

Educational Technology Monthly Call

November 13, 2025



https://bit.ly/EdTech_Nov25

Agenda

- Digital Learning Updates
- ADA Compliance
- E-Rate Updates
- Cybersecurity
- Important Reminders and Other Information



Digital Learning



Updated Digital Literacy Guidance

- The LDOE has published updated [Digital Literacy Guidance](#).
- The document serves as a **flexible framework**, not a curriculum, intended to support schools in modeling technology in instruction at the appropriate grade level.
- The guidance outlines **digital literacy target skills** organized by grade band (e.g., K-2, 9-12) for each core competency.
- It includes **example connections** across multiple subjects, including Mathematics, ELA, Science, Social Studies, and Health Education, along with examples of aligning Louisiana Student Standards (LSS).

Please contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions.



Updated Digital Literacy Guidance

- The guidance is built around **8 Core Digital Competencies** designed to be integrated across various subjects and grade levels
 - Computational Thinking & Problem Solving
 - Creativity & Innovation
 - Information & Data Literacy
 - Collaboration & Communication
 - Digital Citizenship & Ethics
 - Cybersecurity & Online Safety
 - Technology Operations & Concepts
 - Artificial Intelligence & Emerging Technologies

Please contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions.



LDOE World Language Tech Passport

- Explore these LDOE EdTech resources for integrating technology into **world language instruction**:
 - [AI Translation for World Languages](#)
 - [Interpretive Reading Tools in World Language Instruction](#)
 - [Video Creation Support and Tools for World Language Instruction](#)
- Each guide provides implementation strategies, best practices, and relevant tools.
- Continue to visit our [Digital Learning website](#) for updates and resources.

Please contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions.





Computer Science Technical Assistance Grant (CSTAG)

All public school and public charter K-12 school systems may apply for up to \$40,000 for computer science teacher training and technology support.

The [application process](#) for the 2026-2027 school year is available through Super App.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions



Computer Science Education Week (CSEdWeek)

Join this initiative to bring computer science education experiences to all students!

- **Dates:** December 8-14
- **Theme:** Looking Back, Leaping Forward

The LDOE will release resources and activities to support and encourage teachers to participate in CS EdWeek in **November** through the LDOE's computer science [webpage](#).

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions



BESE Tuition Program for Teachers

The BESE Tuition Program for Teachers provides tuition funding for certified and currently employed Louisiana classroom teachers.

- [Online applications](#) for the spring 2026 semester are **now open!**
- The application and program details can be found on the [Continuing Education Opportunities for Educators](#) page.
- The application will close on **November 6, 2025.**

Please contact LouisianaLeaders@la.gov with questions.



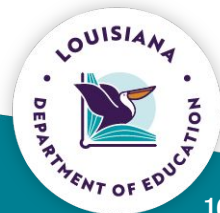
Technology Readiness Data Request

Under [§3921.2. Statewide Educational Technology Plan](#), school systems must 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 school systems and individual schools. TRT data will be used for the school system's digital footprint, supporting future technology planning.

The [2025 TRT Collection Form](#) was due on **November 1**. Please see the [2025 TRT Collection Instructions](#) for a step-by-step submission guide and resources.

Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions



ADA Compliance



ADA Title II

- In April 2024, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) finalized a new rule under ADA Title II.
- This rule applies to all state and local governments, including all public school systems.
- It creates a mandatory legal standard: all public websites, mobile apps, and digital content must conform to the **Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 Level AA**.
- The deadlines are based the parish's population from 2020 Census data.
 - Population of 50,000 or more: Deadline: April 24, 2026
 - Population of fewer than 50,000: Deadline: April 26, 2027

Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions



What is Covered

- This rule applies to all school system's services, programs, and activities delivered online. This includes:
 - All websites (public-facing and internal, including password-protected portals).
 - Mobile apps.
 - Digital documents (e.g., PDFs, Word docs, slide decks, spreadsheets).
 - Educational content and course materials.
 - New social media posts.
 - Third-party tools you provide or make available to the public (e.g., online payment portals, scheduling tools, or learning platforms).

Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions



ADA Compliance Resources

- The following provides official guidelines, technical standards, and training materials to support your school system's accessibility efforts:
 - [U.S. Department of Justice ADA Website](#)
 - [U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights](#)
 - [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\)](#)
 - [National Center on Accessible Educational Materials \(AEM Center\)](#)
 - [OTS Accessibility How To Guides](#)

Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions



E-Rate Program Updates



Upcoming E-Rate Deadlines

The FCC Form 471 application filing window for Funding Year (FY) 2025 is approaching. This is the application for requesting E-Rate discounts.

