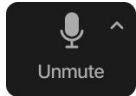
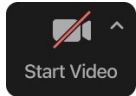


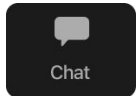
Zoom Meeting Preparation



- 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.



Educator Certification and Credentialing Monthly Call

May 18, 2026



Agenda

- Opening Remarks and Call Norms
- Processing by the Numbers
- Educator Development Updates
- Background Credentialing 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 & Credentialing Processing by the Numbers

- April 2026
 - Certification
 - 2,970 Applications Processed
 - Applications processed within 9 business days
 - 3,353 Questions closed
 - Questions closed within .8 business days
 - Credentialing
 - 1,343 educators cleared
 - Credentials processed within 2 business days



Educator Development Updates



Certified Mentors Statewide

The LDOE has recently created a list of all certified mentors statewide. This list contains the following information for the 4,894 certified mentors:

- System mentor is employed
- School site mentor is employed
- Certification area of mentor
- Expiration of certification

This information will assist education preparation providers (EPPs) place residents with certified mentors in the appropriate content areas. EPPs have already received these lists and HR departments will receive them before the end of May.

Please contact MentorandContentLeaders@la.gov with any questions.



Mentor Teacher Waivers

Waivers for the 2025-2026 school year will close on June 1, 2026. Once this is closed, a list of each system's approved waivers will be emailed to their HR department.

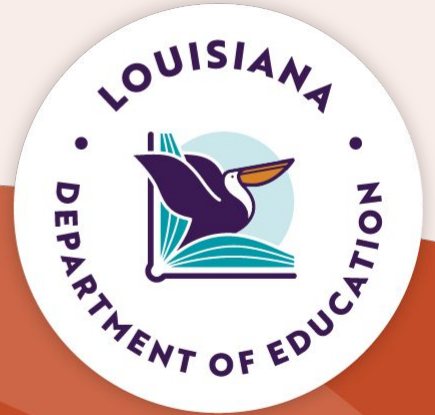
Waivers for the 2026-2027 school year will open on June 15, 2026.

It is important to note that for residents and practitioners whose year-long residency spans multiple academic years, a mentor waiver must be obtained for each academic year.

Please contact MentorandContentLeaders@la.gov with any questions.



Educator Background Credentialing

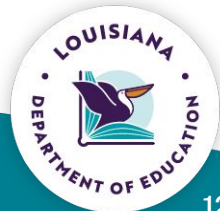


Contact EducatorClearance@la.gov with questions or submit questions through the [Teacher Certification Help Portal](#).

Required Background Checks for Employment

- Criminal Background Check (CBC) required under [La. R.S. 17:15](#)
- DCFS State Central Registry (SCR) check required [via CANS](#)
- These are separate and distinct requirements
- Both must be completed prior to hire
- Educators employed in early learning centers require the [Child Care Criminal Background Check \(CCCBC\)](#) resulting in an employment eligibility letter for employment in that setting.

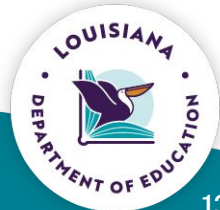
Contact EducatorClearance@la.gov with questions or submit questions through the [Teacher Certification Help Portal](#).



Relying on a “Clear Credential”

- A “Clear Credential” = CBC completed for certification with no disqualifying convictions
- Visible in [LEC by verifying certification record](#)
- Public school systems may rely on Clear Credential for hiring (La. R.S. 17:15(B))
- If present, no additional fingerprinting required for employment
- If not present, employment CBC still required

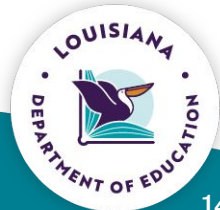
Contact EducatorClearance@la.gov with questions or submit questions through the [Teacher Certification Help Portal](#).



Important Limitations & Clarifications

- Clear Credential is not a teaching certificate.
- School systems cannot receive or view the CBC report.
- CBC results are restricted by law under Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) protections.
- Rap backs go to the LDOE only, not employing systems.
- SCR (CANS) check is still required in all cases.

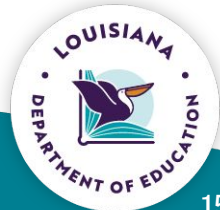
Contact EducatorClearance@la.gov with questions or submit questions through the [Teacher Certification Help Portal](#).



Local Decision and Resources

- School systems should consult legal counsel and governing boards when deciding whether to rely on it.
- Decision may vary by system based on local policy and risk tolerance.
- Key Resources:
 - CBC Review for Employees — [La. R.S. 17:15](#)
 - Rap Back Monitoring — [La. R.S. 15:587.1](#)
 - BESE Appeals for Censure — [La. R.S. 17:8.7](#)
 - CBC Review for Certification — [La. R.S. 17:8.9](#)
 - [Importance of CBCs for Certification](#)
 - [Offenses Requiring Certification Sanction](#)

Contact EducatorClearance@la.gov with questions or submit questions through the [Teacher Certification Help Portal](#).



Louisiana Educator Certification Portal



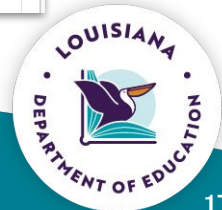
New Features Added

- Course Code & Area of Certification finder moved to LEP Home page.

