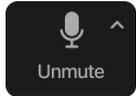
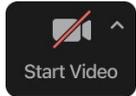


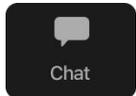
Zoom Meeting Preparation



- Please make sure your phone or computer is muted to minimize background noise.
 - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Mute.”



- Please make sure you have turned off your camera to save bandwidth and prevent any connectivity issues.
 - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Stop Video.”



- Please submit questions during the presentation in the “Chat” function located on the bottom of your screen.

If you require an interpreter or have other accessibility needs for future LDOE meetings, please contact LDOEcommunications@la.gov.



Office of Career and College Readiness Monthly Call

February 19, 2026



Office of Career and College Readiness

Dr. Ernise Singleton, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Tireka Cobb, Chief of Staff

Student Support

- Transitional 9th Grade, Counselor Institutes, Professional School Counselor liaison, Individual Graduation Plan, High School Planning Guide, Counselor Connect Newsletter, Pupil Progression Plans, Alternative Education, PBIS, Discipline

Fast Forward

- Jump Start, Jump Start Convention, Jump Start Summers, Super Summer Institute, CTTIE, Career Development Fund, Quest for Success, Supplemental Course Academy, U.S. Presidential Scholar, Advanced Coursework: AP, Dual Enrollment, IB and CLEP Testing, Graduation Requirements

Business & Industry Partnerships: *Stephanie Marcum, Executive Director*

- Business and industry outreach, assisting school systems with opportunities with business and industry, Extension Academy, Diploma Orders, Community Service Diploma Endorsement, April Dunn Jump Start Pathways, Financial Aid Planning, U.S. Senate Youth Program, Credit Recovery, Proficiency Exams, Transcripts

Safe and Healthy Schools: *Stephen Guccione, Executive Director*

- AWARE grants, School Social Work, Health & Physical Activity, Transportation, Nursing, School-Based Medicaid, Suicide Prevention, Mental and Behavioral initiatives, and School Safety



Business and Industry Partnerships

Stephanie Marcum, Executive Director



Funding for Internships-Spring

- Funding is available at \$1000 per eligible student internship enrollment for the spring semester
- Funding may be used to support all costs associated with providing internship programming to eligible students
- Must be enrolled in [Course Choice Portal](#) by March 7 (system open until January 30, after that date send enrollment spreadsheets to coursechoice@la.gov)
- Must have [attestation](#) for 2025-2026 school year on file
- **Eligible enrollments will be funded in the order in which they are submitted**

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



Funding for Registered Apprenticeships-Spring

- Funding is available for approved Registered Apprenticeships in the spring semester
- \$2500 per non-rural, \$3500 for rural enrollments as defined by the United States Census Bureau
- Funding may be used to support all costs associated with providing apprenticeship programming to eligible students
- Must be enrolled in [Course Choice Portal](#) by March 7 (system open until January 30, after that date send enrollment spreadsheets to coursechoice@la.gov)
- **Eligible enrollments will be funded in the order in which they are submitted**

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



Financial Aid Planning

The 2026-2027 Free Application for Federal Student Aid ([FAFSA](#)) is open.

Fill out the FAFSA application if you want to apply for the federal Pell grant, federal student loans, the Louisiana GO Grant, and TOPS.

The [TOPS application](#) is on the LOSFA website if applying for TOPS.

Please contact ldefinancialaid@la.gov with questions.



Diplomas and Seals

- With the election of a new BESE president in December, new diploma proofs bearing the signatures of current officials are being created
- All surplus diplomas should be **destroyed** as they are no longer valid
- All historic diploma seals have been redesigned and there is an addition of 2 new seals for 2026 graduates
- All surplus diploma seals should be disposed of as they are no longer current

Please contact jenny.moran2@la.gov with questions.



Fast Forward



Spring 2026 Counselor Institute

Registration is now available for the Spring 2026 Counselor Institute in person sessions.

Three options for in-person sessions:

Option 1 March 13: [Ouachita Parish](#)

Option 2 March 20: [St. Bernard Parish](#)

Option 3 March 27: [Calcasieu Parish](#)

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

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



2025-2026 CDF Mid-Year Report

- The [2025 - 2026 Mid-Year Career Development Fund \(CDF\) Mid-Year Expenditure Report](#) is available for school systems to complete. The deadline to report on 2025-2026 CDF mid-year expenditures is **February 20**. School systems should reference the [2025-2026 Guidelines for Use of CDF Allocation](#) when completing the form.
- CDF funds support increased student access to high-value Career and Technical Education courses and training. CDF funds are 6% of the MFP State and Local Base Cost Per Pupil (\$241) provided for each qualifying student course enrollment in grades 9-12.

Contact bonnie.lefort@la.gov with questions.



Fast Forward Training Catalog

The [Fast Forward Training Catalog](#) provides a list of professional development and training opportunities available. The catalog includes virtual, in-person, and hybrid training options for many Industry Based Certifications (IBCs) on the State Focus list. Please be sure to check out the professional development offerings as they are updated regularly.

Contact fastforward@la.gov with questions.



2026 ACT Summit

Registration is now open for the 2026 ACT Summit. The ACT Summit unites the expertise and focus of Workforce professionals, Higher Ed leaders, and K-12 leaders, creating a fully integrated experience that fosters cross-sector collaboration. Sessions are designed to spark collaboration, foster problem solving, and shape the future of education and the workforce.