- EPC Administrative Window Closes: January 9, 2025
 - All school system entity profiles, student counts, and CEP percentages must be updated in the E-Rate Productivity Center (EPC) by this date.
- Form 471 Window Opens: January 15, 2025
- Form 471 Window Closes: March 26, 2025
- FCC Form 470 must be posted for at least 28 days before you can select a vendor and certify your Form 471. The last possible date to post a Form 470 for this window is February 26, 2025.

Contact ERate@la.gov with questions.



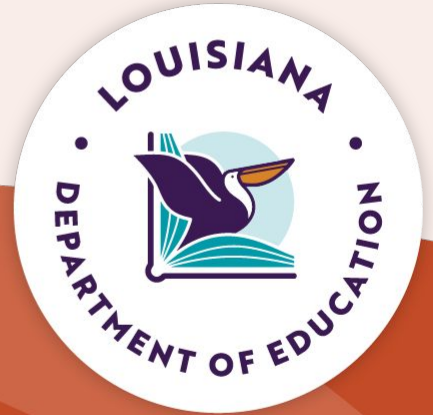
E-Rate FY2026 Planning

- The FCC has announced a 20.7% inflation-adjusted increase for **Category 2 (C2) budgets** for the new five-year cycle (FY2026-2030).
 - **New School Multiplier:** \$201.57 per student (up from \$167)
 - **New Funding Floor:** \$30,175 per school (up from \$25,000)
- **Critical Action Item:** A school system's C2 budget for the **entire five-year cycle** will be set by the student enrollment data you validate in the **first year** you apply for C2 funding.
- The EPC Administrative Window is open now. USAC strongly recommends that school systems update their student counts in EPC this year to lock in the highest possible budget for the next five years.

Contact ERate@la.gov with questions.



Cybersecurity



Stay Informed: Sign Up for CISA Alerts

- CISA provides free email updates provide essential cybersecurity information for EdTech leaders.
 - Cybersecurity Alerts & Advisories:
 - Receive immediate information on new, high-impact threats, vulnerabilities, and exploits that could affect your systems.
 - CISA Community Bulletin:
 - Receive broader updates on new resources, free services, toolkits, and publications, including those specific to K-12 schools.
- Please visit the [CISA website](#) to subscribe to these updates.

Contact edtech@la.gov with questions.



Technology and Security Contacts

Please ensure that OTS has the correct information for all school system security contacts. 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.



Education Technology Monthly Webinar & Meeting Dates



2025-2026 Education Technology Monthly Webinars

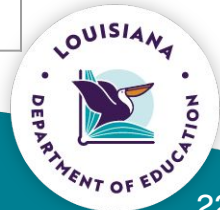
Slides from each meeting will be posted on the [Educational Technology Leaders website](#). Recordings are available on request. A [complete calendar](#) of LDOE events can be found on the Louisiana Believes website.

Future Monthly Call Dates

- December - LACUE (No March 12 Monthly Call)
- January 8
- February 12
- April 9
- May 14

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.



Monthly Calls

Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
EdLink Weekly Q&A Session	<u>November 12, 19, and 26 at 11 a.m.</u> <u>December 3, 10, and 17 at 11 a.m.</u>
Assessment and Accountability	<u>November 18 at 3 p.m.</u> <u>December 16 at 3 p.m.</u>
Teaching and Learning	<u>December 3 at 1 p.m.</u>
School System Leader Call	<u>December 5 at 9 a.m.</u>
Data Coordinator Webinar	<u>December 5 at 1 p.m.</u>

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



Reminders and Repeats



Digital Learning



Spotlight: AI Roll Out

- This month's [LDOE Teacher Leader Newsletter](#) featured Laurie Duhon, an EdTech leader from Jefferson Davis Parish, and highlighted the importance of strategically implementing AI tools.



Teacher Leader Newsletter

October 2025



Hello! I'm Laurie Duhon, the Technology Supervisor for Jefferson Davis Parish Schools. It's an exciting time in education as we build the future of digital learning and lay the foundation for innovation powered by Artificial Intelligence (AI).

In Jefferson Davis Parish, we are embracing AI not merely as a new technology but as a powerful tool that demands a strategic and deliberate approach. Currently, our focus is on supporting our remarkable educators with essential AI integration training, which will enable them to harness AI to design dynamic, personalized learning experiences for our students.

