#### **Zoom Meeting Preparation**



- Please make sure your phone or computer is muted to minimize background noise.
  - o 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.



# Educator Certification and Credentialing Monthly Call

August 18, 2025



# Agenda

Opening Remarks & Call Norms

Processing by the Numbers

**Educator Background Credentialing Updates** 

**Educator Development Updates** 

Louisiana Educator Certification Portal Updates

**Certification Reminders** 

Dates of Importance, Support and Resources



#### **ETWD Call Norms**

- Stay Muted Unless Speaking: reduce background noise by keeping your microphone muted when not speaking.
- Use Chat for Questions: post questions in the chat and a team member will collect and will share answer(s) at the end.
- Remain On Topic: keep discussions aligned to the agenda.
- Avoid Interruptions: let others finish before responding.
- Cameras On Encouraged: while not required, having cameras on supports connection and engagement.
- Engage Respectfully: be concise, professional, and respectful in all contributions.



#### **Certification Processing by the Numbers**

- June 2025
  - 2580 Applications Processed
  - 90.47% Processed within 15 Business Days
  - Average Processing Time = 9.25 Business days
  - 1287 Questions Solved
  - Questions Solved within 1 Business Days Average
- July 2025
  - 2815 Applications Processed
  - 67.67% Processed within 15 Business Days
  - Average Processing Time = 14.37 Business days
  - 1,419 Questions Solved
  - Questions Solved within Business .9 Days Average



# **Educator Background Credentialing**



#### **Clear Credential & Fingerprinting Resources**

- 13,667 Clear Credentials were granted between January 1st and August 11th.
- Clear Credential Information and Resources:
  - What does "Clear Credential" mean?
  - <u>Educator Fingerprinting Packet</u>
  - Certification Suspension, Revocation, & Reinstatement
- To check the status of fingerprinting with IdentoGO, direct the applicant to <a href="https://uenroll.identogo.com/status-check">https://uenroll.identogo.com/status-check</a>.
- If "Clear Credential" does not appear on www.teachlouisiana.net in three weeks or less following fingerprinting under service code 27N5HQ, email <a href="mailto:EducatorClearance@la.gov">EducatorClearance@la.gov</a>.

#### Act 409 - Key Focus Areas

Signed into law as <u>Act 409</u>, <u>Senate Bill 41</u> strengthens child welfare and safety standards in education.

While much of the legislation applies to early learning centers, several key changes impact all school systems, including changes to <u>LA R.S.</u> <u>17:15</u> directing school systems' hiring and dismissal practices.



#### Act 409 Revises LA R.S. 17:15 for Hiring

This law directs school systems in hiring practices. In addition to a criminal background check (CBC), the **employer** is directed to **check the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) state central registry**.

#### Persons:

- with prohibited convictions (those listed in R.S. 15:587.1(C), or
- whose name is recorded on the DCFS central registry as a person who has a substantiated complaint of child abuse or neglect on or after August 1, 2018, cannot be hired by a local public school board or a nonpublic school system.

#### Act 409 Revises LA R.S. 17:15 for Dismissal

This law directs school systems to **dismiss** any employee:

- whose name is recorded on the DCFS central registry as a person who has a substantiated complaint of child abuse or neglect on or after August 1, 2025,
- who submitted fraudulent documents to BESE/LDOE,
- who facilitated cheating on any state assessment as determined by BESE, or
- who was convicted of a prohibited conviction.

Employees are required to self-report within two business days.

School systems who knowingly employ a person with prohibited conviction or whose name appears as substantiated on DCFS check may be subject to civil fines.

### **Child Abuse & Neglect Clearance System (CANS)**

School systems may request the DCFS State Central Registry (SCR) clearance through the Child Abuse and Neglect Clearance System (CANS).

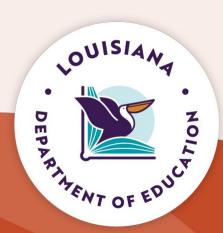
To request access, refer to:

- CANS K-12 Public School User Access Guide or
- CANS K-12 Non-Public School User Access Guide

For help with access questions, please contact your local security coordinator.



#### **Louisiana Educator Certification Portal**



#### **HR and Provider Access Requirements**

LEC has been integrated into the <u>Louisiana Educator Portal</u> (LEP)

- School system personnel already using LEP for evaluation should only need to request permissions for the application portions.
- Nonpublic HR personnel and Preparation Providers will need:
  - An eScholar Staff ID
  - A MyLA account
  - Request permissions for the application portions
- Instructions to request permissions are currently linked on TeachLALive! if you have an authorized HR or Preparation account.
- Send a request through the <u>Teacher Certification Help Center</u> if you do not have an authorized TeachLALive! account.

#### Requesting a Staff ID

HR or Preparation Provider authorization will require an eScholar Staff ID.

