

Teaching and Learning Call

February 28, 2024



Agenda

- I. Spotlight: Division Merger & Certification Updates
- II. Academic Content
- III. Diverse Learners
- IV. Educator Talent and Workforce Development

Suggested participants for this call:

- Early Childhood Supervisors
- Chief Academic Officers/Curriculum Supervisors
- Literacy Coordinators
- Special Education Supervisors
- English Learner Supervisors
- Content and Mentor Leader Coordinators
- Talent Supervisors
- EdTech Directors and Coaches



Spotlight: Division Merger & Certification Updates



Department of Education Transition

- Division of Educator Certification and Credentialing and Division of Educator Development are being combined.
- Preparation, Credentialing, Certification, Development, and Accountability will all be under one umbrella
 - Division of Educator Talent and Workforce Development
- Transition period: January 22 - February 2
- Effective February 5, 2024
- Lead by Arthur M. Joffrion, Jr., Ed.D., Deputy Assistant Superintendent



Third Party Entity

All entities contracting educators to serve Louisiana students must be approved by BESE for those evaluations to be used for certification.

The Third Party Entity approval process was approved during the January BESE meeting.

- [Third Party Evaluation Approval Guidance](#)
- [Third Party Assurances](#)
- [Third Party Entity Approval Rubric](#)
- [Third Party Entity Application Portal](#)

Effective May 20, 2024



Third Party Entity

A pilot round of applications was accepted and approved at January BESE. The following entities were approved to operate as a Third Party Entity:

- Southeastern Louisiana University
- Louisiana National Guard Education Programs (YCP, etc.)
- Edmentum Instructional Services



New Literacy Exam Option

BESE adopted the Louisiana Elementary Multiple-Subjects exam, which includes the Teaching of Reading exam, as a part of the English Language Arts subtest.

- Allows for an option with the same number of exams as currently required
- Includes grades K-3 (PK-3, 1-5, Special Education areas)
- Passing score increases over time to gradually increase Science of Reading skill mastery for teacher candidates

Effective June 1, 2024



Add-on Literacy Requirements (General)

For add-on purposes, general reading and literacy hours may be fulfilled with:

- The indicated semester hours
 - Successful completion of the BESE-approved [literacy foundations training](#) *may* be accepted for the number of hours approved per program
- Equivalent contact hours or
- Passing the adopted Teaching of Reading [exam](#)

LETRS completion certificates must be verified by LouisianaLiteracy@la.gov for add-on credit.

Effective September 1, 2024



Add-on Literacy Requirements (Grades K-3, Special Education)

For add-on in areas **authorized to teach grades K-3 and special education** areas, educators must meet:

- General literacy contact or semester hour equivalent requirements

AND*

- Teaching of Reading exam requirements

* Requirements cannot be fulfilled with two exams.

Effective September 1, 2024



Academic Content



Instructional Materials Review Update

Recently Published Tier 1 Materials

The LDOE conducts ongoing reviews of curricular materials to support school systems in adopting curricula in all core subjects. Newly rated Tier 1 curricula are listed below. All reviewed curricula can be found on the [Tiered Reviews](#) webpage.

Publisher	Title	Core Subject	Tier
Kendall Hunt Publishing	OpenSciEd, Grades 7-8	Science	Tier 1

State Reviews Reports: [Weekly Report](#) and [Comprehensive Tiered Report](#)

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.



Instructional Materials Review Update

Act 517 Compliance Reviews Status Report

The LDOE is reviewing currently posted Tier 1 and 2 ELA curricula that includes foundational skills for [Act 517](#) compliance. Upon completion, a cover page is added to the posted review noting the impact of the review for compliance.

The [Act 517 Compliance Reviews Status Report](#) lists the status of all Act 517 compliance reviews, including reviews that have been completed, titles that are under review or ready for review, and titles that have not been reviewed for Act 517 compliance.

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.



IMR - Recently Archived Tier 1 State Reviews

State reviews are published for a period of six years on the [Tiered Reviews](#) web page. After this six year period, the published reviews are archived and are moved into the [Archived Tiered State Reviews report](#). See all [Archive Dates for Tier 1 and 2 Reviews](#).

Tier 1 reviews that archived on December 31, 2023, include:

- Children's Literacy Initiative - Blueprint for Early Literacy, ECE Ages 3-4 ©2015
- Great Minds - Eureka Math, ECE Ages 3-4 ©2015
- Houghton Mifflin Harcourt - Big Day for Pre-K, ECE Ages 3-4 ©2015
- KinderCare Education LLC - Early Foundations Infant-Toddler, ECE Ages 0-3 ©2015
- Brown University - The Choices Program, Grades 9-12 ©2017
- Studies Weekly, Inc. - Studies Weekly, Grades K-2, 4-5 ©2017
- The DBQ Project - Mini-Qs Grades 4-5, 6-7, 9-12 ©2016

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.



Professional Learning Efficacy Indicators

Professional Learning Efficacy Indicators which include the following sections:

- Section 1: Participant Feedback
- Section 2: System Leader Feedback
 - Focus on instructional skills
 - Change in practice and sustainability
 - Professionalism
 - Impact on teaching and learning

Review the indicators in the [Instructional Materials Professional Learning Partner Guide Submission and Review Process](#) document.

