Educational Technology Monthly Call
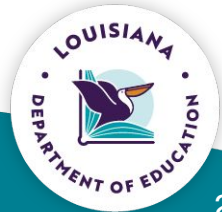
January 9, 2025

https://bit.ly/EdTech_Jan25

Agenda

- Digital Learning Updates
- E-Rate Updates
- Important Reminders and Other Information

Digital Learning Updates

Technology and Security Contacts

Based on recent events it is even more important that we at the State have the correct information for all security contacts at **all** school systems. This includes:

- Name
- Title
- Work Phone
- Work Email
- Cell Phone Number

Please update your LEA's contact information [here](#) if you have not already done so.

Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions.

Canvas LMS Pilot Program for K-12 Public Schools

LDOE is excited to invite public K-12 school systems and charter schools to join our statewide Canvas Learning Management System (LMS) Pilot Program. The goal of the Canvas LMS Pilot is to support Louisiana's Academic Plan to enhance K-12 educational outcomes by prepare students for a seamless transition to higher education where Canvas is used.

- Access to Canvas LMS for K-12 students and educators. Training, implementation, and support are included at **no cost** to school systems.
- Student access will begin **January 1, 2025** and end on **June 30, 2026**.
- Limited space is still available to join the pilot. Apply today!

Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions.

Computer Science and STEM Team Updates

- The 2025-2026 Computer Science Technology Assistance Grant (CSTAG) is now part of the Super App.

- The K-12 Computer Science Education Plan is posted on the Computer Science web page.

- A webinar supporting CS standards implementation will be offered February 18 and 19. Prior registration is required.

- The K-12 Quality STEM Implementation Guide is now available on the STEM Initiative web page.

Questions contact STEM@la.gov

E-Rate Program Updates

Funding Year 2025 FCC Form 471 Application Filing Window Opens January 15, 2025

The Funding Year (FY) 2025 FCC Form 471 application filing window will **open on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, at noon E.T. and will close on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. E.T.** In addition, the **EPC Administrative Window will close, Friday, January 9, 2025**.

Wednesday, February 26, 2025 is the last date that you can submit and certify an FY2025 FCC Form 470 and still wait the required minimum 28-day period before submitting and certifying your FY2025 FCC Form 471 by **March 26, 2025, the last date of the FY2025 application filing window**.

All applicants can now review their EPC profiles and make additional updates for changes that occurred after USAC's review of their FY2024 FCC Forms 471. The EPC Administrative Window will close – and the **applicant profiles will be locked – on January 9, 2025** before the FY2025 application filing window opens January 15, 2025.

Contact ERate@la.gov with questions.

Updated FY2021-2025 Category Two (C2) Budget Management Guide

USAC has released an updated version of their FY2021-2025 Category Two (C2) Budget Management Guide to assist applicants in planning and viewing their current Category Two budgets ahead of filing their FY25 Form 471s. The guide also provides links to videos and instructions on how to use the Category 2 (C2) Budget Tool along with other forms and steps applicants may need to take to update their budgets.

Contact ERate@la.gov with questions.

New FCC Guidance on Hot Spot Competitive Bidding

In late 2002, the FCC issued a decision that has come to be known as the Kalamazoo Reconsideration Order (DA 02-2975) that permits applicants who are posting Form 470 requests for new services to receive discounts under longer-term contracts that had been signed prior to the new competitive bidding process. The Kalamazoo decision assumed that any such earlier contract would have been competitively bid and hence would meet the bidding requirements for a newly eligible service.

Last week, the FCC issued explicit guidance to USAC (DA 24-1287) clarifying that **the Kalamazoo competitive bidding exemption does not apply to hot spots and related wireless internet services that are newly eligible for E-Rate discounts as of FY 2025**. The FCC explained that there could be no assurances that earlier hotspot and internet contracts — especially contracts signed under the auspices of the Emergency Connectivity Fund ("ECF") for which the applicants paid no percentage of the cost — had been truly competitively bid.

