

System Leaders Monthly Call



January 9, 2026

Office of Chief of Staff

Ken Bradford, Chief of Staff



Federal Funding

- 12/31 Periodic Expenditure Reports (PERs) are due January 15, 2026.
 - This quarterly report can be used to assess the rate of drawdown for each funding source.
- Final allocations for Formula funding (ESSA, IDEA and Carl Perkins) was loaded in eGMS the last week of December.
 - Due to potential funding changes with final allocations, an amendment of the budgets will be required.
 - Systems should use this time to review current drawdown of funding and develop plans to ensure maximum drawdown occurs on or before the end of availability for each fund source.

Please contact LDOE.grantshelpdesk@la.gov with questions.



School System Planning Key Dates

Date	Item
January 23	2026-2027 Super App (competitive portion) due
February - March	LDOE reviews competitive Super App submissions and provides feedback on plans and budgets
February - March	School systems conduct nonpublic school consultations
April	Super App competitive allocations sent to BESE for approval
May 1	BESE Approved Competitive and Estimated Formula Allocations for 2026-2027 loaded in Super App
May 1	Deadline to submit CSI/TSI plan in eGMS
June 30	Deadline to submit 2026-2027 Super App Amendment 1
July 1	2026-2027 Super App grant period begins; Systems begin implementing 2026-2027 School System Plan



Office of Chief of Staff Monthly Calls

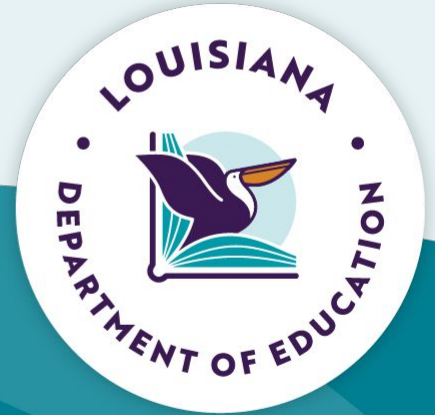
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Attendance Office Hours	<u>January 15 at 8:30 a.m.</u>
Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR)	<u>January 15 at 10 a.m.</u>
Nutrition Support	<u>February 3 at 1 p.m.</u>
Attendance	<u>February 5 at 8 a.m.</u>

View our [School System Support Calendar](#) for full schedule.



Teaching and Learning

Dr. Jenna Chiasson, Deputy Superintendent



School Support Institutes Session 2

Session 2 Dates & Venues:

January 21: **New Orleans Cohort**, Pontchartrain Convention Center, Kenner

January 22: **Baton Rouge Cohort**, Cook Hotel & Conference Center

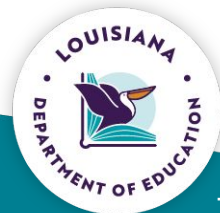
January 23: **Lafayette Cohort**, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

January 27: **Monroe Cohort**, University of Louisiana Monroe, Bayou Pointe

January 28: **Shreveport Cohort**, Hilton Garden Inn, Bossier City

Please see the [overview document](#) for more information.

Please contact SSIsupport@la.gov with questions.



System Leader Regional Collaboration Session 2

Session 2 Dates & Venues:

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

Pathways include: Instructional Coherence, Leadership Capacity Building, System Coherence, Attendance, High School Opportunities, and Business Leaders Collaboration.

Please see the [overview document](#) for more information.

Please contact SSIsupport@la.gov with questions.



Public Comment on Revised Standards

The 2025 K-12 Math and ELA Standards Review Committee met during the spring and summer to revise the K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Math and ELA.

- [Public comment](#) on the revised standards is now open and will close on **January 30**.

Additional information:

- [Standards Review Process](#)
- [Standards Review Committee Resources](#)

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.



Louisiana Numeracy Excellence Act

The [Louisiana Numeracy Excellence \(LANE\) Act of 2025](#) expands the [Act 260 \(2023\)](#) requirements for numeracy professional learning.

- Act 260 requires all grades 4-8 math teachers to complete numeracy professional learning by August 2025.
- LANE requires all K-3 math teachers to complete numeracy professional learning by August 2027.
- Please see the [Numeracy Professional Learning](#) guidance for more information.

Please contact math@la.gov with questions.



