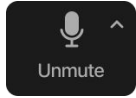


# LEA-Authorized Charter Schools Monthly Call

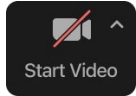


October 7, 2024

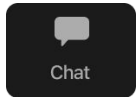
# Zoom Meeting Preparation



- 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
- 2024-2025 Common Charter Application
- 2024-2025 Application Timeline
- LEA Website Updates
- New Laws Guidance & Authorizer Resources



# Monthly Call Goals



# WELCOME

## Goals for Local Authorizer Monthly Calls

To provide pertinent information and updates.

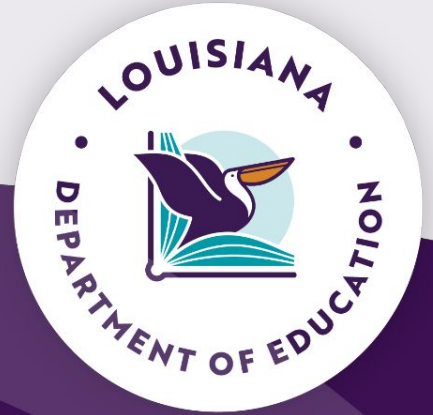
How will this be accomplished?

- 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\*\*\*



# 2024-2025 Common Charter Application



# 2024-2025 Common Charter Application

BESE Bulletin 126 states that:

- BESE shall approve at least one charter cycle per year.
- A framework of all BESE requests for applications must be submitted to BESE by the department prior to the release of the request.
- The application questions shall consist of questions in the following areas: executive summary, education program design and capacity, organizational plan and capacity, and financial plan and capacity.
- Each local school board shall use a common charter application developed by the department and approved by BESE.





# 2024-2025 Common Charter Application

BESE Bulletin 126, §515 (Application Components for BESE-Authorized Charter Schools-rev. June 2024) outlines the required components of the common charter school application:

- The charter school application questions for all types of charter schools shall address all required application components.
- If the school intends to contract with an educational service provider, the application shall require additional information.
- If the school intends to contract with a corporate partner, the application shall require additional information.
- If the school intends to contract as a virtual operator, the application shall require additional information.

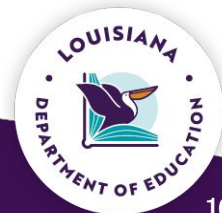


# 2024-2025 Common Charter Application

In the summer, LDOE Office of School Choice engaged with several stakeholders to garner input on the charter application and overall RFA process. LDOE reviewed the input and made improvements to the application and process.

## Stakeholders Consulted:

- LDOE Internal Review Committee
- National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA)
- Louisiana Association of Public and Charter Schools (LAPCS)
- New Schools Louisiana, New Schools of Baton Rouge, and New Schools for New Orleans



# 2024-2025 Common Charter Application

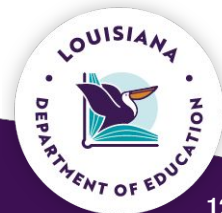
- Additional application cycles: Annual RFA and Mid-Year RFA timelines
- Streamlining of application and standards in accordance with revisions to Bulletin 126, which resulted in the removal of:
  - 6 assurances
  - 14 questions
- Items not required in policy, but essential to the planning and organization of schools, will be addressed in the pre-opening process for approved applicants



# 2024-2025 Common Charter Application

Additional highlights of the improvements to the application include:

- Streamlining of application and standards in accordance with revisions to Bulletin 126, which resulted in the addition of:
  - 4 assurances
- Refinement of questions and standards per stakeholder feedback and National Charter organization best practices.



# 2024-2025 Common Charter Application

## Application Types:

- New Operator
- Experienced Operator

## Addendums to Application:

- High School
- Corporate Partnership
- Educational Service Provider
- Virtual Operator



# 2024-2025 Application Timeline



# 2024-2025 Annual Charter School Application Process Timeline

Date	Annual RFA Process
August 26, 2024	LDOE releases common application and toolbox with application resources
September 9, 2024	Local school authorizers release Charter Request for Applications, Timeline, Process, and Point of Contact
October 25, 2024	Local school boards submission deadline for the full application for Type 1 and Type 3 applicants
November 11, 2024	Local school boards notify LDOE and state legislators of charter applications received within each district
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



# 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, 4, and 5 applicants.
July 11, 2025	Letters of Intent due to LDOE.
July 18, 2025	Eligibility Determination Forms Due to LDOE.
August 22, 2025	LDOE submission deadline for the full application for Types 2, 4, and 5 applicants.
mid-October	Capacity Interviews for Type 2, 4, and 5 applicants conducted by 3rd Party Reviewer.
December 9, 2025	Types 2, 4, and 5 Applicants: BESE considers applications for new charter schools.