Contact ERate@la.gov with questions.

Updated FAQs on Hot Spots

Q: Can applicants apply for more wireless Internet access lines than Wi-Fi hotspot devices or must they request an equal number of lines and devices? What if the applicant already bought Wi-Fi hotspots through other means (e.g., ECF or other funding sources)?
A: Yes.

Q: Can an applicant request more Wi-Fi hotspot devices than wireless Internet access lines just in case the devices are lost, stolen, or stop working?
A: No.

Q: Can applicants request Wi-Fi hotspot devices and pair them with private network services or wireless Internet access purchased via another funding source?
A: No.

Q: Do we have to purchase all of our Wi-Fi hotspot devices/lines of service at once or can we stagger the purchases based on student or library patron needs?
A: Both are acceptable.

Contact ERate@la.gov with questions.

Upcoming Dates

January 9 - Close of the EPC administrative window.

January 15 - Opening of the Form 471 application window for FY 2025 (noon EST).

January 20 - President Trump's inauguration will mark a change in control of the Federal Communication Commission ("FCC"). The current Chairwoman, Jessica Rosenworcel, has announced plans to step down that day. President-elect Trump has already announced that current Commissioner Brendan Carr will become the new FCC Chairman.

January 28 - Normal Invoice deadline for FY 2023 non-recurring services.

February 25 - Extended invoice deadline for FY 2023 recurring services for deadlines extended beyond the original October 28, 2024, deadline.

March 26 - Close of the Form 471 application window for FY 2025 (11:59 p.m. EDT).

Contact ERate@la.gov with questions.

Education Technology
Monthly Webinar & Meeting Dates

2024-2025 Education Technology Monthly Webinars

Slides from each meeting will be posted on the Educational Technology Leaders website. Recordings are available on request. A complete calendar of LDOE events can be found on the Louisiana Believes website.

Future Monthly Call Dates

- February 13
- March 13
- April 10
- May 8

Time:	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Webinar Link	https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/575223228?pwd=NDNlN01SS3c0Rk4wV25aNkZhTEc2Zz09
Phone Number	1-301-715-8592
Meeting ID	Meeting ID: 575 223 228 Password: 2020-202!

Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions.

Reminders

Kami

As mentioned in our previous call, the LDOE will be providing access to the digital tool Kami at no cost to school systems. Kami will be available for all K-12 teachers and students in the 2024-2025 school year. The great news is we are on track and rolling out licenses as school systems' educational technology departments register.

- Onboarding and early adopters can begin setting up their district-wide Kami account by filling out the **LDOE Kami Intake Form**.
- Professional learning opportunities will be shared in future LDOE communications.
- Additional information about Kami and tutorials are now available on the Kami website.

Please contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions.

Technology Readiness Tool (TRT) Data Request

- In accordance with Revised Statutes [§3921.2. Statewide Educational Technology Plan](#), school systems should submit required technology information, ensuring they meet the standards for devices, Internet bandwidth, software applications, and local network capacity to provide a high-quality digital instructional environment.
- The Technology Readiness Tool (TRT) helps LDOE collect information about technology infrastructure across districts and individual schools. TRT data will be used for the school system's digital footprint, which will be published on the LDOE website and will support future technology planning.
- Please see the [2024 TRT Collection Instructions](#) for a step-by-step submission guide and resources.
- Data should be submitted via the [2024 TRT Collection Form](#) and was due by **November 1**. If you have not submitted, please do so as soon as possible.

Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions.

Microsoft Teams Support

The LDOE's Teacher Leader Advisors have created resources to champion our educators utilizing Microsoft Teams. Educators can use these resources as a guide to using Microsoft Teams from the initial setup to advanced features.

- Microsoft Teams‑Getting Started PDF
- Microsoft Teams‑Next Steps PDF
- Using OneNote with Students and Faculty PDF

Check the LDOE's Digital Learning website for more resources.

Please contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions.

Presentation Link: **https://bit.ly/EdTech_Jan25**
Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions.