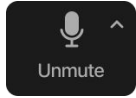


# LEA-Authorized Charter Schools Monthly Call

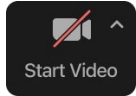


December 11, 2024

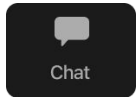
# Zoom Meeting Preparation



- 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](mailto:LDOEcommunications@la.gov).



# Contact Information

Please provide your **name** and **email address** in the [Jotform](#) that will be provided in the Chat. A copy of the presentation will be sent to you after this meeting.



# Agenda

- Monthly Call Goals
- Key Dates
- Conducting Capacity Interviews
- Reporting Requirements for RFA process
- CSP Grant 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
Round 2: opened December 2nd	<p><b>High Cost Services Grant:</b> The High Cost Services (HCS) grant is designed to assist LEAs in addressing the needs of high need students with disabilities. The High Cost Services grant is intended to provide additional funding for instructional services as indicated on the student's individualized education program plan (IEP). This fund is made up of money from the state's IDEA allocation and from the Minimum Foundation Program (MFP). Guidance on HCS is available in our <a href="#">Special Education Reporting and Funding page</a> under State IDEA Plan.</p> <p>This information should be submitted through eGMS. If you have any questions or require further information, contact <a href="mailto:Ashley.Augustine@la.gov">Ashley.Augustine@la.gov</a>.</p>
December 15th	<p><b>Dyslexia Reporting:</b> Each public school governing authority shall submit a report to the State Department of Education by December 15 annually relative to the occurrence of dyslexia. An annual survey will be sent to schools to aid in submission. If you have any questions or require further information, contact <a href="mailto:specialeducation@la.gov">specialeducation@la.gov</a>.</p>





# LDOE Submission Due Dates- Local Authorizers

Date	Action
December 31st	<p><b>Annual Independent Audit:</b> Charter Schools are required to annually submit an independent audit conducted by a certified public accountant in accordance with R.S. 24:513 et seq. And 17:3996(F). If you have any questions or require further information, contact the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's office.</p> <p>Louisiana Legislative Auditor Main: 225-339-3800 Fax: 225-339-3870</p>
January 10, 2025	<p><b>LEAP Connect:</b> Deadline to finalize IEPs for students assessed on LEAP Connect, including eligibility.</p> <p>If you have any questions or require further information, contact <a href="mailto:assessments@la.gov">assessments@la.gov</a>.</p>



# LDOE Submission Due Dates- Local Authorizers

Date	Action
January 6, 2025	<p><b>MFP Child Count Setup for Preliminary Runs (Count Date as of January 31st):</b> Reports to run and verify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• MFP Students Counted</li><li>• MFP Not Counted</li><li>• MFP Child Count Summary by Disability, Age, Public, Non-Public</li><li>• MFP Child Count Summary by Grade, Age, Public/Non-Public</li><li>• Student Profile Report (to verify gifted)</li><li>• Gifted Talented Summary (Count Report)</li><li>• Cross Check MFP Count</li><li>• SIS/SER Cross Checks</li></ul> <p>To prepare for the Final run, please run:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Initial Evaluation</li><li>• Comprehensive Compliance Report</li><li>• IEP Compliance</li></ul> <p>If you have any questions or require further information, contact <a href="mailto:specialeducation@la.gov">specialeducation@la.gov</a>.</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
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



# Capacity Interview Best Practices



# Capacity Interview Best Practices

## Registration Process

- Attendees should be required to complete a registration process prior to the interview for verification as an applicant team member.
- As part of the interview registration process, consider use of an attestation. The review team may use the form attestation to ensure the information presented during the interview is accurate and participant identity can be verified upon request.



# Capacity Interview Best Practices

## Agenda

- Determine format of the interview
  - In-Person or Virtual
- Logistics regarding the interview guidelines and agenda should be provided to the applicants prior to the scheduled interview date.



# Capacity Interview Best Practices

## Participants

- Determine maximum participant count.
- Determine participation of team members who are eligible to participate:

Examples include:

- Proposed school leader,
- Proposed school board members,
- Representative from the Educational Service Provider

Please note if a school leader and board chair are identified, they should be required to participate.



# Capacity Interview Best Practices

## Preparation

- Participants should be prepared to discuss all elements of their application in detail.
- This includes the educational, organizational, and financial plans outlined in the application.
- All applicant responses should be evaluated on the alignment with the overall mission/vision of the proposed charter, external validity of responses, capacity of the applicant team, and evidence of potential for success/or prior success.





