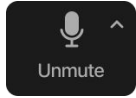


LEA-Authorized Charter Schools Monthly Call

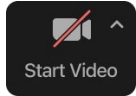


January 14, 2026

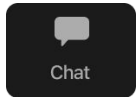
Zoom Meeting Preparation



- 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
- Annual RFA Process for Type 2 and 4 Charters
- Pre-Opening Guidance
- Departmental Updates
 - Diverse Learner Updates
 - Educator Evaluation Updates
 - Safe and Healthy Schools
 - Assessments
- CSP 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
January 12, 2026	High Cost Services Round 2 Application Deadline: The High Cost Services (HCS) fund was established to support school systems who serve students with disabilities with the most difficult needs. Round 2 is for new students who joined your school system from July 1, 2025 to September 30, 2025. If you have any questions or require further information, contact ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov .
January 14, 2026	Teacher and Principal of the Year State-Level Applications Due: State-level applications are due in the online application portal by Wednesday, January 14, 2026. If you have any questions or require further information, contact excellenteducators@la.gov .
January 14, 2026	Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year State-Level Applications Due: Annually, the LDOE , in partnership with Dream Teachers, recognizes and celebrates some of the state's most exceptional educators through the Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year award programs. If you have any questions or require further information, contact SSIsupport@la.gov .
January 15, 2026	Periodic Expenditure Reports due to eGMS: The Periodic Expense Report is used to record year-to-date expenses by program and year. The report for December 31st will be due January 15th. The report should be submitted in eGMS using the Payment Section of the application. If you have any questions or require further information, contact LDOE.FederalClaims@la.gov .



LDOE Submission Due Dates- Local Authorizers

Date	Action
January 21, 2026	<p>New Teacher of the Year State-Level Applications Due: State-level applications are due in the online application portal by Wednesday, January 21, 2026.</p> <p>If you have any questions or require further information, contact laurie.carlton@la.gov.</p>
January 23, 2026	<p>LEAP Connect: Deadline to verify IEPs submitted for students assessed on LEAP Connect, including eligibility. If you have any questions or require further information, contact assessments@la.gov.</p>
January 21-28, 2026	<p>School Support Institutes Session 2: Session 2 of School Support Institutes will take place regionally on the following dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• January 21: New Orleans Cohort - Pontchartrain Convention & Civic Center, Kenner• January 22: Baton Rouge Cohort - Cook Hotel & Conference Center• January 23: Lafayette Cohort - University of Louisiana at Lafayette• January 27: Monroe Cohort - University of Louisiana Monroe, Bayou Pointe• January 28: Shreveport Cohort - Hilton Garden Inn, Bossier City <p>If you have any questions or require further information, contact SSIsupport@la.gov.</p>



LDOE Submission Due Dates- Local Authorizers

Date	Action
January 21-28, 2026	<p>System Leader Regional Collaboration Session 2: Session 2 of System Leader Regional Collaboration will take place regionally on the following dates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • January 22: Baton Rouge Cohort - Cook Hotel & Conference Center • January 23: Lafayette Cohort - University of Louisiana at Lafayette • January 27: Monroe Cohort - University of Louisiana Monroe, Bayou Pointe • January 28: Shreveport Cohort - Hilton Garden Inn, Bossier City <p>If you have any questions or require further information, contact SSIsupport@la.gov.</p>
January 30, 2026	<p>Course Choice System Closes for New Enrollments: The system will close to new enrollments at 5 p.m. on January 30, 2026. Reporting takes place directly in the Course Choice Reporting System. For additional information, review Course Choice School Road Map.</p> <p>If you have any questions or require further information, contact coursechoice@la.gov.</p>
January 31, 2026	<p>Quarter 2 Financial Report: Submission includes budgeted data for the fiscal year, along with YTD data from October 1-December 31. If Charter new business managers have any questions or require further information on , annual and quarterly budgets, contact Charterfinancehelpdesk@la.gov.</p>



