

System Leaders Monthly Call



October 3, 2025

TLS 2026: Big Ideas Start Here

Teacher Leader Summit 2026

May 26-28

New Orleans Convention Center

TLS 2026 celebrates the dedication and leadership of Louisiana educators.

Together, we will spark new thinking, share what works, and shape what's next.

Big ideas start here.



Please contact LDOEvents@la.gov with questions.



Governmental, Administrative, Public Affairs, and Operations

Ken Bradford, Chief of Staff



Super App Process

Original Application Planning

Launches in October 2025

LEA planning

LEAs will use the 2026-2027 Strategic Planning and Budgeting Workbook to plan and strategize funding requests based on each CIR/UIR-A site's needs and priorities.

Original Application

Launches in October 2025
Deadline to submit: 1/23/26

Approval of CIR/UIR-A Strategy

The LDOE will review responses to designated questions within the Super App to approve the LEA's CIR and UIR strategies and grant **competitive funds**. Please note: *Only school systems with CIR/UIR-A sites (with the exception of Strong School Systems and Computer Science) will be considered for competitive funds to meet the [federal requirement for each school system's ESSA plan](#) (20 USC §6312).*

Amendment 1

Opens late April
Deadline to meet substantial approval as of 6/30/26

Approval of Super App

The LDOE will review the LEA's initial budgets for **formula** and **competitive funds** to ensure that each expenditure is allowable under the specific grant.

Subsequent Amendments

eGMS Approvals

The LDOE will review the LEA's subsequent budgets for **formula** and **competitive funds** to ensure that each expenditure is allowable under the specific grant.

Please contact LDOE.grantshelpdesk@la.gov with questions.
Include "School System Planning" in the subject



School System Planning

The 2026-2027 Super App in-person launch will take place on **October 30 at LAFEPA**. During the launch, the *Next Level Vision for Success School System Planning & Budgeting Workbook*, inclusive of 2026-2027 Super App questions, will be released.

New for 2026-2027

- Louisiana will administer Direct Student Services (DSS) as a competitive grant opportunity to support local innovation aligned with state priorities. This application will be included in Super App for 2026-2027.
- The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires that schools implementing a schoolwide program develop a Title I Schoolwide Plan. This year, LDOE will include a template as an optional planning tool in Super App.
- LEAs will be required to identify ESSA-required comprehensive support and improvement strategies to improve student outcomes. New labeled sites and those that did not submit for 2025-2026 will be required to submit. All others can amend as needed.

Please contact LDOEoperations@la.gov with questions.
Include “School System Planning” in the subject.



School System Planning Key Dates

Date	Item
October 30	2026-2027 School System Planning and Budgeting Workbook released live during LAFEPA
December 31	Final 2025-2026 ESSA formula funds loaded in Super App
January	2026-2027 Super App (competitive portion) due
Feb.-March	LDOE reviews competitive Super App submissions and provides feedback on plans and budgets
Feb.-May	School systems conduct nonpublic school consultations
April	Super App competitive allocations sent to BESE for approval
May 1	Allocations for 2026-2027 loaded in Super App
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



Super App Communication Support Structures

Resource	Item
Weekly Newsletter	LDOE Weekly Newsletters
System Leaders Monthly Call	November 7 at 9 a.m. December 5 at 9 a.m. January 9 at 9 a.m.
2026-2027 Super App Virtual Launch Session	November 6 at 10 a.m.
2026-2027 Super App Office Hours	December 4 at 10 a.m. January 8 at 10 a.m.

Please contact LDOEoperations@la.gov with questions.
Include “School System Planning” in the subject.



GAPA & Operations Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Nutrition Support	<u>October 7 at 1 p.m.</u>
Federal Support and Grantee Relations	<u>October 16 at 10 a.m.</u>
Attendance	<u>November 6 at 8 a.m.</u>

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



Teaching and Learning

Dr. Jenna Chiasson, Deputy Superintendent



LEADS and LES Updates

Louisiana Educator Advancement and Development (LEADS)

- School and system leaders may register to attend [LEADS Implementation On-Site Sessions](#).

