, LES system contacts will receive notification via email.

Please contact leads@la.gov with questions.



Helpful Links

Resource	Description
<u>Charter School Library</u>	This webpage includes links to charter school finance, guidance, reviews, and pre-opening information.
<u>Newsletter</u>	This webpage offers a links to all newsletters offered by the LDOE.
<u>Charter Inbox</u>	Please reach out to us through the Charter Inbox with your questions.



September Refresher



Teacher Leader Summit
June 10-12
Ernest N. Morial Convention Center
New Orleans

Registration Now Open!

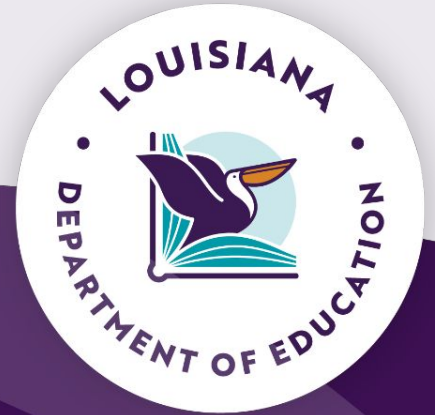
The regular Teacher Leader Summit 2025 registration period is open through April 18 or at sell-out. The regular registration cost is \$299. The registration link is now live on the Teacher Leader Summit webpage. Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis.

- 3-day, in-person event
- Please contact ldoeevents@la.gov with questions.



Anya Randle - Finance

Executive Director
School Systems Financial Services





Charter School Refresher

April 2025



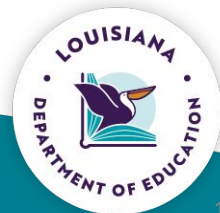
Charter School Funding



Charter School Funding

Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) Formula

- Charter schools are eligible to receive funding from the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP) formula.
- All Charter Schools receive the State Cost Allocation Per Pupil Amount as calculated in the most recent approved MFP formula.
- Type 2 Charter Schools receive the State Cost Allocation Per Pupil Amount based upon the specific characteristics (At-Risk, SWD, GT, and CTE) and residency of the students at the school.



Charter School Funding

- Charter schools also receive a Local Revenue Representation per pupil amount based on local revenues received during the prior fiscal year by the school district in which the student resides.
- Funding is provided by the 25th of each month beginning in July



Charter School Funding

- First year charter schools are initially funded based on a projected student count provided to School System Financial Services (SSFS) in mid to late June.
- A true up to the actual October 1 count will occur in March as part of the Mid-year Adjustments



Charter School Funding

- Initial funding in July is based on the February 1 student count of the prior year for existing charter schools.
- Mid-year adjustments for students are provided in March of each year based on:
 - October 1 Student count: adjustment for the full per pupil amount times the number of students gained or lost from the initial funded count
 - February 1 Student Count: adjustment for one-half the per pupil amount times the number of students gained or lost from the October 1 count



Charter School Funding

The Initial Charter Per Pupil amounts will be available by June 30 each year on the Department's website at the following link:

<https://www.louisianabelieves.com/funding/charter-per-pupil-funding>



Charter School Funding

- State law prohibits Personally Identifiable Information (PII), information that makes a student's identity traceable, from being shared publicly.
- The MFP Budget Letter documents on the website contain only summary allocations for Type 2 Charter Schools.

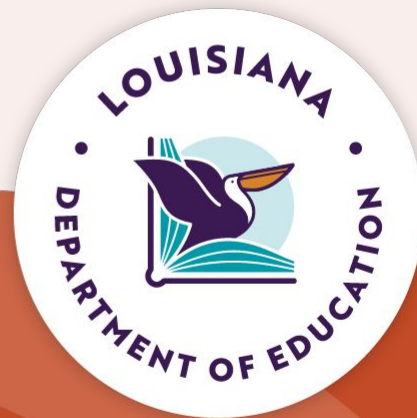


Charter School Funding

- Each charter school is granted access to the Department's Secure File Transfer site, referred to as sFTP.
- The sFTP site for Business Managers has a login with “@edfin” in the name.
- This @edfin FTP site is not be confused with the @datamgmt site provided to your data coordinators.
- When MFP items are posted in the newsletter, please check your @edfin FTP for the detailed allocation.



Charter School Reporting



Charter Financial Reporting

- Financial Reporting to the Department of Education:
 - Annual Operating Budget (excel) (submit via email)
 - Quarterly Financial Reports (excel) (submit via email)
 - Annual Financial Report (AFR) - due September 30
- Timely submittal of these documents are two factors in the Annual Fiscal Risk Assessment conducted by the Department.



Charter Financial Reporting

Due Date:	Financial Report
July 31	Annual Operating Budget Includes actual data for the prior fiscal year ending June 30 along with budgeted data for the current fiscal year starting July 1.
September 30	Adopted Operating Budget Submission is required if July 31 Annual Operating Budget was not adopted in accordance with the Louisiana Local Government Budget Act.
October 31	First Quarter Financial Report Includes budgeted data for the fiscal year along with the YTD actual data through September 30.
January 31	Second Quarter Financial Report Includes budgeted data for the fiscal year along with the YTD actual data through December 31.
April 30	Third Quarter Financial Report Includes budgeted data for the fiscal year along with the YTD actual data through March 31.