2025-2026 RFA Timeline

Proposed Timeline	Action	Details
August 25, 2025	LDOE releases common applications and toolboxes with application resources.	Available on LDOE website
September 8, 2025	Local school authorizers release Charter Requests for Applications, Timeline, Process, and Point of Contact.	Local Authorizers must provide application, process outline, and point of contact for submission of applications to the district on their website.
October 20, 2025	Local school boards submission deadline for the full application for Type 1 and Type 3 applicants.	Type 1 and 3 applications shall not be accepted after this date.
November 7, 2025	Local school boards notify LDOE and state legislators of charter applications received within each district.	Submit notification: Jotform
January 29, 2026	Local school board deadline to consider Type 1 and Type 3 charter applications.	Local school board action required by this date.
January 30, 2026	Local school boards notify LDOE of board recommendations.	Submit notification: Jotform
February 2, 2026	LDOE application opens for Type 2 and 4 applicants.	Denied applicants may apply as a Type 2



Annual RFA Process for Type 2 and 4 Charters



Annual RFA Process for Type 2 and 4 Charters

Local Authorization Next Steps

- If the applicants were denied by your local board, the applicants have the choice to apply as a Type 2 charter school through the BESE appeal process.
- If the applicants were approved by your local board, authorizer will begin working with the newly approved operator on the pre-opening process.



Annual RFA Process for Type 2 and 4 Charters

Type 2 Charter Application Eligibility, per Bulletin 126 §503 A(5):

- Applicants applying to operate a charter school which is to be located in a local school system in academic crisis as defined in Bulletin 111 §4901.
- If the local school system in which a charter group intends to apply to operate a type 1 or type 3 charter school has received a letter grade designated as a D or F.
- Unless otherwise specified, the entity seeking to establish a type 1 or type 3 charter school must have submitted a proposal to the local school board in whose jurisdiction the charter school is proposed to be located which:
 - has been denied in the most recent application cycle; or
 - has conditions that have been placed on it that are unacceptable; or
 - the local school board has not complied with the requirements of a local authorizer; or
 - the local school board has made no final decision in accordance with the timelines established by BESE.



Annual RFA Process for Type 2 and 4 Charters

Type 2 Charter Application Eligibility, as an existing Public School converting to a Charter School, per Bulletin 126 §507:

- Applicants required to receive approval from the existing professional faculty, staff, and parents/guardians of children enrolled in the pre-existing school prior to applying for charter.
 - Approval requires a favorable vote of the majority of the faculty and staff who are certified by BESE and were employed at the pre-existing school
 - Count of majority determined by number of professional faculty and staff on October 1 preceding the election
 - Elections must be held by secret ballot and each eligible employee may only cast one vote.
 - Approval requires a favorable vote of the majority of the voting parents or guardians of pupils enrolled in the school.
 - Number of votes must equal at least 50% of the number of students enrolled in the school at the time of election.
 - Elections must be held by secret ballot and each eligible employee may only cast one vote.
 - Elections may not occur more than once in any school year.



Annual RFA Process for Type 2 and 4 Charters

- The Office of School Choice will conduct a review of applicants to ensure eligibility criteria are met and the application submitted contains the required components.
- Local superintendents will be notified of the submission of charter school applications within their district, with identification of appealing applications received.
- State legislators will also be notified of the submission of charter school application within their region.



Pre-Opening Guidelines



Pre-Opening Guidelines

- Authorizers provide an outline of all required tasks, including but not limited to:
 - General School Information;
 - Policy Requirements;
 - Financial Requirements;
 - Operations;
 - Facilities;
 - Governance; and
 - Instruction
- Authorizers may stipulate if the mandatory preparedness checkpoints outlined within the Pre-Opening Manual are not met, it will result in a delay of opening.
- Charters have 24 months from date of approval to open.



Pre-Opening Guidelines

- Key Priorities
 - Student Enrollment
 - Securing Facilities
 - Establishing financial systems
 - Outlining governance of school performance, and
 - Staffing/recruiting



Pre-Opening Guidelines

Enrollment Requirements

- Each charter school authorizer shall develop policies and procedures for determining whether each charter school operating under its authority has complied with the application and enrollment transparency requirements of La. Bulletin §2707 and 2709 and for investigating allegations of discriminatory practices on the basis of disability status by a charter school under its authority.
- Pre-Opening Deliverables should include:
 - Process, timeline, and requirements for parents to apply;
 - Identification of potential barriers to access to the school and explain how the school will mitigate the barriers;
 - Methods by which the school will guarantee the equity of access for all students;
 - Description of the admission policy for the school, including any preferences; and
 - Explanation of lottery procedures
 - Link to review student application