Louisiana Evaluation System (LES)

- Systems are encouraged to begin setting SLTs and conducting observations.
- In accordance with [Bulletin 130](#), evaluators and evaluatees must meet to discuss SLTs.
- The [LES Timeline](#) and the [LES Technical Guide](#) are resources available for this process.

Please contact leads@la.gov with questions.



Mentor and Resident Data Collection

Date	Action
October 6	LDOE sends school systems list of resident and PLs issued to assist with reporting.
October 7 -29	School Systems report Resident Teacher, Practitioner, and Mentor teacher data in EdLink360 Staffing for fall 2025 starts.
October 29	Final reporting must be completed by 5 p.m.
October 30	Fall snapshot taken for reporting.

Please contact mentorandcontentleaders@la.gov with questions.



Celebrating 2024-2025 Zearn Success

45% or more students completed 3 or more lessons per week

- Lincoln Parish
- West Carroll Parish
- St. Helena Parish
- Monroe City Schools
- Caddo Parish
- Vermilion Parish
- Lafourche Parish
- Bossier Parish
- Caldwell Parish
- Tangipahoa Parish

45% or more students completed 2 or more lessons per week.

- Bogalusa City Schools
- St. John the Baptist Parish
- Iberia Parish
- Allen Parish
- St. Mary Parish
- Calcasieu Parish
- GEO Prep Baker

Please contact math@la.gov with questions.



What is Louisiana Lift?

Zearn is providing implementation supports for Louisiana to drive statewide breakthrough math achievement.

WHAT DISTRICTS GET AT NO COST

- ✓ **School-Level Coaching:** Biweekly coaching for school leaders.
- ✓ **District Guidance:** Monthly district support to set up critical systems.
- ✓ **Comprehensive Training:** Teacher and leader trainings led by Zearn.
- ✓ **Actionable Data:** Access to real-time data to inform implementation.

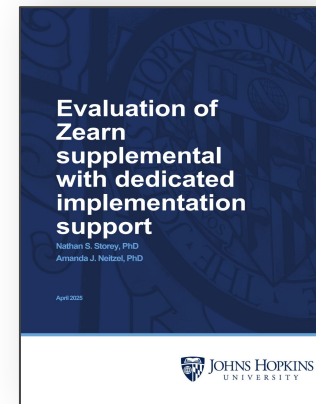
WHAT DISTRICTS COMMIT TO

- ✓ Set and communicate Zearn usage expectations across your system.
- ✓ Provide at least 90 minutes per week for Zearn Math for all K-8 students.
- ✓ Ensure all teachers and leaders are trained on Zearn.
- ✓ Establish regular systems for data review and celebration of progress.



Quasi-Experimental Design Study in Louisiana (2023–2024)

Districts Using Zearn with Dedicated Implementation Support Significantly Outperform on State Test Scores.



+5.7 points on 2024 LEAP compared to students in matched districts not using Zearn.



