
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Application Purpose

Louisiana Believes is built on the premise that Louisiana students are just as capable as any students in America. Louisiana has worked hard to raise expectations for students, and as a result, students are performing at higher levels than ever before. While much progress has been made, there is still much work to do. The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) is committed to continuing to advance the literacy skills of all Louisiana children, especially its most disadvantaged children.

The Comprehensive Literacy State Development 2020 (CLSD -UIN) grant represents an opportunity for local school systems – school districts and charters – to address their needs to meet the challenge of improving student achievement in literacy. For the proposed project, **the State Implementation Plan targets high-need UIN schools and ECE partners that demonstrate the promise to become models for other high-need sites to replicate.** This project focuses on a specific set of evidence-based practices and evidence-informed innovations to strengthen the literacy skills of children from birth to 12th grade.

Eligible Applicants

Schools with only Urgent Intervention Needed - Academics labels within a [QOZ](#) (Qualified Opportunity Zone) are eligible. School systems and lead agencies should prioritize Type III child care, Head Start/Early Head Start, and/or public and nonpublic pre-K sites that serve as a feeder for qualified UIN schools.

Application Timeline

Activity	Timeline
Application Release	November 6, 2020
Technical Assistance Office Hours for school systems (details via LDOE Weekly Newsletter)	December 1-18, 2020
Application Due	February 5, 2020
Independent Review and Validation of Scores	March, 2021
Award Notice	April 20, 2021

Application Criteria and Evaluation

The application consists of five major components. Reviewers will evaluate the CLSD 2020 application according to the following criteria and will award funds to the highest ranked applications.

Component	Possible Points	Points Awarded
A. Project Need	5	
B. Project Goals	15	
C. Project Design	40 (+5 bonus)	
Total	60	

A. Need for the Project (15 points)

Appendix A

- Identify which sites the project will impact.

B. Project Goals (15 points)

1 page maximum

- Develop goals for the first year of the grant focused on student achievement.
- **Provide baseline data (TeachingStrategies GOLD, Fall 2020; K-2 Literacy Screener, Fall 2020; LEAP Spring 2019) and goal projections for 1 year (Spring 2022),** based on needs assessment.
- Ensure goals are specific, measurable, time bound, ambitious, and support attainment of school system and school performance goals.

C. Project Design (40 points + 5 bonus points*)

2 pages maximum

- Describe the project design's approach to developing an opportunity for schools and ECE partners to become models for other high-need sites to replicate by focusing on evidence-based practices and evidence-informed innovations
 - Describe your plan to collaborate with a Literacy Coach Coordinator, including how you will incorporate their feedback to enhance teacher and leader collaboration.
 - Describe your plan to implement one of the following Signature Innovations
 - ELA Academic Case Management
 - PRE-Teaching Intervention
 - Family Literacy Coaching
 - Describe the plan to utilize LEA-level and site-level literacy teams, as well as develop or enhance the LEA or school's local literacy plan.
- Describe how the proposed schools will leverage existing resources to support subgrant activities and how they will use grant funds to access new resources.

*Applicants that propose partnerships with teacher preparation programs that include teacher candidates in CLSD-related professional development will receive up to 5 bonus points.

Application Submission Instructions and Checklist

Applications must be submitted no later than **February 5, 2021** via [SurveyMonkey](#).

Applications should be saved as a single PDF document with the file name: School System Name: CLSD-UIN Grant. (For example, *Gold Charter: CLSD-UIN Grant.pdf*). Direct questions to LDOE.grantshelpdesk@la.gov.