Pre-Opening Guidelines

Enrollment Requirements

- Louisiana Revised Statute 17:3991.B.(1)(a) and (b) requires that, as charter school authorizers, both the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and local school boards monitor whether charter schools under their governance are enrolling Economically Disadvantaged (ED) students and Students with Disabilities (SWD) at a rate commensurate with the population of these student groups in the enrollment zone of the charter school.
- 70% Enrollment Quota Update: The the percentage of student enrollment for economically disadvantaged and SPED students was reduced from 85% of the local district's average to 70%.
- Aggregate Data to Determine Enrollment Quota Compliance: If the aggregate student enrollment data for all of the charter schools located within the boundaries of the city or parish school system in which a charter school is located meets the enrollment requirements, then every charter school located within the boundaries of the school system shall be in compliance.



Pre-Opening Guidelines

Securing Facilities

- Per La. Bulletin 126, §307. local school boards are to make available to chartering groups any vacant school facilities or any facility slated to be vacant for lease or purchase at up to fair market value.
- In the case of a type 2 charter school created as a result of a conversion, the facility and all property within the existing school shall also be made available to the chartering group.
 - In return for the use of the facility and its contents, the chartering group shall pay a proportionate share of the local school board's bonded indebtedness to be calculated in the same manner as set for in R.S. 17:1990(C)(2)(a)(i).
 - If such facilities were constructed at no cost to the local school board, then such facilities, including all equipment, books, instructional materials, and furniture within such facilities, shall be provided to the charter school at no cost.



Pre-Opening Guidelines

Securing Facilities

- The authorizer may require the operator submit an act of sale if a building has been purchased, or an executed lease agreement, which identifies:
 - Location of the facility
 - Specification of any unique features necessary to implement the school design and programming (i.e. number of classrooms, additional spaces needed to support academic programming, and space requirements for administrative and operational functions)
 - Provision of floor plans
- All school buildings must pass inspection by the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals before occupancy.



Pre-Opening Guidelines

Financial Systems

- Charter operators are required to retain a qualified and competent business professional who meets or exceeds the minimum requirements and qualifications specified by state law and regulations, including but not limited to [Bulletin 1929: Louisiana Accounting and Uniform Governmental Handbook](#), to produce all financial and accounting information and reporting required by this agreement, state law, and BESE policy and regulation, except the required annual audit, which shall be performed by a Louisiana-licensed Certified Public Accountant.
- Charter operators are required to maintain an inventory of all assets, including records of any assets acquired with any private funds. Inventories of assets must be audited annually.
- Charters are responsible for compliance with the Bulletin 1929, LAUGH and federal regulations on inventory purchased with federal funds (GEPA and EDGAR), therefore inventories must detail the funding source for purchases.



Pre-Opening Guidelines

Governance

- Charter Law requires that the board of directors of each charter operator shall operate under its duly adopted bylaws. These bylaws shall include a Conflicts of Interest policy that is consistent with applicable law including but not limited to, the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics, and acknowledge public records requests.
- All board members are required to submit financial disclosure forms annually to the Louisiana Board of Ethics.
 - [Tier 3 Financial Disclosure Form](#)
- Charter Policy requires that the school's charter board have a process and tools in place for the evaluation of school leaders. The evaluation process should include the identification of specific performance criteria that should align with the vision and mission of the school.



Pre-Opening Guidelines

Staffing and Recruitment

- Authorizers may request organizational charts for reporting structures between the CEO, school leader(s), charter board, and all staff including instructional, operational, and financial staff.
 - If the charter board intends to contract or partner with an entity for management or educational services (ESP) provider, the organizational charts should reflect that relationship.
- Charter Boards are required to adopt a staff handbook that aligns with state policies regarding background checks as found in [Bulletin 126 Chapter 29 §2905](#) and Staff grievances as found in [RS:17:100.4](#).
- Mandatory Reporter Process updates, required training, and responsibilities per [LA. Children's Code Art. 603\(17\)](#) should be included in the handbook.