- Traditional Public and Public Charter HR personnel likely already have a Staff ID for accessing other state systems.
- Nonpublic HR personnel and Preparation Providers may need to request a Staff ID before access to LEC can be granted.
  - Sign In to the <u>EdLink Ops Portal</u>
  - Select your Account Type
    - Nonpublic Personnel: I am a PK-12 Non-Public School employee
    - Preparation Provider: I am working for an External Partner » Teacher Prep Provider
  - Enter the requested name, contact, and personal information
  - Save and Submit

#### **Applicant Access Requirements**

- Educators already using LEP for evaluation should not need any additional access or accounts to start applications.
- Educators not already using LEP will only need a MyLA account.
- Applicants that have not used LEP for evaluation may need to validate their SSN before they can access applications.
- New hires and other applicants that are not reported as employed for 2025-26 may also need to validate their SSN.
- Share the Logging in to the Louisiana Educator Portal Individual Applicants article from the Help Center with educators.
- See the Louisiana Educator Portal home page for login support contact information.

#### Clarification of LEC Misconceptions

- Current employment is **not required** for an educator to access LEP and start an application.
- Educators **are not** required to be reported in your 2025-26 data records to start an application and send it to your office for review and signature.
- Candidates enrolled in a program and employed with a school/system should not create a separate account for the preparation program.
- Except in a few places where documentation has been added, certification requirements have not changed - supporting documents required with the PDF applications are still required in LEC.
- All requests that previously required submission by the employing school system still require HR verification and signature.

#### **Cancelling Applications**

LEC provides increased controls to prevent incomplete or incorrect applications.

- Cancelling applications submitted through LEC will be very difficult and only granted on a case-by-case basis.
- Applications will no longer be closed without processing, as LEC now addresses all common issues that previously required applications to be returned for correction and resubmission.
- Applications submitted through LEC will be processed as submitted based on the documentation provided.

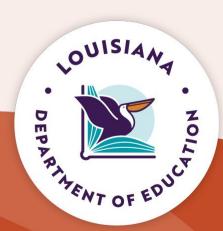
#### **TeachLALive! Retirement**

Application submission through <u>TeachLALive!</u> was disabled after business hours on August 11, 2025.

- The TeachLALive! website will remain available while the remaining PDF applications are being processed.
- History and other features will be available until the site is retired.
- Anticipated date of retirement: September 30, 2025.



# **Educator Development Updates**



#### **Content Leader and Mentor Teacher Portfolio**

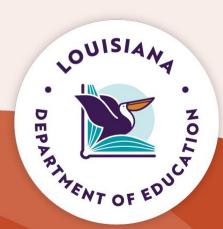
Vendor	Contact	Assessment Portfolios	Cost	Serving
Associated Professional Educators of Louisiana (A+Pel)	Emily Ogden emily@apeleducators.org	Mentor Teacher Content Leader  K-2 Literacy ELA Math Science	\$175	Open to all applicants
Louisiana Tech University	Dr. Amy Vessel avessel@latech.edu	Mentor Teacher Content Leader  ELA Math Science	\$0	Only Louisiana Tech University students
McNeese State University	Dr. Lori Benoit lbenoit11@mcneese.edu Dr. Angelique Ogea aogea@mcneese.edu	Mentor Teacher	\$300	Only McNeese State University students Open to all applicants-June 2026



#### **Content Leader and Mentor Teacher Portfolio**

Vendor	Contact	Assessment Portfolios	Cost	Serving
Northwestern State University	Dr. Dylan Solice soliced@nsula.edu	Mentor Teacher Content Leader  K-2 Literacy ELA Math Science	\$250	Open to all applicants
University of Louisiana at Monroe	Dr. Shalanda Stanley sstanley@ulm.edu Dr. Myra Lovett mlovett@ulm.edu	Mentor Teacher	Not yet determined	Only University of Louisiana at Monroe students
University of Louisiana at Lafayette	Dr. Elizabeth Grossie Dr. Peter Shepherd mentor.teachers@louisiana.edu	Mentor Teacher	\$175	Only University of Louisiana at Lafayette students

## Dates of Importance, Supports, and Resources





#### **Important Dates**

**Aug 11:** Last day to submit applications to <u>TeachLALive!</u>

Aug 19-20: BESE Meetings

Aug 27: Preparation Provider Monthly Call

Aug 28: Teacher Certification Appeals Council





#### **Supports and Resources**

- School System Support Calendar
- Educator Resource Guide
- School System Planning Resources
- Family Support Toolbox Library
- Certification Bulletin, Bulletin 746
- Online Teacher Certification Portal, Teach LA Live!
- <u>TeachLouisiana.net</u>



#### **Certification Reminders**



### **Certification Monthly Calls**

Below are the dates for the 2025-2026 school year. Calls will be held on the following dates for this upcoming school year.

August 18, at 10:30 a.m.	September 15, at 10:30 a.m.	October 20, at 10:30 a.m.
November 17, at 10:30 a.m.	December 15, at 10:30 a.m.	January 26, at 10:30 a.m.
February 23, at 10:30 a.m.	March 16, at 10:30 a.m.	April 20, at 10:30 a.m.
May 18, at 10:30 a.m.	June 15, at 10:30 a.m.	July 20, at 10:30 a.m.