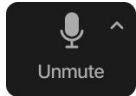
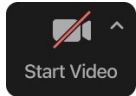


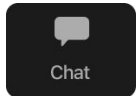
Zoom Meeting Preparation



- 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

March 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

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

Fast Forward

- Jump Start, 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

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



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.



Diploma/Seal Shipping

- Diplomas and diploma seals will begin shipping this week through April
- The orders can only be shipped to the physical address identified on the order form
- Someone must sign upon receipt of the diploma order
- Orders are shipped in the order in which the earliest date of graduation is identified on the order form

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



2026-2027 Carl Perkins Technical Assistance

The Louisiana Department of Education will host its annual Carl Perkins technical assistance webinar to help support systems in completing their Carl Perkins application for the upcoming year. Assistance on completing the narratives and budget for the Carl Perkins section of the Super App will be available.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** April 21; 9 a.m.
- **Meeting ID:** 948 8800 6094
- **[Webinar Link](#)**
- **Audience:** CTE Supervisors and Federal Grants staff for secondary systems

Please contact charmaine.cureton@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 \$795

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



College Board Updates and Deadlines

Deadlines and Reminders:

- **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
- **May 8:** [AP Digital Portfolio](#) Deadline for performance tasks in AP Art & Design
- **May 15:** Deadline to order late-testing exams.
- **May 31:** Deadline for AP African American Studies project and AP Latin checkpoint scores for the [AP Digital Portfolio](#).
- Please check out the [AP One Pager](#) for more information on test dates, resources, and common links.

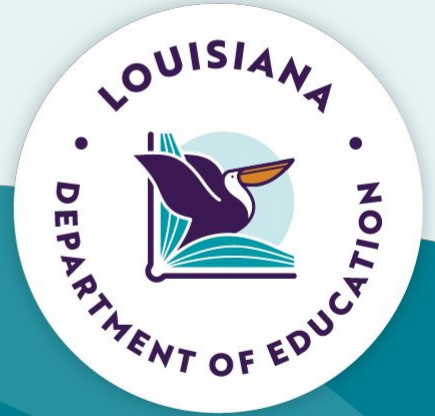
Updates and Events:

- College Board Lunch & Learn Webinars
 - **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

Contact fhordge@collegeboard.org with questions.



Fast Forward



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

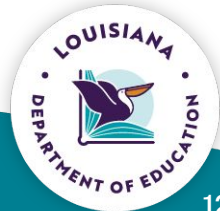
To better connect Career and Technical Education (CTE) with broader teaching and learning efforts, the Fast Forward Convention has merged with [Teacher Leader Summit](#) starting in 2025-2026.

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

[Regular Registration](#) is open now!



Contact fastforward@la.gov with questions.



Spring 2026 Counselor Institute

Registration is still available for the Spring 2026 Counselor Institute in person session in Calcasieu 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.

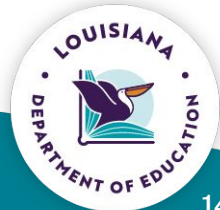
Please contact candace.joseph@la.gov with questions.



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.



Spring 2026 Federal Grants Management Training

Registration is open for the virtual Federal Grants Management Training held by the BruMan Group on behalf of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS). This event is designed to support subrecipients in administering federal funds across CTE and Adult Education programs. The Federal Grant Management exam will be administered after the training.

- **When:** April 29 - 30
- **Where:** Virtual
- **Audience:** all programmatic and fiscal personnel

Contact careerandtech@lctcs.edu with questions.



Safe and Healthy Schools

Stephen Guccione, Executive Director



Stop the Bleed Training Resources

[ACT 334](#) (School Safety Act of 2023) mandates schools implement trauma response plans, provide bleeding control kits, and train designated employees on their use. School nurses will receive free training at the annual nursing conference, and trained employees can then instruct other staff.

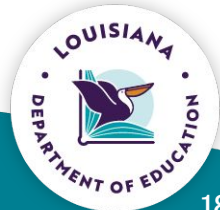
Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions.



Emergency Stock Medications

- Forms for standing orders can be found on the LDH website
- Current orders expire on April 1, 2026
- Medications covered are Naloxone, Albuterol, and Epinephrine

For more information contact: Susan.Dupont@la.gov



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>April 9 at 10 a.m.</u>
Office of Career and College Readiness	<u>April 16 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 tireka.cobb2@la.gov with questions.



Questions?