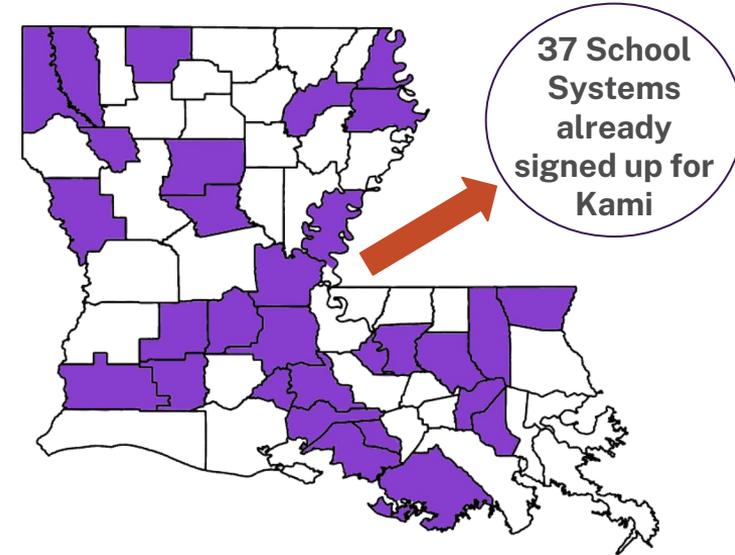
Data collection period: March 11 - April 11

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.



Kami Professional Development Opportunities

Teacher Leader Summit Multiple sessions will be offered for educators on Kami classroom implementation and best practices.	May 28-30
Summer Webinar Series Online sessions will be hosted each week for content specific support.	June 4-July 18
Face to Face Trainings Regional trainings will be held for face to face training opportunities.	July 22-26



Please contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions.





Bayou Bridges Curriculum Guide

The LDOE has published a new [curriculum guide](#) to support teachers and instructional leaders as they implement Bayou Bridges materials. The guide provides in-depth information on the program’s guiding principles, design, key components and resources, unit and lesson study tools, along with sample lesson annotations.

Teachers and leaders should use this resource to help navigate the curriculum, to better understand its key components, and to effectively plan and implement Bayou Bridges lessons.

This guide will continue to be updated as additional units are published.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.



Act 260 Numeracy Training Requirements

Act 260 (2023) requires all grade 4-8 public school teachers of mathematics to receive **numeracy skills training** focused on instructing students according to the vertical alignment of math concepts and the blending of concepts, procedures, strategies, problem-solving, and disposition. Initial guidance is now available.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.



Timeline

Spring 2023
Act 260
passed

March 1, 2024
Publish a list of
approved courses

Summer 2024
Systems plan for
compliance

Fall 2024
Full course
released

August 1, 2025
Completion
required

Leader
Guidance

Sessions
at Summit

Direct
Support

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.



Courses Available

Grades K-3
Optional

Grades 4-8
Act 260 Required

High School
Optional

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.



Assessment Development Educator Review Committees

The Division of Assessment Content will convene assessment committees for the LEAP assessment in June to:

- review newly developed items for alignment, content-related criteria, and bias or sensitivity concerns (Science); and
- develop expectations for the scoring of field-tested LEAP constructed-response items and extended-response tasks (Science, Math, and Social Studies)

Interested educators should access the [Assessment Development Educator Review Committees document](#) for the links to apply to participate on specific committees and additional information. Applications are due **March 24**.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.



For questions about...	Contact...
ELA and ELA Guidebooks	elaguidebooks@la.gov
math, computer science, science, and STEM	STEM@la.gov
environmental education	environmentaleducation@la.gov
All other curriculum and instruction	classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov
Textbooks and instructional materials review, tiered reviews, vendors, and PD vendor guide	louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov
Teacher Leader Advisors	classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov
World language/immersion	language.acquisition@la.gov
Educational Technology/Digital Learning	digitallearning@la.gov

Academic Content Contacts

Diverse Learners



K-3 Alternate Literacy Screener Rubric

K-3 students who are determined eligible by the IEP team for alternate assessments using the [K-2 Alternate Assessment Participation Decision-Making Tool](#) or the 3-11 alternate assessment criteria may use the Literacy Alternate Assessment Rubric for students with significant cognitive disabilities.

- [Alternate Literacy Assessment](#)
- [Reading Improvement Plan for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities](#)
- [K-3 Alternate Literacy Assessment Training Recording](#)

Alternate assessments are reserved for the approximately 1% of students.

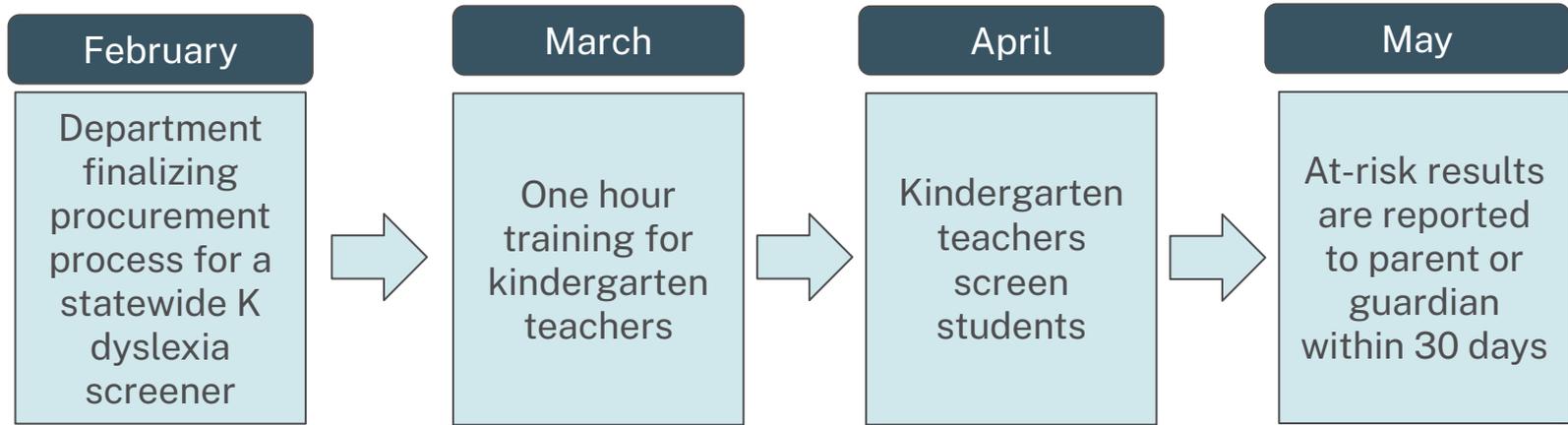
Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.



