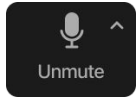


LEA-Authorized Charter Schools Monthly Call

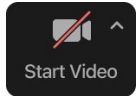


July 9, 2025

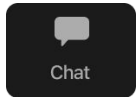
Zoom Meeting Preparation



- 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.



Contact Information

Please provide your **name** and **email address** in the chat box. A copy of the presentation will be sent to you after this meeting.

To access slide decks from previous calls, you may visit the [LDOE Monthly Call](#) webpage.



Agenda

- Monthly Call Goals
- Key Dates
- Capacity of Founding Teams
- Diverse Learner Updates
- Educator Evaluation Updates



Monthly Call Goals



WELCOME

Goals for Local Authorizer Monthly Calls

To provide pertinent information and updates.

How will this be accomplished?

- Being **INTENTIONAL**
- Listening to your requests
- Each month provide reminders and upcoming key dates pertaining to the authorization process
- Each call will provide leaders with information tied to the Charter RFA process

REMINDER: Monthly calls are held every 2nd Wednesday @ 11:00 am



Key Dates



LDOE Submission Due Dates- Local Authorizers

Date	Action
July 11, 2025	<p>Student EOY Collection in Edlink 360-All extract submissions are expected to be submitted daily by 5:00pm if the data is available.</p> <p>If you have any questions or require further information, contact systemsupport@la.gov.</p>
July 15, 2025	<p>Periodic Expenditure Reports-Complete PERs in eGMS for all grants.</p> <p>If you have any questions or require further information, contact grantshelpdesk@la.gov.</p>



LDOE Submission Due Dates- Local Authorizers

Date	Action
July 1- October 30, 2025	<p>Alternate Assessment Participation Review-School Systems that exceed the 1.0 percent threshold must complete an alternate assessment justification and request a review of data and procedures related to alternate state assessments.</p> <p>If you have any questions or require further information, contact ashley.augustine@la.gov.</p>
July 25, 2025	<p>LDOE: State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) Part C Transition Compliance Report (for prior school year)</p> <p>Reports to run in eSER: <i>Part C Transition Compliance Report</i></p>

2024-2025 Annual Charter School Application Process Key Dates

To begin operation in 2026-27

Date	Annual RFA Process
January 17, 2025	Local school boards deadline to consider Type 1 and Type 3 charter applications
January 31, 2025	Local school boards notify LDOE of board recommendations regarding the approval or denial of received applications is January 31, 2025 through the Jotform process.
March 31, 2025	LDOE submission deadline for the full application for Types 2, 4, and 5 applicants
August 19, 2025	Types 2, 4, and 5 Applicants: BESE considers applications for new charter schools



2025-2026 Mid-Year Charter School Application Process Timeline

To begin operation in 2026-27

Date	Annual RFA Process
June 11, 2025	LDOE application opens for Type 2 and 4 applicants.
June 30, 2025	Letters of Intent due to LDOE.
July 7, 2025	Eligibility Determination Forms Due to LDOE.
July 18, 2025	LDOE submission deadline for the full application for Types 2 and 4 applicants.
September 2025	Capacity Interviews for Type 2 and 4 applicants conducted by Third Party Reviewer.
December 9, 2025	Types 2 and 4 Applicants: BESE considers applications for new charter schools.

Capacity of Founding Teams



Capacity of Founding Teams

A charter school's founding team is composed of motivated stakeholders who take the initiative to apply for and open a charter school that they feel will meet the needs of their students and communities.

- Founding teams make key decisions that will determine the school's governance once the charter school opens:
 - How future school board members will be nominated and selected;
 - What the role of parents and the community will be in school governance;
 - Procedures for committee formation and structure; and
 - What criteria will be used to nominate and select the school leader.



Capacity of Founding Teams

Often, one of the founding team members, “the founder,” is the central leader behind the inception of the charter school. Once the school opens, the school leader will be responsible for managing the charter school, fulfilling the school’s mission, and realizing the goals and priorities set by the board.

- School leaders often have some autonomy regarding curriculum, programs, and hiring staff.
- The school board, though, will make key decisions about the school’s governance and performance goals and will evaluate the school leader’s progress towards these goals.
- It is crucial that the school board and the school leader fulfill their roles of governing and managing the charter school, respectively.