Community of Practice for Math Leaders

The LDOE is partnering with the Charles A. Dana Center to launch a [Community of Practice for Math Leaders](#). Participants will engage in a collaborative space to strengthen math teaching and coaching across Louisiana.

- Connect and collaborate with math leaders statewide
- Share best practices and coaching strategies
- Focus on effective use of High-Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM)
- Monthly virtual meetings (2 hours) beginning in January
- Culminating session at the [2026 Teacher Leader Summit](#)
- Submit [interest form](#) by January 12, 2026

Please contact math@la.gov with questions.



Zearn's Louisiana Math Challenge

[Zearn's Louisiana Math Challenge](#) offers kits with resources to motivate students and celebrate completing 3+ grade-level lessons weekly.

- Provides printable kits
- Encourages celebration and recognition for individual and class progress
- Supports consistent practice with Zearn platform

Visit [Zearn's Louisiana Math Challenge](#) webpage to see how schools across the state are celebrating student success and to download challenge materials to use in the classroom.

Please contact math@la.gov with questions.



Aspiring Principals and Principal Mentorship Opportunities

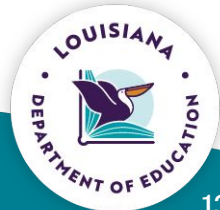
EDL Alternative Pathway 4 Boot Camp

- March 3-5 | No cost to participants.
- Interested participants should complete the [application](#) by February 6.
- See the [Boot Camp Overview Document](#) for details.

Mentor Principal Corps

- LDOE is recruiting experienced, exceptional principals and principal supervisors to support this program and others.
- Interested parties should complete the [application](#) by February 4.
- Please see the [MPC Overview](#) and [FAQ](#) for more information.

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with any questions.



LEADS Updates

- New dates have been released for LEADS evaluator training. All newly hired or appointed observers and evaluators should [register](#) for an upcoming training. The summer training will begin on June 1, with additional sessions offered in August, September, October, and November.
- Per [Bulletin 130](#), all new hires are required to complete every component of the evaluation process, including all observations and SLTs. No exemptions are permitted for new hires.
- The deadline for completing 2024-2025 teacher evaluations has been extended. All evaluations should be closed by **January 31**.
- Principal Webinar: “Supporting the Use of HQIM in the Classroom” will be held January 15 from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Please contact LEADS@la.gov with questions.



Act 479 (2025): Seclusion and Restraint Update

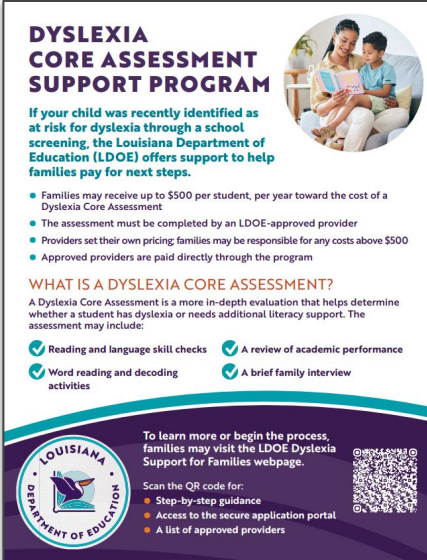
- [Act 479](#) (2025) revised Louisiana's requirements for the use of seclusion and restraint. The Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) is supporting school systems in implementing safe, compliant practices.
- This partnership provides guidance on the use of safety interventions and the safe administration of seclusion and physical restraint throughout the duration of a restrictive intervention.
- CPI will soon offer asynchronous learning opportunities through the Louisiana Professional Learning Platform.

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.



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.



Teaching and Learning Monthly Calls

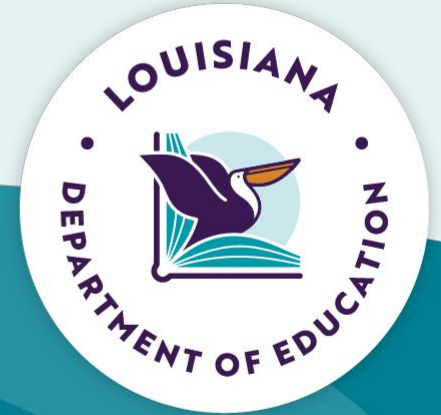
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Diverse Learner Office Hours	<u>January 13 at 2 p.m.</u>
Numeracy Training Office Hours	<u>January 21 at 9 a.m.</u>
Certification	<u>January 26 at 10:30 a.m.</u>
Preparation Provider	<u>January 28 at 10 a.m.</u>
Teaching and Learning	<u>January 29 at 1 p.m.</u>
EdTech	<u>February 12 at 9 a.m.</u>

View our [School System Support Calendar](#) for full schedule.