Pre-Opening Guidelines

Authorizer Support Opportunities for Newly Authorized Schools

- Pre-Opening Contact
- Webinars and Support Calls
- Pre-Opening Site Visit



Pre-Opening Guidelines

Upon the completion of the Pre-Opening tasks and execution of the contract, the authorizer will shift focus to accountability.

- [Charter Performance Compact-Accountability Framework](#)
- [Alternative Accountability Framework](#)
- [Material and Non-Material Amendments](#)



Pre-Opening Guidelines

Resources for authorizers:

- [Ready To Open](#): Charter School Resources-NACSA
 - [RTO Playbook](#)
 - [RTO Criteria](#)
- Louisiana Department of Education Charter School [Pre-Opening library](#)

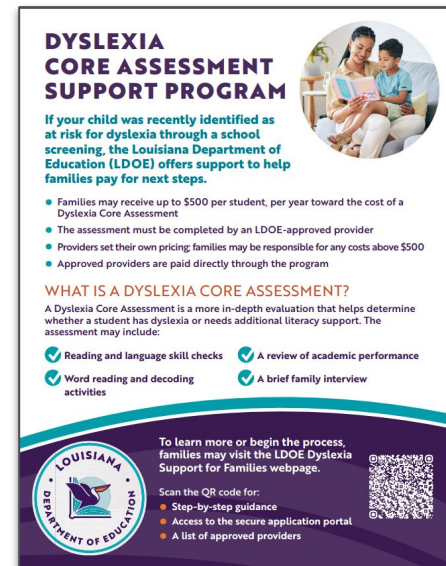


Diverse Learner Updates



Dyslexia Core Assessment Support Program

- The [Dyslexia Core Assessment Support Program](#) application is now open, allowing families of students identified as “at risk” for dyslexia to apply for up to \$500 in reimbursement for a dyslexia core assessment completed by an LDOE-approved provider.
- The [program webpage](#) includes key details, the application portal link, and parent-facing communication materials outlining eligibility, the application process, and next steps.



DYSLEXIA CORE ASSESSMENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

If your child was recently identified as at risk for dyslexia through a school screening, the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) offers support to help families pay for next steps.

- Families may receive up to \$500 per student, per year toward the cost of a Dyslexia Core Assessment
- The assessment must be completed by an LDOE-approved provider
- Providers set their own pricing; families may be responsible for any costs above \$500
- Approved providers are paid directly through the program

WHAT IS A DYSLEXIA CORE ASSESSMENT?



A Dyslexia Core Assessment is a more in-depth evaluation that helps determine whether a student has dyslexia or needs additional literacy support. The assessment may include:

- ✓ Reading and language skill checks
- ✓ A review of academic performance
- ✓ Word reading and decoding activities
- ✓ A brief family interview

To learn more or begin the process, families may visit the LDOE Dyslexia Support for Families webpage.

Scan the QR code for:

- Step-by-step guidance
- Access to the secure application portal
- A list of approved providers



Please contact diverselearnerssupport@la.gov with questions.

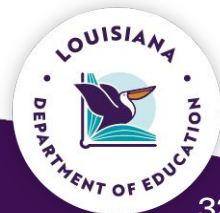


Dyslexia Core Assessments

Request for Applications (RFA)

- The purpose of the [RFA](#) is to identify vendors that will provide dyslexia core assessments. All dyslexia core assessments must be provided by vendors and professionals who meet qualifications set forth by the assessment publisher and must be trained in administering the assessment. These may include a licensed psychologist, certified school psychologist, licensed certified speech-language pathologist, certified educational diagnostic clinical psychologists, neuropsychologists, and/or certified academic language therapists. Core assessment publishers determine which professionals are trained to interpret the assessments.

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.



Act 479: Seclusion and Restraint Update

- [Act 479](#) revised Louisiana's requirements regarding the use of seclusion and restraint
 - Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) is supporting systems in implementing safe and compliant practices
 - CPI offers asynchronous learning opportunities available through the CPI Learning Management System
 - School systems can contact [Alex Vance](#) for access to the CPI Learning Management System
 - School districts retain full authority to continue using providers of their choosing, provided the training and practices meet the requirements of Act 479 related to seclusion and restraint

Please contact avance@crisisprevention.com with questions.