Capacity of Founding Teams

As an authorizer, it is your responsibility to determine the capacity of the founding team at the application stage.

- Aim to evolve the application process in order to “shift rigor from paper to people” (NACSA).
 - The ability to effectively identify and assess a founding team’s capacities can improve your ability to approve applications of schools more likely to succeed.
 - Capacities should be observable: it is the means by which a founding team executes on plans and responds to changing circumstances over time.
 - Touchpoints to assess the team’s ability to adjust and adapt, while still executing on its vision.
- Objectivity over bias: making decisions based on evidence.



Capacity of Founding Teams

NASCA published *The Capacities of Charter School Founding Teams* in March 2025, which identifies 9 key areas of capacity that authorizers may use in determining how to assess overall capacity for school success:

- Strategic Focus on Mission
- Community Commitment
- Building a Coalition
- Reflective Learning
- Creative Problem Solving
- Effective Decision Making
- Relationship with Success and Failure
- Team Awareness
- Knowledge, Skills, and Execution



Capacity of Founding Teams

Opportunities to Assess Capacity:

- Technical Assistance Sessions
 - Prospective Application Informational Webinars
 - Pitch Meetings
 - Eligible Applicant Orientation Webinar
- Public Hearings
 - Charter Proposal Presentation to Authorizing Board
 - Non-Profit Board Meeting Observation
- Capacity Interview
 - Performance Task(s)
- Written Response
 - Letter of Intent
 - Eligibility Determination
 - Application
 - Overview Template Budget Review
- Existing Operator Site Visits



Capacity of Founding Teams

Rating Capacity:

Meets the Standard: Evidence is multi-faceted and demonstrates that the team members, as a whole (or multiple individuals on the team), substantially meet the criteria for the given capacity.

Partially Meets the Standard: The evidence demonstrates that the team members, as a whole (or multiple individuals on the team), meet the criteria for the given capacity in some respects, but is not observed in multiple instances or with sufficient completeness.

Does Not Meet the Standard: The evidence is wholly insufficient or significantly lacking; or opportunity was provided to demonstrate the given capacity and the founding team did not provide demonstrative evidence of that capacity.



Capacity of Founding Teams

Resources for Authorizers on Capacity of Founding Teams

- [The Capacities of Charter School Founding Teams](#), March 2025-NACSA
- [Tips for Virtual Capacity Interviews](#), May 2020-NACSA
- [NACSA's New School Application Guidance: Capacity Interviews](#), June 2025-NACSA
- [NACSA's New School Application Guidance: Pitch Meeting](#), June 2025-NACSA
- [Essential Questions for Potential Charter School Founders](#), March 2025-Schoolworks
- [School Startup and Growth](#)- National Charter Schools Institute

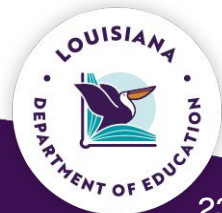


Diverse Learner Updates



Numeracy Professional Learning: Act 260 of 2023

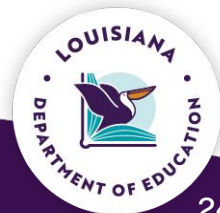
The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) has developed a full suite of Numeracy Professional Learning courses for K-12 math teachers. This includes the training required by [Act 260 \(2023\)](#). Act 260 requires all grade 4-8 mathematics teachers to complete an approved professional learning course that focuses on numeracy skills instruction **by August 1, 2025**.



Assistive Technology Guidebook

- Louisiana Assistive Technology Guidebook
 - This guide is designed to serve as a practical and user-friendly tool for educators, administrators, and stakeholders across our state. It offers guidance on identifying, implementing, and evaluating assistive technology supports to address the unique needs of students with disabilities.
 - [Updated guidebook](#)

Please contact diverselearnerssupport@la.gov with questions.