Kindergarten Dyslexia Screening

[Act 266](#) requires teachers to screen all kindergarten students for dyslexia during the second half of the year or upon request of a parent/guardian or teacher.

Timeline for Next Steps:



Monitor the weekly newsletter for updates.

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.



April Dunn Act Monitoring

School systems are required to complete Section One of the [April Dunn Act Self-Assessment Guide](#) by **February 29**.

Self-assessment results should be kept on file. The Department will audit self-assessment results.

April Dunn Act resources are available in the [Students with Disabilities library](#).

Please contact ashley.augustine@la.gov with questions.



For questions about...	Contact...
English Learners	
English Learner instructional support and content	diverselearnersupport@la.gov
English Learner compliance, federal funding, programming	melanie.mayeux@la.gov
Students with Disabilities	
Special education policy, data, reporting	specialeducation@la.gov
Special education instructional support and programming	diverselearnersupport@la.gov

Diverse Learners Contacts

K-3 Literacy EOY Assessment



K-3 Literacy EOY Assessment Window

The K-3 literacy screening window will open on April 1 and will close on April 30.

- Per state law, there can be no extensions into May.
- The assessment calendar has been updated.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.



Deadline for IEPs/IAPs/EL Checklists

State policy requires that all IEPs, IAPs, and EL Checklists be final no later than 30 days prior to the opening of the state's testing window.

K-3 Literacy Assessment: IEPs, IAPs, EL Checklists must be final by March 1

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.



K-3 Literacy EOY Assessment

- There will be NO PAPER OPTION for grades K through 2. All administration must be done online. The screener will be a secure form, which means that it cannot be copied, photographed, memorized, or discussed .
- There can be no remote administration option for grades K through 2.
- mCLASS will not accept file uploads.

Any attempt to duplicate, save, or memorize items will be considered a serious test security violation.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.



K-3 Literacy EOY Testing Schedules

Testing schedules are due to assessment@la.gov by **March 18**.

- Please be mindful that LEAP 2025 CBT starts April 15.
- Reserve 5-10 days to conduct make-up testing.
- Model schedules can be found on the next four slides.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.



April 2024

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

1
No School
Spring Break

2
3rd Grade
Screening

3
3rd Grade
Screening

4
3rd Grade
Screening

5
3rd Grade
Screening

8
2nd Grade
Screening

9
2nd Grade
Screening

10
2nd Grade
Screening

11
2nd Grade
Screening

12
1st Grade
Screening

15*
1st Grade
Screening

16
1st Grade
Screening

17
1st Grade
Screening

18
Kindergarten
Screening

19
Kindergarten
Screening

22
Kindergarten
Screening

23
Kindergarten
Screening

24
Make-ups

25
Make-ups

26
Make-ups

29
Make-ups

30
Make-ups



Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Model 1

Spring Break April 1
Screening Team

*LEAP 2025 window
opens

April 2024

Model 2

Spring Break April 1

Whole School

*LEAP 2025 CBT

Window opens

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	No School Spring Break	2	3	4	5
		K-3 Screening (All day)	K-3 Screening (All day)	K-3 Screening (All day)	K-3 Screening (All day)
8	K-3 Screening (All day)	9	10	11	12
		K-3 Screening (All day)	K-3 Screening (All day)	K-3 Screening (All day)	K-3 Screening (All day)
15*	Make-ups	16	17	18	19
		Make-ups	Make-ups	Make-ups	Make-ups
22	Make-ups	23	24	25	26
		Make-ups	Make-ups	Make-ups	Make-ups
29	Make-ups	30			
		Make-ups			



Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

April 2024

Model 3

Spring Break April 1-5

Screening Team

*LEAP 2025 CBT

Window opens

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 No School Spring Break	2 No School Spring Break	3 No School Spring Break	4 No School Spring Break	5 No School Spring Break
8 3rd Grade Screening	9 3rd Grade Screening	10 3rd Grade Screening	11 2nd Grade Screening	12 2nd Grade Screening
15* 2nd Grade Screening	16 1st Grade Screening	17 1st Grade Screening	18 1st Grade Screening	19 Kindergarten Screening
22 Kindergarten Screening	23 Kindergarten Screening	24 Make-ups	25 Make-ups	26 Make-ups
29 Make-ups	30 Make-ups			



Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

April 2024

Model 4

Spring Break April 1-5

Whole School

*LEAP 2025 CBT

window opens

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 No School Spring Break	2 No School Spring Break	3 No School Spring Break	4 No School Spring Break	5 No School Spring Break
8 K-3 Screening (All day)	9 K-3 Screening (All day)	10 K-3 Screening (All day)	11 K-3 Screening (All day)	12 K-3 Screening (All day)
15* K-3 Screening (All day)	16 K-3 Screening (All day)	17 K-3 Screening (All day)	18 K-3 Screening (All day)	19 K-3 Screening (All day)
22 Make-ups	23 Make-ups	24 Make-ups	25 Make-ups	26 Make-ups
29 Make-ups	30 Make-ups			



Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

K-3 Literacy EOY Assessment

The Department will provide a new student file to Amplify for preloading students. All requested transfers made during Window 2 will be updated to the data that is now in EdLink for the applicable students. MOY data will transfer with the student.

- All grade level updates and site code updates should now be reflected in EdLink.
- From March 1 to March 16 the mCLASS Admin Portal will be closed. All other activities will remain open.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.



K-3 Literacy Accountability Codes for Students

For End-of-Year screening, users can apply accountability codes for students who are not screened and for whom an accountability code applies to them. There are no special codes for screening.