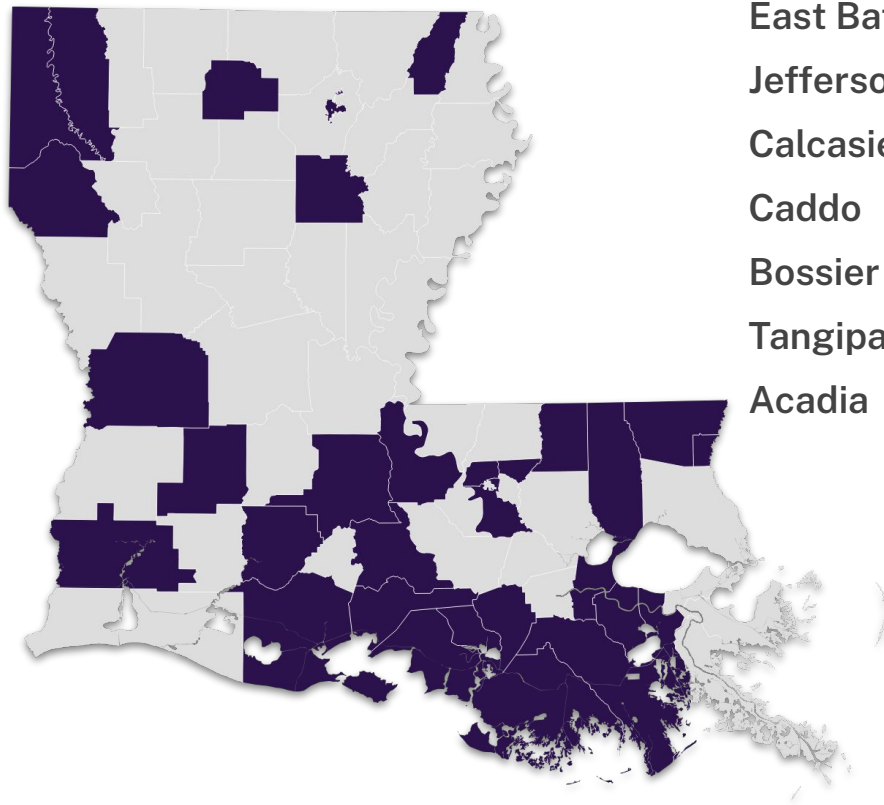
Positive effects across student subgroups including English Learners, students with disabilities, and economically disadvantaged students.



Higher usage linked to greater gains
Students completing 90 or more lessons scored higher than peers with lower usage.



31 systems are participating in Louisiana Lift Initiative



East Baton Rouge

Jefferson

Calcasieu

Caddo

Bossier

Tangipahoa

Acadia

Lafourche

Terrebonne

St. Landry

Iberia

Vernon

Monroe City

St. Mary

Vermilion

St. Charles

Lincoln

St. Martin

Allen

Washington

DeSoto

St. John

Assumption

Pointe Coupee

Zachary

Caldwell

GEO Prep

Bogalusa

Hynes

St. Helena

West Carroll

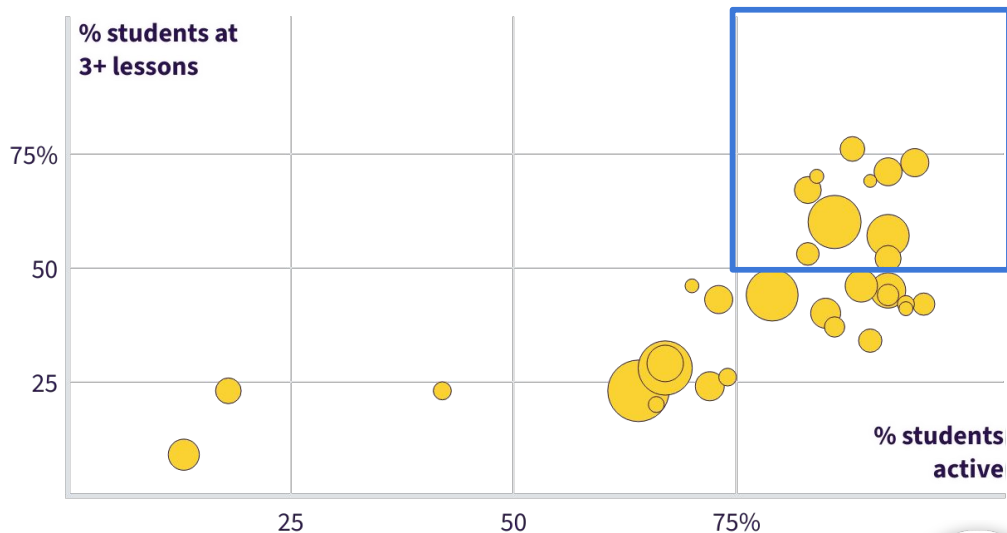


Strong start to the year, with more work to go

Congratulations to these districts for strong or improved Zearn usage so far this year!

EBR	Vernon	St. John
Jefferson	Monroe City	Assumption
Calcasieu	St. Mary	Zachary
Caddo	Vermilion	Caldwell
Tangipahoa	St. Charles	GEO Prep
Acadia	Lincoln	Bogalusa
Lafourche	Allen	Hynes
Terrebonne	Washington	St. Helena
Iberia	DeSoto	West Carroll

There is work to do to ensure all students are engaging with Zearn weekly. Goal is that all school systems move into the blue activity box.