(Quarterly reports will include a statement from the Charter Operator's lead executive and Board President certifying the accuracy of the reports and the adherence to the Operator's Internal Control procedures.)



Charter Financial Reporting

Financial Reporting to the Legislative Auditor's Office:

- An Audited Financial Report is due 6 months after the close of the fiscal year.
 - If the report is not submitted, an extension must be requested.
 - If the report is not submitted and an extension is granted, all funding through the state will be suspended.
- Must also send 2 copies of the Audited Financial Report to Dudley Garidel with the Department of Education. You may contact Dudley at dudley.garidel@la.gov



Charter Financial Reporting

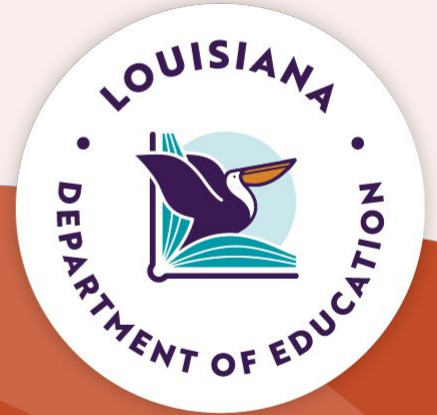
Fiscal Oversight Policy for Charter Schools:

<https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/charter-schools>

(Located under the Charter Schools Pre-Opening documents)



Financial Accountability and Business Manager Requirements



Financial Accountability

Charter Schools must demonstrate that funding is properly allocated to best meet the needs of their students.

- Weighted Student Funding: provides for the accountability of weighted student funds included in the MFP.
- 70% Instructional Expenditure Requirement: ensures 70% of general fund expenditures are expensed in the area of instruction and school administration at the school building level.
- Annual Fisk Risk Assessment: identifies internal and external factors that could lead to weaknesses or problems in the financial operation of a school.



Weighted Student Funding Requirement

- Dollar amounts provided through the MFP for Economically Disadvantaged (ED), Special Education, Gifted/Talented & CTE are identified.
 - It is required that these funds be spent for the specific needs of the students that generated the funds
 - The required expenditure amounts will be reported in the Annual Financial Report (AFR).



70% Instructional Expenditure Requirement

- 70% of General Fund expenditures must be dedicated to instructional activities at the school building level.
 - Instructional activities include these categories: classroom instruction, pupil support, instructional staff services and school administration activities.
 - Restricts educational school expenditures to school building level only.
 - Central office expenditures do not count towards meeting the 70% instructional requirement.

A summary of the most recent 70% Instructional Requirement data is available here:

<https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/minimum-foundation-program>



Annual Fiscal Risk Assessment Process

- Analysis of fiscal health, influencing factors and trends for identifying future fiscal risk, based on data provided for 18 fiscal indicators.
- School systems and charter schools are grouped into three categories based on assessment results:
 - **In Corrective Action:** Situations that require a detailed review by the Department; follow-up may include, but not be limited to, a conference call, site visit or BESE dialogue
 - **Monitor:** The department will monitor regarding specific items either through an already established procedure, such as the Audit Resolution Process, or via written inquiries as either a precautionary measure, or to assure continued progress in areas that have been problematic in the past.
 - **No Action:** No out of the ordinary issues were found that require additional follow up.



Contact Information

Charter Finance Related Questions:

CharterFinanceHelpDesk@la.gov

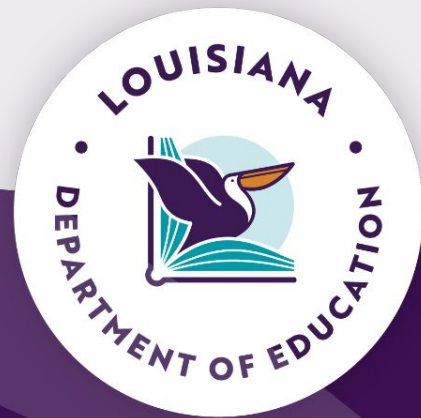
MFP Related Questions:

LDOEMFPHelpDesk@la.gov

School Finance Related Questions:

SchoolFinanceHelpDesk@la.gov

QUESTIONS?



Questions

For further inquiries, please reach out to
charters@la.gov

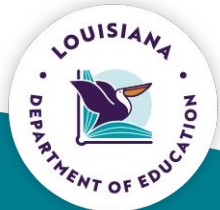
Charter Accountability

charters@la.gov

Directors of Charter Accountability

Shantel.Reynard@la.gov

Christina.Woods@la.gov



Upcoming BESE-Authorized Charter Monthly Call

May 8, 2025 at 9:00 am