Statewide Access to LRP Modules for Special Education

The LDOE is partnering with LRP to bring professionals statewide access to 17 professional learning modules on a variety of topics:

- IEP compliance
- Evaluations and reevaluations
- Measurable annual goals
- Legal requirements and practical considerations for the use of seclusion and restraint
- FBAs and BIPs
- ESY
- Behavior and students with autism
- Dispute resolution

Get started today!

Visit
<http://ladoe-ds.lrp.com>
and self-register for your
eCourses.

Please contact directstep@lrp.com with questions.



Virtual Talented Trainings

The LDOE will provide virtual trainings to support districts in implementing high-quality Talented Program services.

- **Tuesday, January 20:** Talented Arts Program Screening for Pupil Appraisal
- **Wednesday, January 21:** Talented Art State Evaluation
- **Thursday, January 22:** Talented Theatre State Evaluation
- **Friday, January 23:** Talented Music State Evaluation

Interested Pupil Appraisal staff, and those interested in becoming a talented evaluator, should email their resume to Carolyn.Wilkinson@la.gov.

Please contact carolyn.wilkinson@la.gov with questions.



Bringing the Special Education Playbook to Life: IEP Writing Workshop Series

The series aims to help school systems better understand the implications of the playbook best practices for IEPs and how to ensure IEPs support and supercharge these efforts, rather than unintentionally undermining them.

- Elementary Sessions will take place February 9th, February 24th, and March 3rd from 2:00 - 2:45 pm
- Secondary Sessions are scheduled February 11th, February 25th, and March 4th from 2:00 - 2:45 pm

Please contact diverselearnerssupport@la.gov with questions.



Bulletin 1508: Effective Date and Applicability

Evaluations initiated *after* the Bulletin's effective date:

- Final Rule for the updated [Bulletin 1508](#) was December 20, 2025.
- All new initial evaluations and reevaluations for which parental consent is obtained *on or after* the bulletin's effective date must fully adhere to the *updated* procedures.



Bulletin 1508: Applicability

Evaluations already in progress at the time of release (final rule)

For evaluations that were initiated before the bulletin's effective date:

- LEAs may complete the evaluation using policy in effect at the time consent was obtained, provided that:
 - The evaluation remains compliant with IDEA requirements; and
 - No DOE procedural violations are created by continuing under prior policy.



Bulletin 1508: Capacity Building

We are pleased to announce informational trainings coming soon, dedicated to the recent revisions of [Bulletin 1508](#).

As these updates introduce significant changes to the evaluation and eligibility criteria for special education services, trainings will be designed to ensure all practitioners, administrators, and stakeholders are fully aligned with the new regulatory standards.

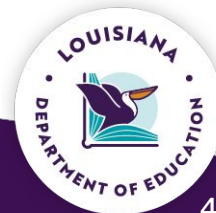
Details will be provided in upcoming newsletters.



MFP Child Count

The Department annually collects the number of students receiving special education and related services for state reporting and funding. These counts include students with disabilities and gifted and talented students. Students must have a current evaluation, IEP, and receiving services as of February 2.

Refer to the [Benchmark Calendar](#) for reports to run and verify data. The official MFP Child Count will run on **February 11**.



April Dunn Act Implementation Monitoring

To support effective implementation of the April Dunn Act, school systems are required to complete a self-assessment using the [April Dunn Act Self-Assessment Guide](#) (SAG).

This guide is a comprehensive analysis of the implementation process, including the review of procedures and data to determine valid and systemic conclusions.

Self-assessments must be conducted annually.

April Dunn Act

Self-Assessment Guide

February 2025



Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

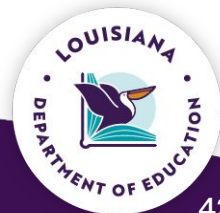
April Dunn Act Monitoring

Self-assessment results should be kept on file.

The LDOE will audit self-assessment results to ensure they accurately represent best practices in the implementation of the April Dunn Act.

The deadline to complete the self-assessment is **February 27**.

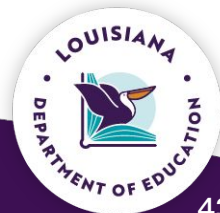
Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.