EOY Data Collection - SPP/APR

Begin verifying the following EOY data:

- Discipline - Final Run: **July 7**
 - Disciplinary Removals - Summary and Detail Reports
- Exiting - Final Run: **July 10**
 - Exit - Child Summary and Listing Reports
 - Cross Check, Exit



EOY Data Collection - SPP/APR

Begin verifying the following EOY data. Deadline to correct errors: **July 25**

- Initial Evaluations
 - SPP Indicator 11 Report
- Part C Transition
 - Part C Transition Compliance Report
- Post School Transition
 - Post School Transition Information Report
 - Post School Transition Missing Information Report
 - Post School Transition LEA Summary Report



Sped Camera Data Collection 2024-2025

The 2024-2025 sped camera data collection will launch in egms in the coming weeks. The data will be collected on the “Supporting Documentation 2024-2025” tab.

- Number of parent requests in 2024-2025
- Number of approved parent requests in 2024-2025
- Number of cameras purchased/installed in 2024-2025 (July 1-June 30)
- Amount of sped camera money spent in 2024-2025
- Amount of sped camera maintenance spent in 2024-2025

Check the weekly newsletter for the launch and deadline for submission.

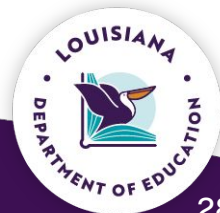


High Cost Services

Round 2:

- The amendment cycle is open.
- School systems should submit amendments prior to **September 30**.
- LDOE will continue to monitor and conduct outreach to ensure amendments are submitted by the deadline.

Please contact ashley.augustine@la.gov with questions.





Ensuring Data Accuracy: LEA Assurance Statements

Beginning in the 2025–2026 school year, LEAs will be required to submit annual assurances after each final collection of federal and state data.

These assurances will serve as official confirmation that data submitted to SER or within survey collections are timely, valid and reliable in accordance with federal and state guidance that govern data collection and reporting.

More information will be provided in next month's office hours.



2024–2025 Seclusion and Restraint Assurance

- LEA Verification Reports were uploaded to the Data Management (DM) FTP on June 4 with action to be completed by June 30.
- LEAs will be required to complete and submit an assurance that certifies that the data in SER is accurate, valid and reliable.
- An updated version of the 2024-2025 LEA Verification for Seclusion and Restraint report with signature sections will be available in DM FTP by **July 15.**



Ensuring Data Accuracy: LEA Assurance Statements

Steps to Complete the Seclusion and Restraint Assurance Statement

1. **Retrieve** the updated version of the 2024-2025 LEA Verification for Seclusion and Restraint report from the DM FTP.
2. **Review** Seclusion and Restraint data submitted in **SER** to ensure accuracy.
3. **Complete and sign** the report by the appropriate LEA representative.
4. **Submit** the signed Assurance Statement by the designated deadline. Details for submitting the signed assurance will be outlined within the submission instructions.

Please contact bernetta.sims@la.gov with questions.



Seclusion and Restraint Training

- HB 684 provides for preparation for all teachers regarding crisis prevention programs, which may be incorporated into an existing course of study for teachers.
 - Currently, a module, *Legal Requirements and Practical Considerations for the Use of Restraint and Seclusion*, is available for any educator.
- It also states that the Department may develop a crisis intervention training program that may be used by each public school governing authority for those designated individuals on the crisis team who need training on proper use of seclusion and restraint. This will be provided at no cost to school systems.

Bulletin 741- Louisiana Handbook for School Administrators

- Updates the requirement to include the number of seclusion rooms to the annual Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) report.
- Updates in alignment with requirement in HB 684 that school systems install a camera regardless of whether a parent has requested a camera in classrooms as defined in R.S. 17:1948. **Effective February 1, 2026.**



English Learner Institute

The Louisiana Department of Education is excited to announce our upcoming **English Learner Institute**. This event will provide essential information and updates regarding English Learners.

The institute will focus on best practices for supporting English Learners, and also feature speakers who are experts in the field. We encourage all **EL Directors/Coordinators** to attend and participate in this opportunity to learn and collaborate with colleagues from across the state.

Please mark your calendars for:

- [August 25, 2025](#) (Registration closes August 18, 2025)
- [January 26, 2026](#) (Registration closes January 19, 2026)
- [March 16, 2026](#) (Registration closes March 9, 2026)
- [May 14, 2026](#) (Registration closes May 7, 2026)

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.