- **Codes 01-44 and 97:** These codes can only be used for students who are also exited from EdLink with the same exit reason code. At the time that the student data file was pulled from EdLink at the end of February, students with exit codes were excluded from the file.
- **Code 80:** This code can only be used with a doctor's letter. Please note that for all testing, there must be a doctor's letter to apply this code that does not use a student's disability as the sole reason for not testing, and the letter must include all dates of the screening window.
- **There is no code 81** for EL students since the data will not enter into accountability for schools until 2025-2026. (Code 81 is always used on a test that is taken.)

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.



K-3 Literacy Assessment Gifted Reporting

MOY Literacy Screening Gifted Reporting Due 3/1

<https://form.jotform.com/LDOE/moy-literacy-screening-gifted-2024>

Louisiana Statute 17:24.9 mandates districts to report the number of students identified for referral for gifted evaluation for every literacy screening administration for Kindergarten through Grade 3.

The following data sets will be collected for each grade level:

- The number of gifted students scoring in the above-average range on the literacy screener.
- The number of non-gifted students referred for additional screening.
- The number of non-gifted students referred for gifted evaluation.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.



K-3 Literacy EOY Assessment

Amplify created a link for Louisiana educators here:

<https://amplify.com/louisiana-mclass/>

- This page includes many helpful links to additional supports for rostering, administration and reporting.
- The site also includes an email and phone number for the Louisiana-specific Amplify customer support team.
- Please bookmark this page. As resources are developed for Louisiana, they will be posted at this site.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.



Educator Talent and Workforce Development



Louisiana Educator Advancement and Development System (LEADS) Learning Year Options

During the 2024-2025 Evaluation Learning Year, school systems will be given the option to transition to the new LEADS evaluation system or remain in the COMPASS evaluation system. Additional information about each option is available on the [2024-2025 Evaluation Learning Year Options Guidance](#).

- The 2024-2025 Evaluation Learning Year will include extensive options for training and ongoing support through this summer and the next school year.
- Complete the [2024-2025 Evaluation Learning Year Options Form](#) by **March 30**.

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.



LEADS Summer Evaluation Training

Systems opting to transition to the LEADS evaluation system should register for summer training. The [registration landing page](#) has now been updated and includes a waiting list.

- System level leaders and school leaders will complete a two-day Louisiana Leader Evaluation Training and pass a certification assessment prior to evaluating leaders with the Louisiana Leader Evaluation System.
- System level leaders, school level leaders, and designated observers will complete a three-day Louisiana Educator Evaluation Training and pass a certification assessment prior to observing with the Louisiana Educator Rubric. Note: Those currently certified on the NIET Teaching and Learning Standards Rubric may qualify for a one-day training.

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.



Louisiana Educator Evaluation System

- **Louisiana Educator Rubric (LER):** A research-based rubric that helps build a common language, and is correlated with student achievement and growth
- **Training and Certification:** A process that leads to more fair and reliable educator evaluations by certified observers
- **Formal Observations:** Each observation is followed by a post-conference where teachers are supported in reflecting on the lesson
- **Professionalism Domain:** This domain on the Louisiana Rubric allows for the assessment and acknowledgement of teacher growth and reflection, community involvement, and school responsibilities
- **Self-assessment:** A reflection opportunity that leads to greater teacher voice in the evaluation process
- **Follow-up coaching and support cycles:** High-quality post-observation feedback, with an aligned coaching and support cycle, will enhance teacher growth

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.



Louisiana Leader Evaluation System

- **Louisiana Leader Rubric (LLR):** A research-based rubric that provides school leaders with a common language for effective leadership practices
- **Training and Certification:** A process that leads to more fair and reliable leader evaluations by certified observers
- **Beginning-of-Year (BOY) Conference:** School leaders receive support with goal-setting, action-planning, and establishing a climate of continuous growth
- **Middle-of-Year (MOY) Conference:** School leaders are supported in reflection on successes and evidence of progress toward goals, revisions to the action plan, and reflection on indicator ratings
- **End-of-Year (EOY) Conference:** School leaders are supported in a summative reflection on evidence of goal attainment, strengths and growth areas, and indicator ratings
- **Self-assessment:** A reflection opportunity that leads to greater leader voice in the evaluation process
- **School Principal Survey:** Affords teachers the opportunity to give feedback on principal impact (only school principals)

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.



Compass Information System (CIS) Reminders

Please use the [CIS 2023-2024 Timeline](#) to monitor data entry into the Compass Information System (CIS). The following tasks should be complete at this time.

- School site rosters should be [updated](#).
- Evaluators should be [assigned](#).
- Teachers and leaders should have at least two [Student Learning Targets \(SLTs\) entered and accepted](#).
- [Observations](#) should be entered as completed.

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.



Pre-Educator Pathway Curriculum

- The LDOE is excited to announce that we are working in partnership with A. L. Development to create an open-sourced Pre-Educator Pathway Curriculum. The anticipated release of the curriculum will be the 2025-2026 academic school year.
- If you have experience teaching pre-educator courses, and would like to help build content for the new curriculum, please contact Stacie Austin at saustin.creative@gmail.com no later than **February 28**.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions



Educators Rising Curriculum Access

- The Department has limited Educator's Rising curriculum licenses to allocate to support the growth of the Pre-Educator Pathway. If you are interested in receiving a one-year license at no cost, please complete this [brief survey](#).
- Priority will be given to those schools/school systems using the curriculum to start a brand new program or expand the program to a new site.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions



Pre-Educator Pathway Site Visits

System Leads, Teacher Leaders, and Postsecondary Teacher Preparation Partners are invited to attend a Learning Visit for a day of learning and community building. During Learning Visits, participants will have an opportunity to observe Grow Your Own work that is being done in another school system and strategize to improve Grow Your Own efforts in their system. Please use this [Registration Link](#) to sign up for a visit.

- ~~St. Bernard/New Orleans March 5, 2024~~ (registration is full)
- Bossier-April 16, 2024

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions



Louisiana Aspiring Educators Summer Academy

- One-of-a-kind, five-day, hybrid summer camp and a professional learning experience
- Open to high school students enrolled in the Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway or any other coursework aimed at attracting and developing future Louisiana educators
- Pending BESE approval (March 6, 2024)
- July 8-12 hosted by University of Louisiana at Lafayette

If you have not already seen it, check out this [video](#) from last year's academy.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions



Teacher Leader Summit: Leading the Next Level

The [2024 Teacher Leader Summit](#) is an annual professional learning conference that brings together Louisiana birth to grade 12 educators and content experts. Educators participating in the event will share their knowledge, learn new skills, and prepare for the 2024-2025 school year.

This year's Teacher Leader Summit will focus on our ability to lead the next level of our Vision for Success.

- The Teacher Leader Summit will take place from May 28 - May 30, 2024, at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.
- [Registration](#) will close March 15, or at sellout.



New Teacher Experience: Summer Kick Off

The Louisiana Department of Education will host the Summer Kick-off for the New Teacher Experience on July 24 from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. in Baton Rouge for 500 new teachers. The goals of the event are to:

- Welcome new teachers to the profession
- Understand the components of Louisiana's New Teacher Experience
- Engage in high quality professional learning around topics relevant to new teachers
- Provide statewide networking opportunities for new teachers

Registration information is forthcoming. Please save the date!

Please contact laurie.carlton@la.gov with questions



New Teacher Experience: TLS tickets

- 100 complimentary tickets to the 2024 Teacher Leader Summit for new teachers.
 - Priority - new teachers participating in the New Teacher Experience (NTE)
 - First-come first-served basis
- After **Friday, March 15th at 5:00 p.m.**
 - Open to all new teachers
 - First-come first-served basis
- Travel costs will be assumed by the attendee or their school system.

Please contact laurie.carlton@la.gov with questions



Aspiring Principal Fellowship Application Available

Designed to support the development of future school leaders, the LDOE will be launching the fourth cohort of the Aspiring Principal Fellowship for the 2024-2025 school year.

Applicant Requirements:

- Hold a valid EDL1 certification in Louisiana
- Have school leader and system leader support
 - Letter of assurance from current school leader and superintendent
 - \$1,000 tuition and travel costs
- Complete the [Aspiring Principal Fellowship Application](#) no later than **March 8**

By March 28, applicants will be notified of their application status. Additional information about the Aspiring Principal Fellowship can be found on the [APF overview document](#).

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.



Recruitment and Retention Fellowship Application Available

In an effort to support human resources professionals in recruitment and retention, the LDOE is expanding the Recruitment and Retention Fellowship for a fifth cohort in 2024-2025.

The fellowship gives Louisiana human resources professionals the opportunity to collaborate with human capital professionals from across Louisiana and the country while learning best practices for attracting and retaining effective educators.

HR Directors who are interested in participating in the Recruitment and Retention Fellowship should complete this short [application](#) by **March 8**. Fellowship applicants will be notified of acceptance by April 19.

Additional information can be found in the [Recruitment and Retention Fellowship Overview](#).

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.



Call Summary



Key Deadlines & Action Steps

February	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● February: Register for a Pre-Educator Pathway Site Visit● February 29: Deadline to submit Section One of the April Dunn Act Self-Assessment Guide
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● March 1: MOY Literacy Screening Gifted Reporting due● March 8: Deadline to submit application for the 2024-2025 Aspiring Principal Fellowship● March 8: Deadline to submit application for the 2024-2025 Recruitment and Retention Fellowship● March 15 or at sellout: Deadline for Teacher Leader Summit Registration● March 18: K-3 Literacy EOY Testing schedules are due to assessment@la.gov● March 24: Deadline to submit application for the Assessment Development Educator Review Committees● March 30: Deadline to complete the 2024-2025 Evaluation Learning Year Options Form
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● April 15: Deadline to submit application for Dyslexia Training - Cohort 2● April 30: K-3 literacy screening window closes



Upcoming Webinars & Calls

Month	Date, Time, Title and Zoom Link
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none">February 29, 5 p.m.: Dyslexia Practitioner Training Informational Webinar
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">March 5, 10 a.m.: Principal as Human Capital LeaderMarch 6, 10 a.m.: PL Platform Webinar: School Level LeadersMarch 13, 10:30 a.m.: OpenSciEd High School Office Hours for LeadersMarch 19, 4:30 p.m.: Dyslexia Practitioner Training Informational WebinarMarch 20, 3 p.m.: PL Platform Webinar: Louisiana EducatorsMarch 26, 2 p.m.: Diverse Learners Office HoursMarch 27, 1 p.m.: Teaching and Learning Monthly Call

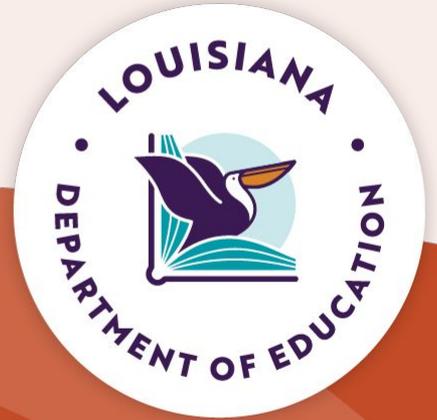


Support & Resources

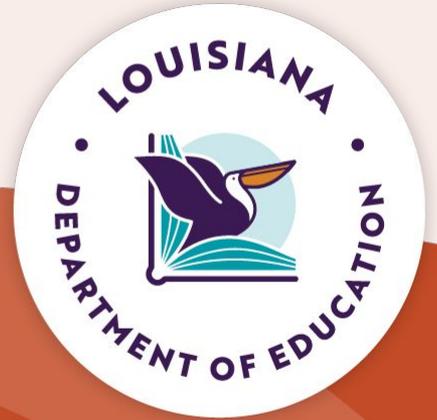
- [School System Support Calendar](#)
- [ELA Guidebooks 3-5 \(2022\) Pilot Feedback Report](#)
- [Google Sheets Updates to Save Time](#) includes information on three Sheets features, along with additional tutorials
- [IMR Weekly Report](#)
- [Comprehensive Tiered Report](#)
- [Archived Tiered State Reviews](#)
- [Archive Dates for Tier 1 & 2 Reviews](#)
- [Pre Educator Pathway Resource Library](#)
- [New Teacher Experience webpage](#)
- [Differentiated Compensation Guidance](#)
- [Staffing and Scheduling Guidance](#)
- [Student Learning Target \(SLT\) Guidance and Sample Templates](#)
- [EDLink 360 Support](#)