April Dunn Act Resources

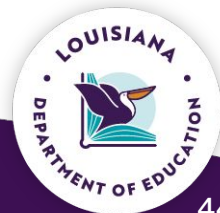
Resources to support effective implementation are available in the [Students with Disabilities library](#).

- [Developing Procedures for Effective Implementation](#)
- [Checklist for Creating April Dunn Act Procedures](#)
- [Self-Assessment Guide](#)
- Understanding the Self-Assessment Guide, Sections [One](#), [Two](#), and [Three](#)



Policy, Data, and Reporting Deadlines

- IEPs Submitted for Students Taking LEAP Connect: **January 23**
- Updated SPED Camera Policy Submitted: **February 1**
- MFP Child Count Final Run: **February 11**
- April Dunn Act Self-Assessment Deadline: **February 27**
- Updated Seclusion and Restraint Policy Submitted: **May 31**
- 2025-2026 Local SEAC Report Deadline: **May 31**



English Learner Institute

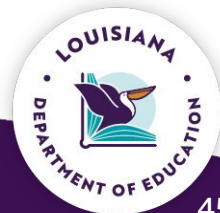
The LDOE is excited to announce our upcoming **English Learner Institute**. This event will provide essential information and updates regarding English Learners.

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:

- [January 26, 2026](#) (Registration closes **January 16, 2026**)
- [March 16, 2026](#) (Registration closes **March 9, 2026**)
- [May 14, 2026](#) (Registration closes **May 7, 2026**)

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.



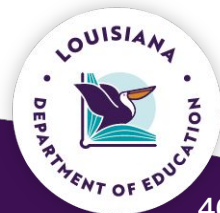
EL Impact Calls: Save the Date

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

- **Tier 1 (1–100 ELs):** [February 12, 2026](#) | 1:00–2:00 p.m.
- **Tier 2 (101–999 ELs):** [February 19, 2026](#) | 1:00–2:00 p.m.
- **Tier 3 (1000+ ELs):** [February 26, 2026](#) | 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.



The Arc of Louisiana: Special Education Family Forums



- Share your thoughts with LDOE representatives.
- Learn how to get involved.



New
Iberia
Jan. 26th



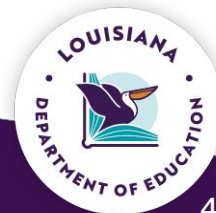
Madisonville
Jan. 30th



Lake
Charles
Feb. 4th



Please contact info@thearcla.com with questions.

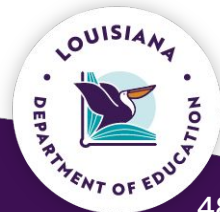


Menu of Services

The LDOE now offers a [Menu of Services](#)! Professional supports are provided that are designed to reinforce instructional quality, coherence, and educator effectiveness. These services can also be tailored to meet diverse needs.



Please contact diverselearnerssupport@la.gov with questions.



Educator Evaluation Updates



LES 2024-2025 Closeout Reminders

- Systems should be finalizing educator evaluations for the 2024-2025 school year.
- Evaluations should be marked incomplete for any employee that did not receive an evaluation. Refer to [Bulletin 130](#) for the conditions that allow an evaluation to be marked incomplete.
- The deadline for entering educator/leader evaluation data is January 30.



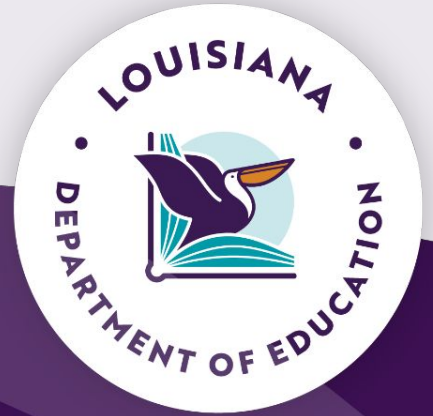
Charter Spreadsheet Upload

Direct entry into LES is the preferred method for entering data.

- Prior to uploads
 - Review rosters in LES to ensure all staff appear, are assigned an evaluator, and have the correct evaluation type.
- To request a spreadsheet upload, email leads@la.gov.
- Final evaluations including uploads are due January 30.



Safe and Healthy Schools Updates

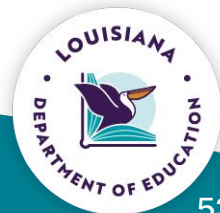


Suicide Prevention Training

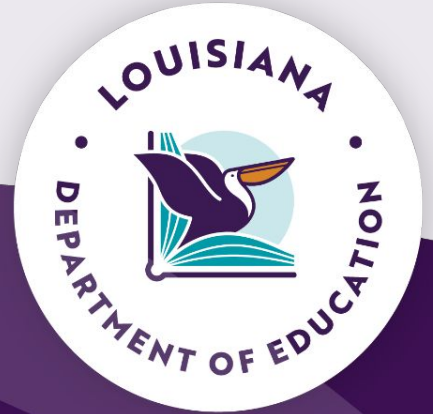
Preventing Suicide Toolkit developed by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), as well as training modules developed by the Jason Foundation and Peer Initiative.

- [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Suicide Prevention Toolkit for High Schools](#)
- [The Jason Foundation Training Modules for Suicide Awareness and Prevention](#)
- [Peer Initiative](#)
- [Teacher resource](#)

Please contact Healthyschools@la.gov with questions.



Assessment Updates



Important Dates for LEAP Connect and ELPT

January 23: Deadline to finalize accommodations and alternate assessment eligibility in state data systems for students who participate in LEAP Connect, ELPT and ELPT Connect

February 23-March 27: LEAP Connect/ELPT/ELPT Connect administration window

Closed: Requests for exemptions from listening or speaking ELPT/ELPT Connect domains



Charter School Program Grant Updates



Charter School Program Grant Updates

The 2025 Cohort of the Excellence in Authorizing Community of Practice has concluded. Districts that met participation requirements in the 2025 cohort are eligible to receive reimbursement for the following:

- Travel to attend [NACSACON 2025](#)
- Cost of third-party review of charter applications (2025-2026 cycle)

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

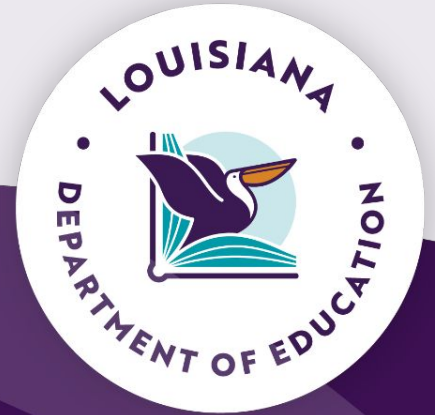
The 2026 Cohort will begin meeting in January 2026, with convenings tentative scheduled to be held the 2nd Wednesday every other month.

Please reach out to Tammy Morgan if you have any questions.

tammy.morgan3@la.gov or cspgrant@la.gov



Teacher Leader Summit 2026



Teacher Leader Summit

- **Hold the Date:** Teacher Leader Summit 2026 is May 26-28 at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. Early bird registration opens **February 16, 2026**.
- To better serve all educators, the College and Career Readiness team has joined forces with Teacher Leader Summit to bring you an even more comprehensive experience. Sessions that would normally be part of our Fast Forward Convention are now integrated into Summit, giving you access to all the great content from both events — now in one convenient location!
- Registration for Teacher Leader Summit 2026 opens February 16th. Early-bird pricing will remain available through March 15th.

Please contact ldoeevents@la.gov with questions.



Helpful Links

Resource	Description
Charter School Library	This webpage includes links to charter school finance, guidance, reviews, and pre-opening information.
Newsletter	This webpage offers a links to all newsletters offered by the LDOE.
Charter Inbox	Please reach out to us through the Charter Inbox with your questions.
Monthly Calls	Local Authorizer Monthly Call -held second Wednesday of the month BESE Authorized Monthly Call -held second Thursday of the month Data Coordinator Monthly Webinar - August 14th Edlink Weekly Q & A Sessions - Tuesdays at 11 a.m. eScholar Office Hours - August 21st



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



February 11, 2026 at 11:00 am

Topics: Annual RFA Process for Type 2 and 4
Charters