Assessments, Accountability, & Analytics

Thomas Lambert, Assistant Superintendent



2026-2028 Community Network RFA Timeline

Date	Event or Task
January 13, 2026 3 p.m.	<p>CNLA Monthly Office Hours and release of application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meeting Link: https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97220084131?pwd=v4WYSifBMab9IH93iXOyFKrbNqBX2• Meeting ID: 972 2008 4131• Passcode: 051391
January 30, 2026	Due: <i>Intent to Apply</i> email to earlychildhood@la.gov by 5 p.m.
February 13, 2026	Due: Community Network Lead Agency applications must be submitted to earlychildhood@la.gov by 5 p.m.
February 27, 2026	Notice of Recommendation sent to selected agencies.

Please contact accountability@la.gov with questions.



LEAP Connect and ELPT Administrations

- The administration windows for LEAP Connect, ELPT/ELPT Connect are listed below. District Test Coordinators will be invited to attend a training webinar in January for redelivery to school systems.
- All students must be identified for alternate assessment eligibility on IEPs in eSER no later than January 23, 2026 per BESE policy.

	Opening Date	Closing Date
LEAP Connect	February 23	March 27
ELPT/ELPT Connect	February 23	March 27

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.



Data System Collections

EdLink 360

- The last day to submit all extracts to the EdLink 360 sFTP for the **October 1 CLASS** collection is **January 14 by 5 p.m.**
 - This collection of data is used for calculating Value Added Model (VAM), Interest and Opportunities (I&O), budgeted salary reporting, teacher pay raises, and CTE and CDF Funding.
- The last day to submit all extracts to the EdLink 360 sFTP for the **February 1 MFP** collection is **February 11 by 5 p.m.**
 - This collection of data is critical to MFP funding and economically disadvantaged calculations.

STS

- The Student Transcript System (STS) is now open for data submissions for the 2025-2026 school year.

Please submit a ticket to the [Data Systems Support portal](#) for questions or additional information.



Assessments, Accountability, & Analytics Monthly Calls

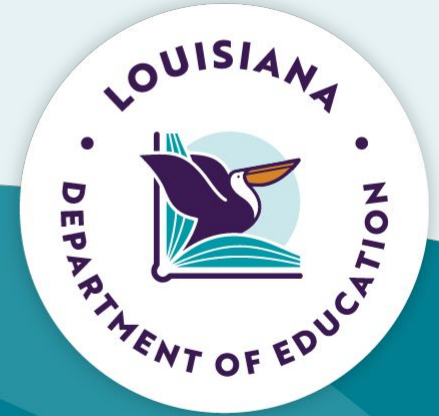
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
EdLink 360 Weekly Office Hour	<u>January 13, 20, and 27 at 11 a.m.</u>
Data Coordinator Monthly Webinar	<u>January 15 at 1 p.m.</u>
Assessment and Accountability	<u>January 20 at 3 p.m.</u>
eScholar Office Hours	<u>January 22 at 10 a.m.</u>

View our [School System Support Calendar](#) for full schedule.



Career and College Readiness

Dr. Ernise Singleton, Assistant Superintendent



2026-2027 AE Site Authorization Timeline

- **December 11:** [2026-2027 AE Submission Portal](#) opened
- **February 2:** Submission portal closes
- **February 9-13:** Interviews for 2026-2027 new site authorization
- **April 14-15:** AE Site Recommendations presented to BESE

Please contact terran.perry@la.gov with questions.



Diploma and Diploma Seal Orders

The [Diploma and Seal Order Form](#) is now open for 2026 high school graduates.

- Form due: **Friday, February 6**
- Submit one form per school system
- LDOE covers cost of initial order and distribution
- Order 10% overage

Please contact jenny.moran2@la.gov with questions.