Reminders & Repeats

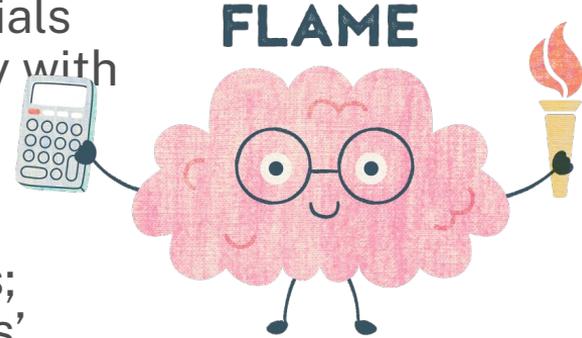


Reminders & Repeats Academic Content



K-5 FLAME

[FLAME](#) resources for Grades K-5 are now complete. FLAME resources complement high-quality instructional materials by building students' accuracy, efficiency, and flexibility with grade-appropriate fluency skills.



FLAME provides

- activities designed to build grade-level foundations;
- formative tools for teachers to understand students' learning; and
- unit reports for sharing with parents.

To learn more, view the [FLAME Kickoff Webinar](#).

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.



Teacher Preparation: Computer Science (5652) Praxis Exam

[Registration](#) is now open for the [Energize Project](#). This project is open to all 6-12 public and public charter school teachers with a free 40 hour virtual training that provides

- practice praxis content materials;
- tutoring and peer learning communities; and
- feedback from computer science faculty at Southeastern Louisiana University.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

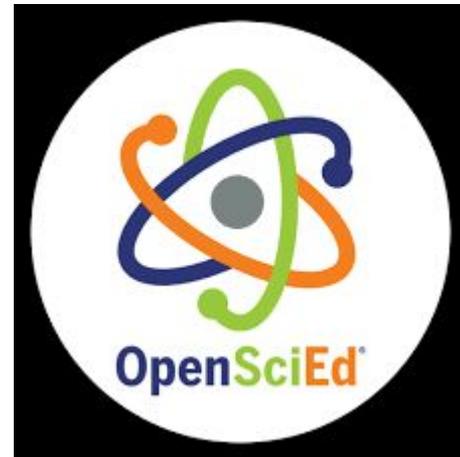
[The Energize Project](#)



Office Hours Support for High School Science

Monthly office hours are available for leaders in systems implementing OpenSciEd in high school biology, chemistry, and physics.

Science leaders who sent teachers to the January science professional learning are encouraged to attend.



Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.



Microsoft Support Resources

The LDOE is thrilled to announce the release of three valuable Microsoft for Education resources on our [Digital Learning teacher web page](#). These tools will be invaluable to support teachers, students, and leaders in school systems that have adopted Microsoft.

- [Microsoft Teams: Getting Started](#)
- [Microsoft Teams: Next Steps](#)
- [Using OneNote with Students and Faculty](#)

Please visit the [Digital Learning web page](#) for more EdTech resources.

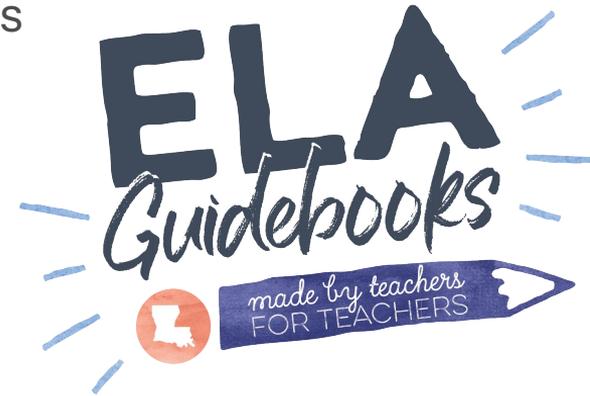
Please contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions.

[Digital Learning for Teachers](#)



ELA Guidebooks

- ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) [FUEL \(Fluency Utilized to Engage Learners\)](#) overview available
 - ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) unit-aligned lessons to support fluency
 - FUEL materials available on the [Louisiana Curriculum Hub](#) spring 2024
- ELA Guidebooks 6-8 (2024)
 - Overview [webinar recording](#) now available
 - [Overview document](#)
 - [Writing progression](#)



Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.



International Associate Teacher Recruitment

The 2024-2025 International Associate Teacher (IAT) Program recruitment cycle began on November 1.

Any school or school system interested in recruiting an IAT of French, Mandarin, or Spanish should reference the [Louisiana International Associate Teacher Program Guide](#) for more information on recruitment guidelines and timelines.

Please contact language.acquisition@la.gov with questions.



Kami Update

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.

- 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.



Math Professional Learning Opportunities

[Math Refresh professional learning](#) is available through in-person, virtual, and asynchronous sessions.

- [Math Refresh Regional Tour](#)
- [Zearn Leader Support](#)
- YouTube [Math Playlist](#)

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.



Computer Science Updates

In accordance with [Louisiana Act 541 \(2022\)](#), the Computer Science Education Advisory Commission (CSEAC) report provides recommendations for the development and implementation of a state action plan for the delivery of education in computer science in all public schools.