With the great potential of AI comes the critical responsibility of teaching its safe and ethical use. In our school system, we launched our AI professional learning initiative at the Level Up Technology Conference and continue to support teachers throughout the school year. I'm pleased that the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) is providing resources to guide us, as these tools help bridge the gap between potential and practice. This ensures AI is used responsibly to support the implementation of high-quality instructional materials (HQIM).

I encourage you to explore these key resources as we work together to unlock the potential of AI:

- The [Strategic AI Integration: A Pre-Work Checklist for Educators](#) provides essential steps to prepare for using AI effectively in your classroom.
- The [C.R.E.A.T.E. Framework for Effective AI Prompting](#) supports educators in crafting precise prompts to leverage AI with their HQIM.
- The [Digital Citizenship and Artificial Intelligence](#) guide is a crucial resource for teaching students how to use AI safely and ethically.

Thoughtful integration of these tools is how we will prepare our students for the future of technology and digital literacy.

Please contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions.



2025 LACUE Annual Conference

- The [2025 Annual LACUE Conference](#) will be held December 9-11 at the Hyatt Regency in New Orleans, LA.
- [Hotel booking](#) at the conference rate is now available through November 1.
- Lock in your discounted registration rate before [Early Bird registration](#) closes on November 7.



Please contact lacue@lacue.org with questions.



Presidential AI Challenge

- The [Presidential AI Challenge](#) is open to students and educators across all grade levels, with four distinct categories for participation:
 - Elementary (Grades K-5): Open to classrooms or groups
 - Middle School (Grades 6-8): Open to teams of 1-4 students
 - High School (Grades 9-12): Open to teams of 1-4 students
- Educators (K-12): Open to teams of 1-3 educators.
 - Educators will focus on creative approaches to teaching or using AI technologies in K-12 learning.
- Registration is open. All projects must be submitted by **January 20, 2026**.

Please contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions.



Google Read Along Advisory Group

- Google for Education is organizing a Louisiana Google Advisory Group for [Read Along](#).
- Open to any school system that is a Google for Education Workspace Plus or Teaching and Learning Upgrade customer.
- Participating school systems will receive
 - direct support from Google and the Read Along team;
 - no cost professional development and resources directly from Google;
 - and opportunities to showcase your school system.
- Interested participants can reach out to digitallearning@la.gov.

Please contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions.



ADA Compliance



Understanding the ADA and Schools

What is the ADA and Why Does It Matter for Schools?

- The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life.
- For schools, this means ensuring that all students, parents, staff, and community members with disabilities have equal access and opportunity to participate in educational programs, services, and activities.

Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions



The Three Pillars of ADA Compliance in Schools

Key Areas of ADA Compliance

1. **Physical Accessibility:** Ensuring that school buildings, classrooms, and grounds are physically accessible to people with disabilities.
2. **Digital Accessibility:** Making sure that all websites, online learning platforms, and digital communications are usable by everyone, including those who use assistive technology.
3. **Effective Communication:** Providing necessary aids and services to ensure that communication with students, parents, and staff with disabilities is as effective as communication with others.

Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions



Ensuring Access to Digital Resources

Website Accessibility:

- Alt Text for Images: Provide text descriptions for all images so that screen readers can describe them to users with visual impairments.
- Keyboard Navigation: Ensure your website can be fully navigated using only a keyboard.
- High Contrast: Use color combinations that are easy to read.

Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions



Ensuring Access to Digital Resources

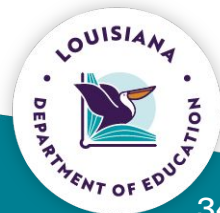
Instructional Materials:

- Captions and Transcripts: All videos must have accurate closed captions, and audio content should have a transcript.
- Accessible Documents: Ensure that PDFs and other documents are properly formatted to be read by screen readers.

Online Learning Platforms:

- Choose and use learning management systems (LMS) and other educational software that are ADA compliant.

Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions



Microsoft Accessibility Resources

- Word Documents:
 - [Make your Word documents accessible to people with disabilities - Microsoft Support](#)
- PowerPoint Presentations:
 - [Make your PowerPoint presentations accessible to people with disabilities - Microsoft Support](#)
- Video Closed Captions:
 - [Create closed captions for a video - Microsoft Support](#)

Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions