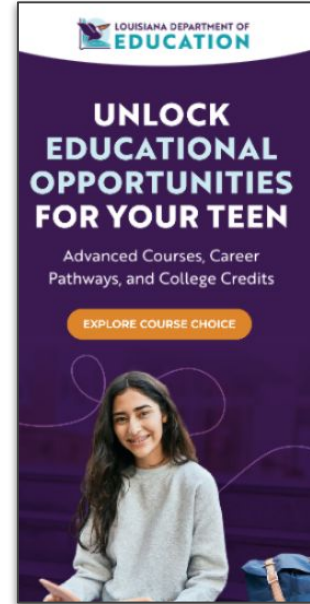


Course Choice Family Awareness Campaign

LDOE has launched a short-term digital awareness campaign to help families learn about Course Choice during the spring 2026 scheduling window.

School and system teams are encouraged to review the [Course Choice webpage](#) and reference the resources below to support planning and family communication.

- [Course Choice School Roadmap](#)
- [Parent Sample Letter](#)
- [Course Choice Parent Flyer](#)



Please contact coursechoice@la.gov with questions.



Career and College Readiness Monthly Calls

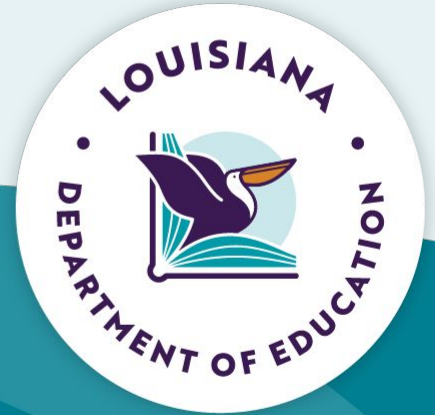
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Office of Career and College Readiness	<u>January 15 at 3 p.m.</u>
Safe and Healthy Schools	<u>January 22 at 2 p.m.</u>
Alternative Education	<u>February 12 at 10 a.m.</u>

Please contact highschoolacademics@la.gov with questions.



School Choice

Germain Gilson, Assistant Superintendent



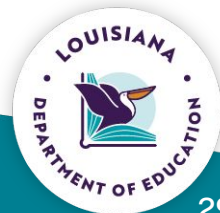
Charter Authorization Updates

Key Dates for Local Authorizing

- January 29: Deadline to consider charter applications
- January 30: Deadline to notify LDOE of local board recommendations

Note: If the district has not made a decision by January 29, 2026, the applicant is eligible to appeal to BESE.

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.



Public Meeting Requirements

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 30, 2026.
- 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.

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.



Charter Authorization Updates

2025-2026 Annual RFA Informational Sessions

The Office of School Choice will host informational sessions for interested applicants. The final informational sessions prior to the Annual RFA Process will be offered twice this month and are designed for applicants interested in applying as a Type 2 or 4 charter.

[Registration](#) is available for the upcoming session on January 12 at 10 a.m.

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.



Charter Authorization Updates

Key Dates for BESE-Approved Charter Applications (Types 2 and 4) Annual Cycle

- **February 2:** LDOE application opens for Types 2 and 4 applicants
- **February 9 (5 p.m. CST):** Letter of Intent due
- **March 9 (5 p.m. CST):** Eligibility Determination Form due
- **March 30 (5 p.m. CST):** Full Application due
- **August 18:** BESE considers applications for new Type 2 and 4 applicants

*The Annual New Charter School RFA is for schools slated to open August 2027.

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.



Charter Accountability

Please reach out to your Director of Accountability if you have not scheduled your annual site visit orientation call:

- Christina Woods: christina.woods@la.gov
- Shantel Reynard: shantel.reynard@la.gov

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.



School Choice Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Date/Time
Local Authorizer	<u>January 14 at 11 a.m.</u>
BESE Authorized Charter Monthly Call	<u>February 12 at 9 a.m.</u>

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.



School System Relations

Trey Folse, Assistant Superintendent



Students of the Year

- 2026 Students of the Year Regional Honorees announced
 - 5th, 8th, and 12th grade regional honorees were selected through public, charter, and nonpublic zone reviews per each BESE region.
 - For each grade level, one honoree per BESE region will be named as a finalist later this year.



Please contact exemplaryeducator@la.gov with questions.