Key Areas of Focus for Louisiana Lift



- ✓ Ensure all students are engaging with Zearn weekly.
- ✓ Dedicate consistent time for students to use Zearn.
- ✓ Develop routines to monitor Zearn data.



ELA Guidebooks Unit Updates for 2026-2027

- Unit text revisions
 - Grade 8 - The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind: updating to the Young Reader's version of the text
 - Detailed information about any Unit Reader updates coming soon
- Unit no longer available: grade 11 - Friday Night Lights
- Units moving grade levels
 - Diary: moving from grade 8 to grade 9
 - A Lesson Before Dying: moving from grade 9 to grade 10
 - Joy Luck Club: moving from grade 9 to grade 10
- Additional unit developments for grades 8, 9, and 11

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.



Annual Dyslexia Reporting

- School systems are required to annually report both the number of students currently enrolled with dyslexia and the number of students newly identified in the prior school year.
- The dyslexia reporting form will open in October. All school systems must submit the dyslexia reporting form by **December 15**.
- [Dyslexia reporting guidance](#) is available in the [Students with Disabilities library](#).

Please email specialeducation@la.gov with questions.



October 1 IDEA Collection - Child Count

LDOE is required to annually report the number of students with disabilities receiving special education and related services on the state's child count date (October 1).

To be included in the official child count, a student must have the following:

- Current evaluation as of October 1
- Current IEP as of October 1
- Receiving services as of October 1

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.



October 1 IDEA Collection - Child Count

Reports to run for data verification:

- Counted and Not Counted
- IDEA Child Count Summary
- Federal Evaluation Listing and Summary
- FAPE Placement
- SIS/SER Cross Check and Cross Check IDEA Count

The official child count will run on **October 22**.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.



SPED Reporting - Annual SPP/APR Monitoring

To prepare for annual monitoring outreach, school systems should run the following reports for 2024-2025 to identify any noncompliance:

- Discipline Reports
- SPP Indicator 11 Report
- Part C Transition Report

For any self-identified noncompliance, school systems should determine the reason(s) for noncompliance and draft an action plan to address the noncompliance.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.



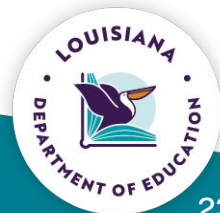
Teacher Leader Summit Presentations

The call for Teacher Leader Summit presentations opens October 15 and closes December 5. Submission guidelines will be posted soon.

Educators interested in presenting are encouraged to attend the presenter information webinar:

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 15th at 1 p.m. or 4 p.m.
- [Webinar Link](#)
- A recording of the webinar will be posted with the [2026 Teacher Leader Summit Information Videos](#).

Please contact LDOEvents@la.gov with questions.



Implementing Quality High-Dosage Tutoring

- School System HDT Plans were due September 15 in eGMS and may still be submitted. Plans must be approved by December 15 to receive funds. Funds will be released upon plan approval.
- Schedules, selection, and training of tutors, student eligibility determinations, and materials selection should be completed.
- This year, there should be a focus on high-quality tutoring sessions, including the connection between core content and tutoring content and the impact of the tutoring lesson on student learning.

Please contact tutoring@la.gov with questions.



High-Dosage Tutoring Outcome-Based Contracts

School systems may soon apply for additional Accelerate: HDT funds to extend high-dosage tutoring through outcome-based contracts (OBCs). OBCs must be with existing external partners and will support an additional 10-week tutoring cycle.

Please join our [HDT Outcome-Based Contracts Webinar](#) to learn more:

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 6 at 10 a.m.
- [Webinar Link](#)
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 938 6912 6044

Please contact tutoring@la.gov with questions.



