Louisiana's Professional Learning Platform

Overview

In order to provide the highest quality teaching and learning environment and develop and retain a diverse, highly effective workforce, Louisiana must have a world-class, cohesive system of opportunities that develop and support educators across the talent pipeline.

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) believes that:
- By producing this system of support statewide, this signals the standard of excellence in professional learning to our systems and removes barriers systems have in implementing quality professional learning such as human capital or funding.
- Every educator should receive ongoing, job-embedded professional learning and support to improve their practice and outcomes for students.
- Professional learning is grounded in instructional leadership team and teacher collaboration structures and the intentional use of teacher leaders.
- The Professional Learning System Roadmap is an essential component of the School System Planning Process.

The LDOE will release a statewide platform for professional learning called Canopy accessible to all K-12 employees at no cost to school systems. All professional learning will be housed in the Professional Learning Platform including monthly school system webinars, topic-specific webinars, Teacher Leader Summit Sessions, and any professional learning hosted by LDOE staff and/or professional learning partners. Professional learning previously housed on the Louisiana Believes website will now be available in Canopy and no longer available on the website. System and school level leaders will also be able to create professional learning modules in the platform. The Platform also houses the Professional Learning Partner Guide (PLPG) which is a single, comprehensive, digital guide of approved professional learning partners to school systems. The dynamic PLPG is more accessible and user-friendly for school system leaders. Beginning March 1, 2024, Canopy will be the single location for all professional learning access.

Enjoy the Canopy Introduction Video to learn more.

The new Professional Learning Platform will enhance our Professional Learning systems in three key ways:
1) **Organization** - Participants can find and enroll in relevant professional learning from a single course catalog and track their progress and certificates across professional learning modules.

2) **Interactive Learning** - The new PL platform allows instructors to easily leverage 20+ unique engagement tools to ensure an interactive and dynamic learning experience. Instructors create higher-quality learning experiences in less time.
3) **Strategic Analytics** - Administrators can analyze data with custom categories and filters to pull detailed reports on learners, instructors, and courses, and then compare engagement by system, intervention label, teacher subject, and more.

Professional Learning Platform User Roles
The Professional Learning Platform has three main roles: Learner, Instructor, and Administrator.

The **Learner** role allows users to:
● find and enroll in relevant courses.
● participate in coaching through a private course.
● keep track of total time engaged and all certificates earned.
● follow specific resource collections for quick access to new resources.

Learners - All staff should have a 'Learner' role.

The **Instructor** role allows users to:
● create new professional learning experiences.
● create coaching courses for mentees.
● publish courses to their audience (ex. A system level instructor can publish a course for all teachers in their system, but it will not be accessible outside of that system. A school level instructor can publish just for their school, but not for the whole system.)
● invite Collaborators to assist with course creation.
● track progress and provide feedback to learners in their courses.

Instructors - Any staff who designs Professional Learning or provides coaching should have an 'Instructor' role in addition to their Learner role. For example, this can include superintendents, system leaders, school leaders, teacher leaders, instructional coaches, mentor teachers, and content leaders.

The **Admin** role allows users to:
● view data on all courses and learners in their 'Reach'. (Reach can be school, system, or statewide depending on if the admin is at the school, district office, or the LDOE).
● view 'Quality & Relevance' scores for courses and instructors.
● conduct comparative analysis by school system, intervention label, teacher subject, and more.

Admin - Admin roles are for leaders who need to view data across multiple courses led by multiple instructors. This can include superintendents, system supervisors, directors, and school leaders. School level leaders will only be able to access their own school's data and system level leaders will only be able to access their own system's data.

Professional Learning Platform Access

The following steps must be followed for all Louisiana educators to gain access to the Professional Learning Platform.

1. All educators must obtain their EdLink credentials.
2. All educators must request their Canopy permissions if they were not granted permission through the Automatic Opt-in process.
3. All educators should participate in a Canopy Informational webinar.
4. All educators must complete online training in Canopy.

Step One: MyLa Account and EdLink Credentials
- To access EdLink, users must create a MyLa account or update their existing MyLa account. Step-by-step instructions can be found in the Creating MyLa User ID and Password guide. Users will receive a confirmation email that must be confirmed to finalize activating the account.
- Users must then link their MyLa User ID to a staff ID by signing into the EdLink Ops Portal using their verified MyLa account and completing their profile. Step-by-step instructions can be found in the EdLink User Profile Guide.

Step Two: Canopy Permissions
- Users will log in to EdLink Security using their MyLa User ID and password to determine if they have Canopy permission already or if they need to request permission.
- Classroom teachers whose system-level superintendents have opted into the Automatic Teacher Access process will not need to request Canopy permission. Canopy permission will already be assigned to them in EdLink Security. To determine if Canopy permission has already been assigned, classroom teachers can log into EdLink Security and look for the Canopy button on the Applications Menu or if Canopy has been approved on their Request Permission screen. Teachers can click on the Canopy button to log into Canopy if they have access.
- Classroom teachers that do not have Canopy permission will click the *Request Permission* button on the registration screen. Complete the requested information based on your information. All users will select Canopy as the application. Users will request learner, instructor, and/or administrator roles based on their position within their school system.
- Click *Submit Request* when finished. Users will receive an email notification when requests are approved or denied.

Steps Three and Four: Canopy Informational Webinars and Online Training released spring 2024
- Users are encouraged to attend a Canopy Professional Learning Platform webinar. The webinars will provide an overview of the Platform and details on how to gain access.
- After users receive their EdLink Credentials and Canopy permission (Learner, Instructor, or Admin), users will need to complete the online training in Canopy to access the Professional Learning Platform. Canopy will release a separate training for Canopy Administrators, Canopy Instructors, and Canopy Learners.

Training is crucial for successful implementation of the Platform. Sessions on the Platform will also be held at the Teacher Leader Summit.

Additional Resources:
[Creating MyLa User ID and Password](#)
[EdLink Security Coordinator Access Guide](#)
[EdLink Superintendent Access Guide](#)
[EdLink Educator Access Guide](#)

Please contact amanda.slaughter@la.gov with any questions.