# LDOE Submission Due Dates- Local Authorizers

Date	Action
September 30, 2024	<p><b>Annual Financial Report:</b> Each charter school must submit an Annual Financial Report (AFR) to the Department of Education no later than September 30 each year as required by Louisiana R.S. 17:92. If a charter does not submit an AFR by September 30<sup>th</sup>, they will be considered out of compliance with the law and notice will be sent to the school. The AFR follows the same general format as the quarterly report, but contains additional line items and fund classifications. AFR instructions and forms are located on the LDE website at the following <a href="#">link</a>.</p> <p>The completed AFR should be uploaded via the LEADS Portal . If you have any questions or require further information, contact <a href="mailto:staudit@la.gov">staudit@la.gov</a>.</p>



# LDOE Submission Due Dates- Local Authorizers

Date	Action
October 31, 2024	<p><b>Quarter 1 Financial Report:</b> Includes budgeted data for the fiscal year along with the YTD actual data through September 30. Quarterly and Annual Financial Reports include a statement from the Charter Operator's lead executive and Board President certifying the accuracy of the reports and the adherence to the Operator's Internal Control procedures. The Charter Operator must maintain records in compliance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.</p> <p>This information should be submitted to <a href="mailto:charterfinancehelpdesk@la.gov">charterfinancehelpdesk@la.gov</a>.</p> <p>If you have any questions or require further information, contact <a href="mailto:CharterFinanceHelpdesk@la.gov">CharterFinanceHelpdesk@la.gov</a> or reach out to your school's Director of Charter Accountability.</p>
<p>Round 1: opens October 7th, closes November 4th</p> <p>Round 2: opens December 2nd</p>	<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>

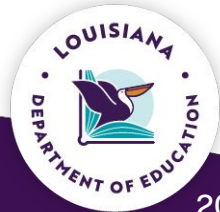


# LEA Website Updates



# 2024-2025 LEA Website Updates

- District Charter Application Process Website Template- Districts may utilize the [website template](#) to comply with charter application process website requirements.
- Use of the template is optional. You may choose to use the [website template](#) as a foundation and add to it if you would like.
- To ensure compliance with the charter application process posting law articulated in RS 17:3982, all information pertaining to the application process must be posted no later than September 9, 2025.



# 2024-2025 LEA Website Updates

- [District Charter Application Process Website Template](#)
- 2024-2025 Annual Common Charter Application ([New](#)/[Experienced Operator](#))



# 2024-2025 LEA Website Updates

- Districts are required to report to the LDOE the following information:
  - Charter Applicants:
    - Name of foundation and personnel submitting the application to LDOE by November 11, 2024 using the following [Jotform link](#).
    - Decisions regarding each applicant to LDOE by January 31, 2024.
    - Per August 2024 Bulletin 126 update, applicants are now required to report their submission to the local authorizer and may use the [Jotform link](#).
  - Charter Renewals:
    - Provide notice of extensions by school and contract dates to [charters@la.gov](mailto:charters@la.gov)
    - Closures by school and dates to begin the transition process in January.



# New Laws Guidance and Authorizer Resources



# New Laws Guidance and Authorizer Resources

- NACSA- [Principles and Standards for Quality Authorizing](#)
  - Upcoming NACSA Conference October 21-24, 2024
- LAPCS- [New Laws Guide](#)
  - Upcoming LAPCS Conference December 12, 2024
- LDOE- [Charter School Library](#)
  - Subscribe to the LDOE [Newsletter](#)
- Excellence in Authorizing Consortium
  - Contact [megan.thompson2@la.gov](mailto:megan.thompson2@la.gov) for more information.