Teaching and Learning Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
EdTech	<u>October 9 at 9 a.m.</u>
Diverse Learner Office Hours	<u>October 14 at 2 p.m.</u>
Numeracy Training Office Hours	<u>October 15 at 9 a.m.</u>
Certification	<u>October 20 at 10:30 a.m.</u>
Teaching and Learning	<u>October 25 at 1 p.m.</u>
Preparation Provider	<u>October 29 at 10 a.m.</u>

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



Assessments, Accountability, & Analytics

Thomas Lambert, Assistant Superintendent



Interests and Opportunities (I&O)

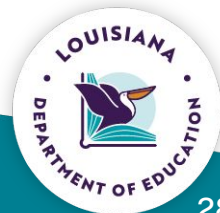
Starting in 2025-2026, only approved alternative schools will use the I&O Index as part of school performance score calculation. All other schools will follow the revised accountability system, *Grow. Achieve. Thrive.*, which does not include the I&O Index.

For alternative schools only, the 2025-2026 I&O Jotform Survey is now open. The link was sent to DTCs directly.

- Surveys are due by Friday, October 10.
- Superintendent validations are due by Friday, October 17.

The Menu and Guidance are available in the [Accountability Library](#).

Please contact accountability@la.gov with questions.



Collection Reminders

Student and staff data should be accurate and current; data should be uploaded daily.

- The LDOE will monitor attendance submissions and contact school systems who have been non-compliant according to Bulletin 741.
- Truancy data is defined as any student having either 5 unexcused days tardy or 5 unexcused days absent within a school semester per RS 17:233. (e.g., 3 days absent and 2 days tardy should not flag a student as being truant). Truancy indicator should be up to date based on daily attendance.

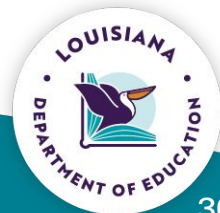
For all data system questions, please create a ticket through the [LDOE Data System Support Portal](#).



Collection Reminders, Continued

- Act 497 (2025) of R.S. 17:416.BorC requires that LEAs report expulsion data, including the number of occasions for committing offenses in sections B or C. The LDOE will monitor discipline submissions and contact school systems who are not submitting on a regular schedule.
- EdLink 360 data is used to make final determinations for many elements of assessment and accountability, including testing rosters. Accurate daily reporting is a vital step to ensuring smooth assessment implementation.

For all data system questions, please create a ticket through the [LDOE Data System Support Portal](#).



Collection Deadlines

Data Collection	Due Date (By 5pm)
Numeracy BOY	October 15
October 1 MFP/IDEA	October 22
Mentor/Resident Teacher	October 29

For all data system questions, please create a ticket through the [LDOE Data System Support Portal](#).



Assessments, Accountability, & Analytics Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
EdLink Weekly Q&A Session	<u>Oct 7, 14, 21, 28 at 11 a.m.</u>
Data Coordinator Monthly Webinar	<u>Oct 9 at 1 p.m.</u>
eScholar Office Hours	<u>Oct 10, 16, 30 at 10 am</u>
Assessment and Accountability	<u>October 21 at 3 p.m.</u>

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



Career and College Readiness

Dr. Ernise Singleton, Assistant Superintendent



Pupil Progression Plans

- Louisiana state law ([RS 17:24.4](#)) requires local education agencies (LEAs) to establish a comprehensive [Pupil Progression Plan \(PPP\)](#) that addresses student placement and promotion.
- Pupil Progression Plans should be submitted as a PDF to ppp@la.gov by October 31.

Please contact PPP@la.gov with questions.

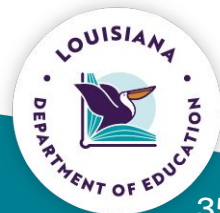


Jump Start 2.0 Enhancements

The window to request enhancements for Jump Start 2.0 is open and will close on **October 31**.

- Jump Start enhancements are based on recommendations made by CTE supervisors and approved by the Jump Start 2.0 Review Committee and BESE.
- Requests can be submitted through the [Jump Start 2.0 Enhancement Request Form](#).

Please contact fastforward@la.gov with questions.