The screenshot displays the LEP Educator Portal interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Certification Help Center', 'My Educator Profile', 'Certification', and 'OTS'. The user 'LANA HUTCHINSON' is logged in. The left sidebar contains several menu items, with 'Course Code & Area of Certification Finder' highlighted in orange. The main content area is titled 'Course Code & Area of Certification Finder' and features a search bar with 'Biology' entered. Below the search bar is an 'Export to Excel' button and a message: 'Drag a column header and drop it here to group by that column'. A table with columns 'Course Code', 'Course Name', 'Grades', and 'Certification Areas' is shown. The 'Certification Areas' column contains 'View' buttons for each row. The 'View' button for the second row is highlighted with a red box.

Course Code	Course Name	Grades	Certification Areas
149993	Biology II: Cambridge AICE - AS (Honors)		View
149994	Biology II: DE - BIOL 2123 Microbiology Science Majors		View
149995	Biology II: DE - BIOL 2102 General Microbiology		View

For questions, contact [Teacher Certification Help Center](#).



Certification Expirations Updates

- Certificates expiring soon are now highlighted in red.
- Option added to only show expiring certificate for each school selected.

The screenshot displays the 'Public Certification' interface. On the left is a navigation menu with options: Public Certification, Active Applications, Submitted Applications, Certification Expirations (highlighted), and PRAXIS Search. The main area is titled 'List Of Schools' and shows a dropdown for 'School System' set to '(001) Acadia Parish School System'. Below this, there are two panels. The left panel, titled '(001) Acadia Parish School System', contains a table of schools. The right panel, titled 'Crowley High School', shows a checkbox for 'Only show expiring certificates' and a table of certificates. Red boxes highlight the '1 expir' indicator in the school list and the 'Valid until 4/29/2026' date in the certificate table.

C.	Name of School	Certificat...
001700	Acadia Parish Central Office	1 expir →
001777	Acadia Parish- Underage Homeless Site	→
001900	Acadia's Parish School Board's Alternative Program	→
001000	Administrative Services -- Special Education	→

Name	Certificates	A.
[Redacted]	22 691210 Valid until 4/29/2026	
[Redacted]	CC 690124 Valid Life	→
[Redacted]	21 670893 Not Valid	
[Redacted]	No Certification	→

For questions, contact [Teacher Certification Help Center](#).



Spotlight - Evaluations and Certification

- Many certification requests require verification of **finalized** evaluation.
- Some evaluations are dependent on data that is not available until later in the year.
- Verify finalized evaluations **before** signing or submitting an application to prevent unnecessary denials.
 - Public school systems can verify if the 2025-26 evaluation has been finalized before signing the HR Section of an application.
 - Individual educators in public schools can verify finalized evaluations in the Louisiana Educator Portal.

For questions, contact [Teacher Certification Help Center](#).



Spotlight - Evaluations and Certification

- Example certification requests that require finalized evaluation
 - Renewal of a TAT requires an effective evaluation **for the previous year on the TAT**
 - Advancing from a Level 1 to a Level 2 or 3 teaching certificate requires at least three (3) effective evaluations finalized
 - Renewal of a Level 2, Level 3, or Ancillary Teaching certificate requires at least three (3) effective finalized evaluations **within the previous validity** of the certificate
 - School-level leaders in public schools must have finalized **leader** evaluations to advance from ELD1 to EDL2 or renew EDL2

For questions, contact [Teacher Certification Help Center](#).



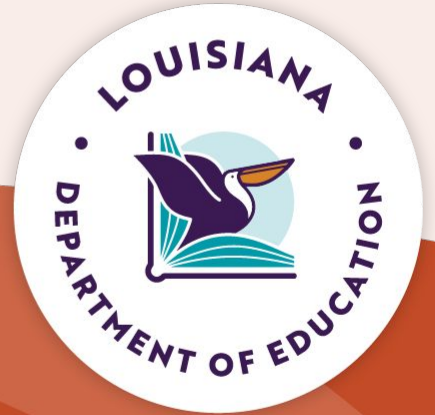
Spotlight - Evaluations and Certification

- What do we do if an application is denied due to missing evaluations?
 - Review the feedback letter for guidance
 - If a 2025-26 evaluation not yet finalized could be used to complete the request, a new application and a new fee will be required once the evaluation is finalized
 - Additional guidance may be provided based on the information included in the application and on file
 - Guidance may be provided advising an appeal to the Teacher Certification Appeals Council if no other options are apparent based on the information available

For questions, contact [Teacher Certification Help Center](#).



Dates of Importance, Supports, and Resources



Important Dates

May 20: [Preparation Provider Monthly Call](#)

May 25: Memorial Day (State Offices closed)

May 26-28: Teacher Leader Summit

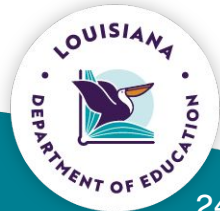
June 9-10: BESE Committee Meeting





Supports and Resources

- [School System Support Calendar](#)
- [Educator Resource Guide](#)
- [School System Planning Resources](#)
- [Family Support Toolbox Library](#)
- [Certification Bulletin, Bulletin 746](#)
- [TeachLouisiana.net](#)
- [Louisiana Educator Portal \(LEP\)](#)



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.	February 2, 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.

Please contact certification@la.gov with questions.



Questions and Answers