CSEAC completed its last meeting July 25, and their report will be shared with the [State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education](#) (BESE) on October 10-11. To learn more about the work of CSEAC, please visit the [Computer Science](#) web page.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.



Social Studies Curriculum Support

Bayou Bridges Implementation

Office Hours will be held throughout the fall for social studies teachers and school system leaders to

- ask questions and provide feedback about particular lessons or strategies;
- get help locating materials; and
- ask questions about timelines.

School system staff office hours are 11 a.m. -12 p.m., and teacher office hours are 3:30 p.m. -4 p.m.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.



Social Studies Curriculum Development

The Department is excited to announce that we have partnered with [Core Knowledge](#)[®] to create Bayou Bridges: A K-8 Louisiana Social Studies Curriculum.

- The first phase of development began in December 2022 and materials for grades 4-5 will be available by Spring 2023 for piloting in Fall 2023.
- The complete K-8 Louisiana Social Studies Curriculum will be available for implementation by June 30, 2024.
- More details about this partnership and future release dates will be announced via this call and future newsletter communications.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.



Social Studies Curriculum Development

Bayou Bridges: A K-8 Louisiana Social Studies Curriculum will contain

- unit plans and daily lessons,
- student and teacher-facing materials,
- engaging primary sources,
- formative and summative assessments, and
- 100% alignment to the 2022 K-8 Louisiana Student Standards for Social Studies as well as the criteria on the 2022-2023 IMR Rubric.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.



Bayou Bridges Updates and Resources

All Grade 6 [Bayou Bridges Units](#) are available Grade 7 units will begin to post on January 31. Please see the [Bayou Bridges Detailed Release Schedule](#) for publishing dates for all other grade levels and units.

Consult the [Professional Learning Partner Guide](#) for information on Bayou Bridges professional learning partners.

For additional information and support, please attend any of the upcoming [Office Hours](#).

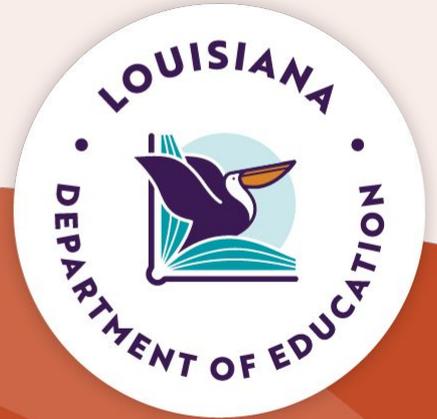


Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.



Reminders & Repeats

Diverse Learners



Special Education Camera Maintenance Fund

- BESE approved [allocations](#) at its January meeting for additional funds to support maintenance costs related to cameras in certain special education settings described in legislation.
- Funds will be dispersed similar to the initial special education camera funds.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.



Dyslexia Practitioner Training - Cohort 2

Through a partnership between the LDOE and the Dyslexia Resource Center a cohort of 25 educators will be selected to participate in a dyslexia practitioner training program.

Program Requirements	
Education	bachelor's degree & valid LA teaching certification
Coursework	140 hours
Practicum/Internship	60 hours
Direct Observations	5 observed lessons
Training Period	minimum -1 year maximum -2 years

- [Applications](#) are being accepted until **April 15**.
- Classes will begin July 2024 and end March 2024.
- Two informational webinars will be held on [February 29](#) and [March 19](#).

Please contact sueellen.bates@la.gov with questions.



April Dunn Act Implementation Monitoring

To support the effective implementation of the April Dunn Act, the LDOE created the [April Dunn Act Self-Assessment Guide](#) (SAG).

This guide is a comprehensive analysis of the implementation process, including the review of procedures and data to determine valid and systemic conclusions.

When completed with fidelity, the SAG will be helpful in identifying any root causes of performance and implementation issues in your LEA.

Beginning February 2024, self-assessments should be conducted annually.



April Dunn Act
Self-Assessment Guide



Please contact ashley.augustine@la.gov with questions.



April Dunn Act Monitoring

For the 2023-2024 school year, school systems are required to complete Section One of the self-assessment by **February 29**. Sections Two and Three are not required but strongly recommended.

Self-assessment results should be kept on file. The Department will audit self-assessment results to ensure they accurately represent best practices in the implementation of the April Dunn Act.

Please contact ashley.augustine@la.gov with questions.



April Dunn Act Resources

Resources to support effective implementation are available in the [Students with Disabilities library](#).

- [Developing Procedures for Effective Implementation](#)
- [Checklist for Creating April Dunn Act Procedures](#)
- [Self-Assessment Guide](#)
- Understanding the Self-Assessment Guide, Sections [One](#), [Two](#), and [Three](#)

Please contact ashley.augustine@la.gov with questions.



Act 266 (HB 69) Dyslexia Screening Update

Screener Requirements

- LDOE to select and provide to each public school (at no cost) a dyslexia screener with the following requirements:
 - area under curve of 0.80 or above
 - developed solely for dyslexia
 - evidence-based with proven, published psychometric validity
 - used to determine if a student is at risk
- To be administered by a teacher in second half of kindergarten or any time requested by a teacher or parent/guardian
- Within 30 days of at risk results the parent is to be notified

- While the LDOE works to complete the Request for Proposals (RFP) procurement process, systems will continue to utilize the screening tool that has been administered in the past.

Please contact Charleen.Long@la.gov with questions.



Grades 3-5 Modified ELA Guidebook Units

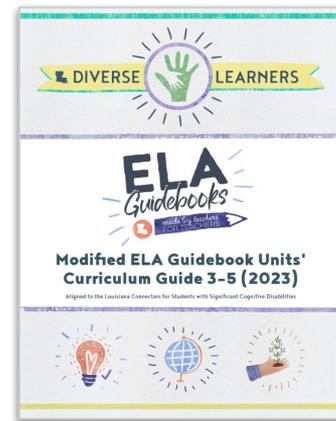
[ELA Modified Guidebook Guide 3-5](#) addresses [Louisiana Connectors](#) for students with significant cognitive disabilities.