State Focus List Updates

- The Louisiana Workforce Commission's Workforce Investment Council approved additional credentials to the State Focus List.
- All Advanced Credentials and Basic Bundles that are recognized in the Career Accelerator of Thrive can be found on the [LWC's State Focus List](#).
- Emerging credentials will still graduate a student, but do not fall under Thrive as graduation requirements and the Accelerator are decoupled.

Please contact fastforward@la.gov with questions.



Fall 2025 Counselor Institute

The Fall 2025 Counselor Institute features a new format designed to inspire collaboration and provide hands-on planning time. New features this year include:

- **Three-Part Webinar Series:** October 28, 29, and 30

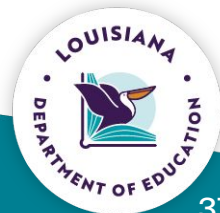
The webinars are designed to share foundational information ahead of the in-person workshops, allowing those sessions to focus on interactive, hands-on activities and collaborative planning.

- **In-Person Working Sessions:** November 7, 14, or 20

Locations: St. Bernard Parish, Caddo Parish, East Baton Rouge Parish

Registration links will be shared soon.

Please contact candace.ioseph@la.gov with questions.

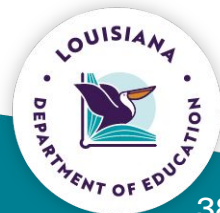


Fast Forward Convention Merge with Teacher Leader Summit 2026

To better connect Career and Technical Education (CTE) with broader teaching and learning efforts, the Fast Forward Convention will merge with [Teacher Leader Summit](#) starting in 2026.

This change will help to break down silos, create more cohesive professional development, and give educators more time to engage directly with strong CTE practices.

Please contact fastforward@la.gov with questions.



Discipline Reporting

Act 497 (2025) amended R.S. 17:416.BorC requires school systems to report expulsion data including the number of occasions for committing offenses in sections B or C.

- Student discipline data should be accurate and current in local SIS and reported to LDOE every day.
 - Data Managers are encouraged to automate SIS to upload student data daily.
- LDOE will monitor discipline submissions and contact school systems not submitting on a regular schedule.

For all data system questions, please create a ticket through the [LDOE Data System Support Portal](#).



Career and College Readiness Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Alternative Education	<u>October 9 at 10 a.m.</u>
Office of Career and College Readiness	<u>October 16 at 3 p.m.</u>
Safe and Healthy Schools	<u>October 23 at 2 p.m.</u>

Please contact tireka.cobb2@la.gov with questions.



School Choice

Germain Gilson, Assistant Superintendent



Charter Authorization Updates

Key Dates for Local Authorizing

- **October 20, 2025:** Charter applications are due to districts.
- **November 7, 2025:** Local boards [notify](#) LDOE and state legislators of charter applications received within each district.
- **January 29, 2026:** Deadline to consider charter applications.
- **January 30, 2026:** 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.



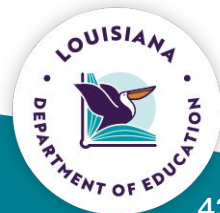
Charter Authorization Updates

2025-2026 Annual RFA Informational Sessions

The Office of School Choice will host bi-monthly informational sessions for those interested in applying as a Type 2 or 4 charter. Dates are listed below and participants may register using the [Jotform link](#).

- October 6 or 20 at 10 a.m.
- November 3 or 17 at 10 a.m.
- December 8 or 15 at 10 a.m.
- January 5 or 12 at 10 a.m.

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.



Charter Accountability

October Annual Reporting Calendar Submissions

October Deadlines:

- Head of School/CEO Assurances - October 19
- 2nd Quarterly Waitlist Report - October 19
- 2025-2026 Pupil Progression Plan - October 31
- Quarter 1 Financial Report - October 31
- Non-profit Bylaws - Ongoing

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.



Charter Refresher Workshop

Registration is open for the October Charter Refresher Workshop:

- **Date:** October 7
- **Time:** 8:45 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- **Location:** EBR Professional Development Center, 3000 North Sherwood Forest Drive, Baton Rouge, LA

Topics will include:

- Charter School Assessments and Accountability Overview
- eGMS: You have a Grant Award – Now What?
- Teacher Evaluation and Certification Law and Policy
- Charter School Program (CSP) Grant
- EdLink 360

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.