# Capacity Interview Best Practices

## Guidelines

- The interview should serve as an opportunity for applicants to:
  - Clarify the plan
  - Address proposal gaps
  - Address evaluator questions and concerns
  - Demonstrate competency
- The interview should **not** serve as an opportunity for applicants to:
  - Formally present to the evaluation team
  - Present new, written information



# Capacity Interview Best Practices

## NACSA Resources

- [An Authorizer Quick Guide to Capacity Interviews](#)
- [Capacity Interview Training for Evaluators](#)
- [Interview Preparation Form](#)
- [Sample Interview Questions](#)
- [Opening Script Template](#)
- Sample Performance Tasks:
  - [Financial](#)
  - [Operational](#)
  - [Academic Leadership](#)



# Reporting Requirements for RFA Process



# Reporting Requirements for RFA Process

- Final Recommendation by Third-Party Reviewer-sent no later than five business days prior to the meeting at which the local board will take action on the charter proposal.
- Notice of Action Taken- Any board action taken on such applications as part of the local district timeline shall be reported to the LDOE by January 31, 2025.
  - State Legislators-Each state senator and state representative in whose district the charter school is to be located should receive notice whether the proposal was approved or denied in the form of postal and electronic mail.



# Reporting Requirements for RFA Process

- If a proposal is not approved by the local school board, the applicant may appeal as a Type 2 Applicant to BESE.
- If the proposal is then also not approved by BESE within the same approval cycle, then the proposal shall be submitted to the local school board for its consideration during the next approval cycle prior to being submitted to BESE.



# Educator Evaluation Updates



# 2023-2024 Evaluation Close-Out

All 2023-2024 evaluations will be closed out in the [COMPASS Information System \(CIS\)](#).

- The deadline to [enter](#) or edit teacher, counselor, and librarian evaluation data was **November 29**.
- The deadline to [enter](#) or edit leader evaluation data is **January 31**.

Systems may contact [leads@la.gov](mailto:leads@la.gov) with questions.



# 2024-2025 Evaluation Data Reporting

Louisiana Evaluation System (LES) is replacing the Compass Information System (CIS). [LES](#) is live and all 2024-2025 evaluation data can now be entered into LES. Even if using legacy systems (COMPASS or approved alternate observation tools) rather than transitioning to LEADS, data will be entered into LES. There will be no spreadsheet uploads, nor will Eepass roll into the new data system.

Some notes about LES:

- Rosters pre-populate from EdLink.
- Users will access [EdLink Security](#) for LES.
- Evaluators and evaluatees will enter data.
- Data will be entered throughout the school year.





# LEADS Evaluation Support

- [LEADS Implementation on-Site Support Sessions](#) are being offered to build capacity of system and school leaders by providing relevant, professional learning opportunities.
  - Registration for January sessions is available on [EventBrite](#).
- [LEADS Implementation Monthly Calls](#) are focused on specific topics and are designed to deepen understanding of the evaluation process.
- Resources to support implementation are available in the [LEADS Library](#).
- Asynchronous training modules are available for teachers and counselors in the [LEADS Public Collection](#) in the Louisiana [Professional Learning Platform](#).
- Educators are encouraged to sign up for the [LEADS Teacher Newsletter](#).

LEADS evaluator training is being offered now for newly hired leaders or designated observers.

- [Three-Day LER Evaluator Training](#)
- [Two-Day LLR Evaluator Training](#)



# CSP Grant Updates



# Charter Schools Program (CSP) Grant Updates

The Office of School Choice is pleased to announce a Winter/Spring CSP grant application cycle with the following timeline. This application cycle is open to those charter groups that have already been authorized either by BESE or their local district and those seeking local authorization with anticipated approval in January 2025.

- Letter of Intent due January 14, 2025
- Eligibility Determination Form due February 3, 2025
- CSP Subgrant Application due March 12, 2025
- Organizations submitting a Letter of Intent will be invited to Technical Assistance Webinars before the Eligibility Determination Form due date.
- More information available at the [LDOE's CSP Grant page](#).
- Contact: [CSPGrant@la.gov](mailto:CSPGrant@la.gov) or [Tammy.Morgan3@la.gov](mailto:Tammy.Morgan3@la.gov)



# Helpful Links

Resource	Description
<a href="#"><u>Charter School Library</u></a>	This webpage includes links to charter school finance, guidance, reviews, and pre-opening information.
<a href="#"><u>Newsletter</u></a>	This webpage offers a links to all newsletters offered by the LDOE.
<a href="#"><u>Charter Inbox</u></a>	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](mailto:charters@la.gov)

Ex. Director of Charter Authorization

[Jade.Gambino@la.gov](mailto:Jade.Gambino@la.gov)



# Upcoming LEA-Authorized Charter Monthly Call



January 8, 2025 at 11:00 am

Topics: Consideration of Applications & Public  
Meeting Requirements