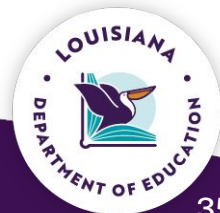
English Learner Professional Learning

The Louisiana Department of Education is pleased to announce a new series of free, self-paced Canopy courses focused on strengthening instructional practices for **English Learners**. These professional learning opportunities will be available beginning next month and are designed to support educators across all content areas.

Trainings will include: *Supporting ELs During **ELA** Instruction*, *Supporting ELs During **Math** Instruction*, *Supporting ELs During **Science** Instruction*, *Supporting ELs During **Social Studies** Instruction*, *Supporting ELs **Through the Writing Process***, *Identifying ELs for **Special Education Services***, and *Strategies for Educating ELs: **A Guide for Novice Teachers***.

These courses are ideal for classroom teachers, ESL educators, interventionists, and instructional leaders. Additional details, including access instructions, will be shared in August.

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.



Fast Track ESL Add-on

Tuition-free courses are available for teachers and leaders to earn an [ESL Add-On credential](#).

Please complete the 2024 - 2026 [Early Interest Survey](#) to receive information about Project Endorsement Plus opportunities.

[Professional Development Courses](#) are also included with Project Endorsement Plus.

- Looking at Student Academic Language Foundations (LASAL) Professional Development
- Parents as Partners in Literacy (PaPiL) Professional Development

Please visit www.ASPDgroup.com or email registration@aspdgroup.com for more information.

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.



EL Impact Calls: Save the Date

The Louisiana Department of Education is pleased to announce the upcoming **English Learner (EL) Impact Calls** for fall 2025. These quarterly Zoom sessions are designed for system leaders and provide targeted support aligned to the needs of Louisiana's diverse school systems.

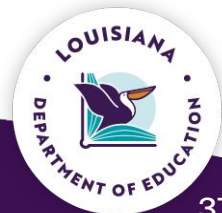
Each call follows the state's tiered support model, offering differentiated guidance based on EL population size. These sessions will include important updates, statewide priorities, and implementation strategies to help systems strengthen their EL programs and ensure alignment with best practices.

Please save the date for your system's designated session:

- **Tier 1 (1–100 ELs):** [October 16, 2025](#) | 1:00–2:00 p.m.
- **Tier 2 (101–999 ELs):** [October 23, 2025](#) | 1:00–2:00 p.m.
- **Tier 3 (1000+ ELs):** [October 30, 2025](#) | 1:00–2:00 p.m.

All EL Directors and system leaders are encouraged to attend the session aligned with their designated tier.

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.

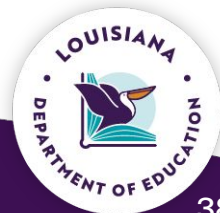


Identifying and Supporting English Learners (ELs) with Disabilities Guidance

The Department is excited to announce the release of [guidance](#) to support the identification of English Learners (ELs) with disabilities!

This guidance was designed to assist school systems in the provision of access to high quality instruction for ELs who are suspected of having a disability.

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.



Governor's Office of Disability Affairs (GODA) Annual Conference

The GODA Conference is back in-person and virtual, with lots of great information for all!

- July 22 and 23, 2025
- Location: Claiborne Building, Louisiana Purchase Room
- [Register](#) for the conference

Pupil Appraisal Summit

The summit, a collaboration between LASEA and the Division of Diverse Learners, will offer support across a range of important topics to Pupil Appraisal staff members.

- August 13-14, 2025
- The target audience for this professional development opportunity is pupil appraisal staff.
- Topics to include Legislative updates, Data and Policy Best Practices, Evaluation of English Learners, and information from Hammond, Sills, Adkins, Guice, Noah & Perkins.

Pupil Appraisal Summit

- Location: EBR Professional Development Facility
- Each district will be given the opportunity to register four (4) attendees.
- The deadline to submit registration is August 1, 2025. Following this deadline open seats will be available for additional staff.

Link to the registration form: <https://forms.gle/Lqpw3yDy1q4V8MvR6>



Monthly Young Children with Disabilities Community of Practice

The LDOE team conducts webinars on various topics related to early childhood.