CSP Supplemental Grant Award

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) announced the release of additional funds to the Charter Schools Program (CSP).

- LDOE has been awarded an additional \$13.5 million to support and expand Louisiana's education priorities.

Informational meetings will be scheduled in the coming weeks. Email cspgrant@la.gov for more information. Application information will be available on the website and also the [LDOE Weekly Newsletter](#).

Please contact cspgrant@la.gov with questions.



School Choice Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Local Authorizer	October 8 at 11 a.m.

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



School System Relations

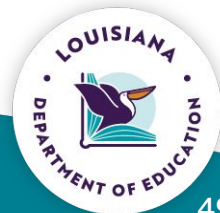
Trey Folse, Assistant Superintendent



Awards Programs- Applications Open

- Award Programs
 - Outstanding School Support Employee of the Year
 - School Health Service Provider of the Year
 - School Physical Activity Award
 - Teacher/Principal of the Year
 - New Teacher of the Year
 - Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year
 - Students of the Year
- Materials
 - [Awards page](#)

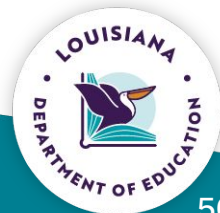
Please contact excellenteducators@la.gov with questions.



Informational Webinars

- Award Programs
 - Teacher/Principal of the Year
 - New Teacher of the Year
 - Early Childhood Teacher/Leader of the Year
- Application Process Informational Webinar
 - **Webinar Date and Time:** October 6 at 11 a.m.
 - **[Webinar Link](#)**
 - **Webinar Phone Number:** 346-248-7799
 - **Meeting ID#:** 980 7797 8852
 - **Passcode:** 966801

Please contact excellenteducators@la.gov with questions.



Early Childhood Care and Education

Barry Carter, Assistant Superintendent



Act 409 (2025): Compliance Requirements

By **October 1, 2025**, all early learning centers and public and nonpublic pre-kindergarten programs must comply with the child safety and welfare minimum standards provided for in R.S. 17:407.41.

The LDOE has developed an [informational document](#) that includes:

- A summary of child safety and welfare minimum standards in the legislation.
- A phone number for reporting violations to LDOE.
- A statement notifying parents and guardians that the document is distributed pursuant to "Charlie's Law."

Please contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions.



October 1 Early Childhood Child Count

Community Network Lead Agencies (CNLAs) will work with each early learning site to count and report all publicly-funded children enrolled as of October 1, 2025.

Per [Bulletin 140](#) and CNLA assurances, Child Count must be submitted to the LDOE by October 31 at 11:59 p.m. via the [Child Count Portal](#).

- CNLAs are responsible for ensuring accurate counts are captured and reported for each publicly-funded early learning site within the community network for all publicly-funded children served on October 1, 2025.

Please contact accountability@la.gov with questions.



Early Childhood Fall Collaborative

The Office of Early Childhood Care and Education will host the Fall CNLA Collaborative to provide system leaders an opportunity to connect, share progress, and deepen work on key early childhood quality processes.

Date and Time: October 28, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

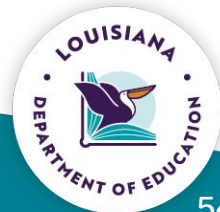
Location: Claiborne Building, Thomas Jefferson Room

This collaborative will give CNLAs the opportunity to:

- Check in on progress on the 3 CNLA quality processes and CNLA S.M.A.R.T Goals
- Deepen learning and streamline processes for Coordinated Enrollment and Developmental Screening
- Collaborate with CCR&Rs
- Receive key updates and information from the LDOE relevant to CNLA work

Each CNLA should plan to have one member attend.

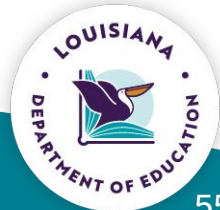
Please contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions.



Office of Early Childhood Care and Education Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Early Childhood Community Network Office Hours	<u>October 14 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, November 7 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](#)