- **When:** July 13-15
- **Where:** Nashville, TN
- **Cost:** Registration \$695-\$795

Please contact charmaine.cureton@la.gov with questions.



College Board Updates and Deadlines

Deadlines and Reminders:

- **March 13:** Deadline for AP coordinators to submit final updates for [AP Exam Orders](#).
- **April 30:** Deadline to finalize student fee reduction status in [AP Registration and Ordering](#).
- **April 30:** [AP Digital Portfolio](#) Deadline for performance tasks in AP Seminar, AP Research, and AP Computer Science Principles.
- Please check out the [AP One Pager](#) for more information on test dates, resources, and common links.

Updates and Events:

- College Board Webinars
 - [March 24](#) at 11 a.m. - Updates on AP Business with Personal Finance and AP Cybersecurity
 - [March 24](#) at 3 p.m. - Preparing for Spring 2026 AP Exams

Please contact fhordge@collegeboard.org with questions.



Course Choice Spring Reporting

The [Course Choice Reporting System](#) is open for spring 2026 reporting.

The last day to report enrollments with Public Higher Education Providers is on Friday, March 6th by 5 pm.

Please contact courschoice@la.gov with any questions.

Please contact coursechoice@la.gov with questions.



Computer Science Implementation Regional Tour

The LDOE is hosting a three-stop regional tour to support school system leaders in developing a comprehensive K-12 Computer Science implementation plan. The sessions will guide participants through developing effective, system-level implementation strategies using state supports and key resources available in the [Louisiana K-12 Computer Science Education Plan](#).

Audience: CTE supervisors, STEM supervisors, and system leaders.

In-person sessions (*Registration is required*)

- February 24: [Bossier](#)

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.



2026 Medical Simulation Expo

The Simulation Medical Training and Education Committee invites Louisiana healthcare & simulation educators, operations specialists, and program coordinators to attend the [2026 Simulation Expo](#). This event will allow attendees to connect with peers, explore best practices, and strengthen clinical training strategies.

- **When:** April 17; 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
- **Where:** St. Francis Hall - 5414 Brittany Drive; Baton Rouge
- **Cost:** Free

Please contact charmaine.cureton@la.gov with questions.



Fast Forward Convention Merge with 2026 Teacher Leader Summit, May 26-28

To better connect Career and Technical Education (CTE) with broader teaching and learning efforts, the Fast Forward Convention has merged with [Teacher Leader Summit](#) starting in 2025-2026.

This change will help break down silos, create more cohesive professional development, and give educators more time to engage directly with strong CTE practices.

[Early Bird Registration](#) is open now!



Contact fastforward@la.gov with questions.



Safe and Healthy Schools

Stephen Guccione, Executive Director



2026 America's Healthiest Schools

- The Alliance for a Healthier Generation names America's Healthiest Schools each year for their support of student and staff health.
- All U.S. K-12 schools can apply in up to nine categories, like physical education, nutrition, wellness programs, and tobacco-free policies.
- Winners get materials to help share their achievements.
- Applications are due April 14, 2026.
- Apply on the [Alliance for a Healthier Generation](#) website.

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions.



American Heart Month

[American Heart Association](#) will present at the Safe and Healthy Schools Community of Practice Call February 26th at 2 PM on:

- Updated guidelines on health blood pressures
- Updated guidelines on healthy blood pressures
- Updates on rescue procedures for choking
- Updates to basic CPR guidelines

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions.



Medicaid-Training

- Sivic Solutions Group (SSG) conducted a training in January for school districts and Local Education Agencies (LEAs).
- Training tools are now available
 - [Random Moment Time Study](#) (RMTS) Participant Training Video
 - [LA Time Study Coordinator](#) Training Video

Please contact Healthyschools@la.gov with questions



Awards/Recognition



Purple Star School

This award shows recognition to schools that show a major commitment to serving students and families connected to the United States Armed Forces.

To earn the recognition, schools shall engage in the following activities:

- Designate a staff member to serve as a military liaison and engage in the following:
- Serve as the primary point of contact for military connected students and families
- Work to identify special considerations needed by military-connected students and families
- Develop training to inform teachers and other school personnel of those special considerations
- Create a dedicated page on its website featuring resources for military-connected students and families
- Create a student-led transition program to provide peer support for military-connected students

Other criteria and information can be found by visiting the [LDOE Awards page](#).



Please contact highschoolacademics@la.gov with questions.



Connect with Our Office



Office of Career and College Readiness Monthly Calls

Alternative Education	<u>March 12 at 10 a.m.</u>
Office of Career and College Readiness	<u>March 19 at 3 p.m.</u>
Safe and Healthy Schools	<u>March 26 at 2 p.m.</u>

Contact tireka.cobb2@la.gov with questions.



Helpful Information

Schedules, access links and information for the Department's webinars can be found in the [LDOE Weekly Newsletter](#) and [School System Support Calendar](#). Please reach out to the following contacts with questions:

Graduation Requirements; Dual Enrollment; Advanced Placement; General Information	highschoolacademics@la.gov
Fast Forward/Jump Start 2.0	fastforward@la.gov
Course Choice / SCA	coursechoice@la.gov
Healthy Schools	healthyschools@la.gov
Pupil Progression Plans	PPP@la.gov

Contact highschoolacademics@la.gov with questions.



Questions?

