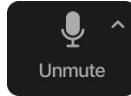
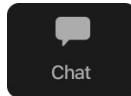


# Zoom Meeting Preparation



- 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](mailto:LDOEcommunications@la.gov).



# Office of Career and College Readiness

## Monthly Call

January 15, 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



# 2025-2026 Graduate Diploma and Seal Orders

The [Diploma and Seal Order Form](#) is now open to request diplomas and seals for 2026 high school graduates.

The electronic form should be submitted by Friday, February 6.

Only one form should be submitted for each school system. The Department of Education will cover the cost of the initial order and distribution.

Each school system should order 10% over the number of diplomas needed. This overage will take care of misprints, late enrolled students, etc.

If you find an error after submitting, contact [jenny.moran2@la.gov](mailto:jenny.moran2@la.gov).

Please contact [jenny.moran2@la.gov](mailto:jenny.moran2@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](mailto:jenny.moran2@la.gov) with questions.



# Community Service Diploma Endorsement

Students have the opportunity to earn 80 hours of community service during their high school years and earn the [Community Service Diploma Endorsement](#).

Visit the [Diploma Endorsement webpage](#) for more information.

Please contact [jenny.moran2@la.gov](mailto:jenny.moran2@la.gov) with questions.



# America 250 Diploma Endorsement

America 250 is a national initiative created by Congress to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States in 2026.

Each state, including Louisiana, has established its own commission to plan meaningful programs, recognitions, and events that honor America's past and inspire its future.

The America 250 seal will appear on diplomas for Louisiana public high school graduates in 2026. This emblem honors the nation's founding and the importance of preparing informed, engaged citizens.

Please contact [jenny.moran2@la.gov](mailto:jenny.moran2@la.gov) with questions.



# Civics Diploma Endorsement

The 2025–2026 school year marks the first time students are eligible to earn the Freedom Framework Diploma Endorsement, a new recognition for high school students who demonstrate excellence in civics education.

The endorsement is awarded to students who score Mastery or above on the LEAP 2025 civics assessment. Recipients will receive an additional seal on their diploma and wear a red, white, and blue honor cord during graduation ceremonies.

Please contact [amy.willis@la.gov](mailto:amy.willis@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](mailto:ldefinancialaid@la.gov) with questions.



# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:coursechoice@la.gov))
- **Eligible enrollments will be funded in the order in which they are submitted**

Please contact [stephanie.marcum@la.gov](mailto:stephanie.marcum@la.gov) with questions.



# U.S. Presidential Scholars

- The application is open for the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program
- Outstanding seniors demonstrating excellence in the General Component (academic and college readiness exam) and the Career and Technical Education Component graduating between January and August of 2026 are eligible to apply for this award
- This is a recognition program and Scholars will receive the Presidential Scholars Medallion
- School systems must submit a [parental release form](#) and [JotForm application](#) for each nominated student by 5 p.m. on January 30

Please contact [stephanie.marcum@la.gov](mailto:stephanie.marcum@la.gov) with questions.



# Fast Forward



# 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](mailto:fastforward@la.gov) with questions.



# College Board Updates and Deadlines

## Deadlines and Reminders:

- **January 16:** Deadline to submit [accommodations requests](#) to Services for Students with Disabilities.
- **January 31:** The final deadline to submit [AP Course Audit](#) Materials for Course Authorization and Renewal.
- **March 13:** Deadline for AP coordinators to submit final updates for [AP Exam Orders](#).
- Please check out the [AP One Pager](#) for more information on test dates, resources, and common links.

## Updates and Events:

- College Board Lunch & Learn Webinars
  - [February 10](#) at 12 p.m. - Tips for Growing AP programs on Your Campuses
  - [March 24](#) at 11 a.m. - Updates on AP Business with Personal Finance and AP Cybersecurity

Please contact [fhordge@collegeboard.org](mailto:fhordge@collegeboard.org) 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*)

- **January 28;** [Tangipahoa](#)
- **February 5;** [East Baton Rouge](#)
- **February 24;** [Bossier](#)

Please contact [STEM@la.gov](mailto:STEM@la.gov) with questions.



# Safe and Healthy Schools

Stephen Guccione, Executive Director



# Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Active Shooter Poster

- The poster provides straightforward guidance on actions that individuals can take in response to active shooter incidents, focusing on the Run, Hide, Fight protocol.

Please contact [Healthschools@la.gov](mailto:Healthschools@la.gov) with questions.



# 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.
- Apply on the [Alliance for a Healthier Generation](#) website.

Please contact [healthyschools@la.gov](mailto:healthyschools@la.gov) with questions.



# Call Push Shock at School

- Hands-Only CPR & AED Training for School Staff
- For staff not required to be CPR certified
- Presenter: Dr. Alice Hoyt, MD (Code ANA)
- Date: January 22 | Time: 2:00 PM
- Location: [Zoom](#)

Please contact [Healthschools@la.gov](mailto:Healthschools@la.gov) with questions.



# Awards/Recognition



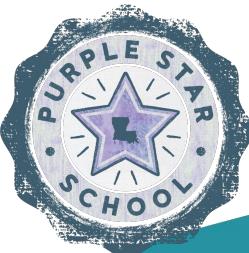
# Purple Star School

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](mailto:highschoolacademics@la.gov) with questions.



# Connect with Our Office



# Office of Career and College Readiness Monthly Calls

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

Contact [tireka.cobb2@la.gov](mailto: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	<a href="mailto:highschoolacademics@la.gov">highschoolacademics@la.gov</a>
Fast Forward/Jump Start 2.0	<a href="mailto:fastforward@la.gov">fastforward@la.gov</a>
Course Choice / SCA	<a href="mailto:coursechoice@la.gov">coursechoice@la.gov</a>
Healthy Schools	<a href="mailto:healthyschools@la.gov">healthyschools@la.gov</a>
Pupil Progression Plans	<a href="mailto:PPP@la.gov">PPP@la.gov</a>

Contact [tireka.cobb2@la.gov](mailto:tireka.cobb2@la.gov) with questions.



# Questions?