# CSP Grant Funding

If you are interested in attending or sending any of your district personnel to NACSACon in Houston, October 21-24, please reach out to Tammy Morgan.

[tammy.morgan3@la.gov](mailto:tammy.morgan3@la.gov)

(225) 521-2178



# Evaluation Updates/Reminders



# Law and Policy

R.S. 17.3997 - D.(1)(a)

(a) Each governing authority of a charter school annually shall evaluate every teacher and administrator employed at the school using the value-added assessment model and measures of student growth as determined by the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education pursuant to R.S. 17:3902(B)(5).

Charters are beholden to the standards of effectiveness and reporting. *(Please note the sections of [Bulletin 130](#) that apply to Charters, §301, §303, §305, §307, §309, §325, §329, and §701).*

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



# 2024-2025 Evaluation Options

1. Transition all school sites to the Louisiana Educator, Leader, and Counselor Rubrics
2. Transition selected school sites to the Louisiana Educator, Leader, and Counselor Rubrics
3. Continue using COMPASS rubrics or previously approved alternate rubrics for all educators and counselors. ONLY school leaders will transition to the Louisiana Leader Evaluation
4. Continue to use COMPASS rubrics or previously approved alternate rubrics for all educators, counselors, and school leaders

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



# Legacy Systems

Systems opting to use 2023-2024 Legacy Systems (COMPASS or approved alternate rubrics), will follow 2023-2024 policy.

- Two observations, one announced, one unannounced
- Two Student Learning Targets, VAM when applicable

All data will be placed into the Louisiana Evaluation system (LES) directly, regardless of the chosen option.

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



# LEADS Implementation Resources

Many resources including rubrics, forms, handbooks and webinars are available in the [LEADS Library](#) to support the transition to LEADS evaluations.

- [LER In-Person Teacher Training](#)
- [Evaluation Learning Year Frequently Asked Questions List](#)
- [LER: Other Personnel Guidance](#)
- [Student Learning Target \(SLT\) Reflection Tool](#)

The [LEADS Teacher Newsletter](#) will provide additional information to teachers to assist in the transition.

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



# LEADS Implementation Support

The Louisiana Department of Education will support systems as we transition to LEADS evaluations.

- [LEADS Implementation Monthly Webinars](#) targeted to system and school leaders will provide focused learning topics to develop a deeper understanding.
- [LEADS Implementation On-Site Support Sessions](#) will take place in four locations across the state in September, October, January and February/March.
  - Registration for September sessions are now open in [EventBrite](#).

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



# 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 will occur following the release of VAM this fall.
- The deadline to [enter](#) or edit leader evaluation data will occur following the released of School Performance Scores (SPS) later this fall.

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





# Louisiana Evaluation System (LES)

All 2024-2025 evaluation data will be entered into LES. The LES data system is a part of the larger data system called Louisiana Educator Portal (LEP).

LES is a comprehensive data system that will hold all evaluation data for an individual.

- Rosters pre-populate from EdLink
- System-level contacts will have administrator access
- Evaluators and evaluatees will enter data
- Data will be entered throughout the school year



# Louisiana Evaluation System (LES)

LES is a comprehensive data system that will hold all evaluation data.

Evaluators	Teachers	Counselors and School Leaders
Enter pre-conference dates, formal observation scores, EOY and MOY conference scores, reinforcement and refinement areas and evidence, post-conference dates	Enter self-assessment scores, reinforcement and refinement areas, and evidence	Enter self-assessment scores, reinforcement and refinement areas, and evidence
Enter informal observation dates	Link PGP/Coaching Plans	Link PGP/Coaching Plans
Accept and rate SLTs	Enter SLTs and report results	Enter SLTs and report results
Finalize evaluations		

# LES Rollout

The Louisiana Evaluation System has been on a phased Rollout [Plan](#).

It is encouraged that users have MyLA credentials since users will have to access the EdLink Security for LES.

LES System contacts will receive information and office hour support throughout the year.

LES overview [presentation](#) and [webinar](#) can be found in the [LEADS Library](#).



# 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



November 13, 2024 at 11:00 am

Topics: Local Authorization Requirements &  
Application Review Best Practices