State-Level Award Program Application Due

Award(s)	Due Dates
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Teacher/Principal of the YearEarly Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year	January 14
<ul style="list-style-type: none">New Teacher of the Year	January 21

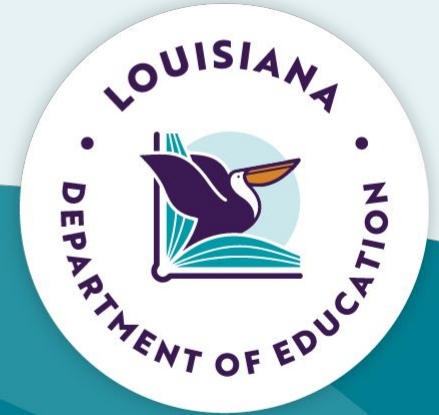
Please refer to the [Staff and Educator Awards](#) page for additional information.

Please contact excellenteducators@la.gov with questions.



Early Childhood Care and Education

Barry Carter, Assistant Superintendent



2026-2027 Early Childhood Coordinated Funding Request

Each Early Childhood Community Network Lead Agency (CNLA) is required to submit a [Coordinated Funding Request \(CFR\)](#) to the LDOE annually via Super App. The CFR provides CNLAs an opportunity to request funding for LA 4 and NSECD seats.

- CNLAs are required to provide opportunities for each publicly funded program in the network to participate in the development of, and comment on, the proposed CFR.
- Networks who are not LEAs are required to submit the CFR via e-mail to accountability@la.gov.

Please contact kishia.grayson@la.gov with questions.

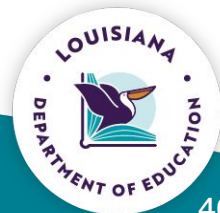


2026-2028 Community Network Lead Agency (CNLA) Request For Applications

Early Childhood Community Network Lead Agencies (CNLAs) are required by Bulletin 140 to participate in an approval process with the LDOE:

- CNLAs shall be approved by BESE.
- LDOE shall identify potential CNLAs through a competitive process and submit them to BESE for approval.
- Applicants for CNLA shall seek support from publicly funded programs within its designated community network by obtaining signatures and submitting them to LDOE in the competitive process.

Please contact accountability@la.gov with questions.



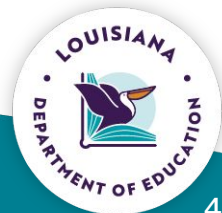
Coordinated Enrollment Plans

Early Childhood Community Network Lead Agencies are completing Coordinated Enrollment Plans and Coordinated Funding Requests (for LA 4 and NSECD seats) for the 2026-2027 academic year.

Coordinated Enrollment Plans include information related to how each network will do the following:

- Coordinate information so families are aware of all available early childhood programs with open seats in the community.
- Coordinate eligibility so families know the early childhood programs for which they qualify.
- Coordinate applications for enrollment, enabling families to apply to all birth-5 publicly funded programs through one application.
- Match families to available early childhood programs based on family preference.

Contact earlychildhood@la.gov with any questions.



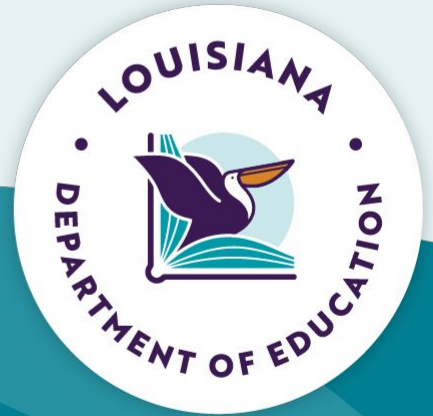
Office of Early Childhood Care and Education Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Early Childhood Community Network Office Hours (occurs the second Tuesday of each month from 3:00-4:00 p.m.)	<u>January 13 at 3 p.m.</u>

View our [School System Support Calendar](#) for full schedule.



Questions



Thank you for joining today's call!

Our next System Leaders Monthly Call is Friday, February 6 at 9 a.m.

Schedules, access links, and information on webinars can be found in the [LDOE Weekly Newsletter](#) and the [School System Support Calendar](#).

Helpful Links

- [LDOE Website](#)
- [School Improvement Library](#)

Support Toolboxes

- [Teacher](#)
- [System](#)
- [Principal](#)
- [Counselor](#)