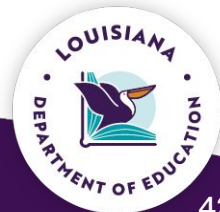
This month's topic is "Supporting Young Children with Disabilities in Early Childhood Settings." This session is a re-delivery of the Teacher Leader Summit presentation. Participants will learn how to identify and describe evidence-based practices that support the integration of young children with disabilities in early childhood settings.

Attendees can access the webinar using the information below:

- **Webinar Date/Time:** July 29, 2025 at 3 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/91561982271>
- **Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID:** 915 6198 2271
- **Passcode:** 787411

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

Please contact Caitlyn.Robinson@la.gov with questions.





Upcoming Diverse Learners Office Hours
[August 12 at 2:00 p.m.](#)



Educator Evaluation Updates

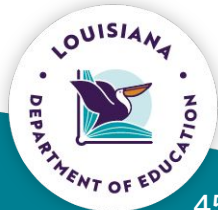


LEADS Implementation Resources

Resources to support effective LEADS implementation continue to be added to the [LEADS Public Collections](#) section of the Professional Learning Platform.

- [The Rubric is Holistic: Promoting Strong Academic Conversations](#)
- [The LER is Holistic: Impact of Thinking and Problem Solving on Student Engagement](#)
- [Full Length Lesson Sets](#)
- [Video Clip Collection](#)
- [Louisiana Counselor Evaluation Training for Counselors](#)
- [Louisiana Educator Evaluation Training for Teachers](#)

Please contact LEADS@la.gov with questions.



LEADS Evaluator Training and Resources

All systems will transition to Louisiana Educator Advancement and Development System (LEADS) Evaluations in the 2025-2026 school year.

- All first-time LEADS evaluators and designated observers should [register](#) to attend evaluator training and pass a certification assessment prior to evaluating.

Resources to support the transition are available in the [LEADS Library](#).

- [Evaluation Implementation Guidance for System Leaders](#)
- [Evaluation Frequently Asked Questions List](#)
- [LEADS Webinar for System Leaders](#)
- [Alternate Rubric Waiver Guidance](#)
- [Alternate Rubric Waiver Request](#)



Reporting 2024-2025 Evaluation Data in LES

Systems are encouraged to begin finalizing observation and Student Learning Target (SLT) data. It is recommended that educators complete the following tasks in [LES](#).

Evaluators	Teachers	Counselors and School Leaders
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enter and complete observations• Accept and rate SLTs• Enter EOY conference scores	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enter SLTs• Enter self-assessment scores• Assess students and report SLT results	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enter self-assessment scores• Enter SLTs and report results

Charter School Program Grant Updates



Charter School Program Grant Updates

The Year 3 Subgrant Application cycle is open and can be found on the [CSP page](#).

Important due dates are as follows:

- CSP Letter of Intent - Due July 31, 2025
- CSP Eligibility Determination Form - Due August 22, 2025
- CSP Subgrant Application - Due September 9, 2025

Any charter group submitting an LOI will be invited to participate in CSP Technical Assistance sessions prior to the due date for the Eligibility Form.

Please note that this cycle has been expanded to allow for applications from operators that have not previously been eligible for the Year 1 and Year 2 cycles.



Charter School Program Grant Updates

We continue to host the Excellence in Authorizing Community of Practice. Districts participating in the 2025 cohort will be eligible to receive reimbursement for the following:

- Travel to attend [NACSACON 2025](#)
- Cost of third-party review of charter applications

Please see the [Microgrants Overview](#) for more details.



Helpful Links

Resource	Description
<u>Charter School Library</u>	This webpage includes links to charter school finance, guidance, reviews, and pre-opening information.
<u>Newsletter</u>	This webpage offers a links to all newsletters offered by the LDOE.
<u>Charter Inbox</u>	Please reach out to us through the Charter Inbox with your questions.



Questions

For further inquiries, please reach out to:

Charter Authorization

charters@la.gov

Ex. Director of Charter Authorization

Jade.Gambino@la.gov



Upcoming LEA-Authorized Charter Monthly Call



August 13, 2025 at 11:00 am

Topics: 2025-2026 RFA Cycle for Local-Authorizers