Guidebook text modifications include

- an overall summary of the text with shortened story length, enlarged font size, utilization of graphics, bolded vocabulary words in a different font color, and gray background color.

Student materials include

- a vocabulary chart, table identifying main characters, and materials to test the learner's knowledge.



Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.



Literacy Alternate Assessment Rubric

K-3 students who are determined eligible by the IEP team for alternate assessments using the [K-2 Alternate Assessment Participation Decision-Making Tool](#) or the 3-11 alternate assessment criteria may use the Literacy Alternate Assessment Rubric.

- [Kindergarten - Literacy Alternate Assessment](#)
- [1st - Literacy Alternate Assessment](#)
- [2nd - Literacy Alternate Assessment](#)
- [3rd - Literacy Alternate Assessment](#)
- [Reading Improvement Plan for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities](#)

Alternate assessments are reserved for the approximately 1% of students.

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.



Strong Foundational Literacy Skills in Grades 4-8

- Educators, grades 4-8, can still register for LDOE's [free literacy pd modules](#) aligned to the science of reading.
- *Module 1: Understanding the Science of Reading*
- *Module 2: Exploring Phonics and Advanced Word Study*
- *Module 3: Creating Fluent Readers*
- *Module 4: Developing Vocabulary*
- *Module 5: Increasing Reading Comprehension*
- Modules will be available through January 2024.
- [Registration](#) is still open.

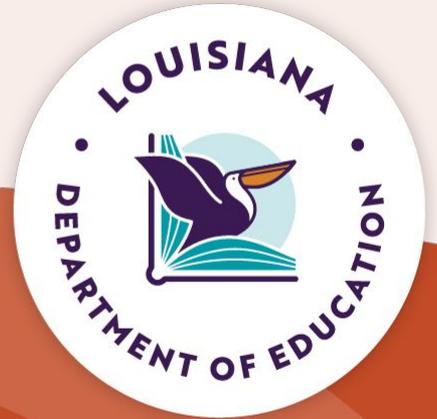


Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.



Reminders & Repeats

Literacy



Act 522: K-3 Literacy Priorities

- Literacy Screener - all K-3 students, 3x per year with parent reporting within 15 days
 - Available reports in DIBELS platform
 - Caretaker Report - shares data with explanation of measures
 - Home Connect Report - at-home literacy activities
- Individual Reading Improvement Plans for all students below proficiency
- School Literacy Plans posted on website
- Literacy Coach to support teachers

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.



Act 108: Foundational Literacy Training

- Act 108 requires training for K-3 teachers and administrators based on the science of reading.
- School systems must report to the Department on successful training completion.
- Schools and school systems must begin requiring teachers and administrators to complete at least one approved professional development course by the 2023-2024 school year.
- Any teacher or administrator hired after August 1, 2023, must provide proof of successful completion within two years of employment.

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.



Bulletin 1566: 3rd & 4th Grade Summer Learning

Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, and continuing through the summer following the 2023-2024 school year, any student enrolled in third or fourth grade and scoring below grade-level on the end-of-the-year LDOE-approved literacy assessment shall receive a minimum of 30 hours of explicit literacy instruction inclusive of targeted interventions during the summer or risk retention.

- No tuition or fees can be charged for the attendance of an eligible student, and transportation must be offered.
- The LEA may waive the state policy for students scoring below grade-level for students with an IEP at the discretion of the IEP team.

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.



Act 422: Third Grade Retention

Prohibits promotion to the fourth grade of certain students whose reading deficiencies have not been remediated by the end of the third grade.

- Literacy screening
- Individual reading plan
- Exceptions for good cause
- Required instructional services to retained students

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.



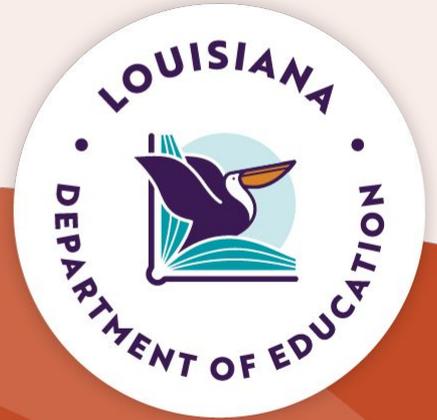
K-3 Literacy Screener

State law mandates that all students in kindergarten through third grade participate in a single statewide literacy screening three times per year. This includes students with IEPs or IAPs, English learners, non-readers and students who qualify for alternate assessment based on the [K-2 Alternate Assessment Participation Decision-making Tool](#) for K-2 and the LEAP Connect criteria for Grade 3.



Reminders & Repeats

Educator Talent and Workforce Development



Annual Teacher Exit Survey Released

The annual [Teacher Exit Survey](#) highlights the progress of Louisiana's comprehensive recruitment and retention strategy. This past year saw the following improvement:

- For the first time in four years, there was an increase in the total teacher workforce.
- The rate of exiting teachers decreased one percentage point from 14 to 13 percent.
- Top 3 reasons for teachers exiting their current position remain the same: personal reasons, transferring to another Louisiana school system, and retirement.

The 2022-2023 [Teacher Exit Survey](#) is available in the [Workforce Attributes Library](#).

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.



Staffing and Scheduling Bootcamps

Registration is now open for the [Staffing and Scheduling Bootcamps](#) which are designed to assist schools and systems in developing dynamic and effective schedules aligned to best practices.

- February 21: [Elementary Staffing and Scheduling: University View Baton Rouge](#)
- February 22: [Secondary Staffing and Scheduling: University View Baton Rouge](#)
- February 28: [Elementary Staffing and Scheduling: DeSoto Parish School Board](#)
- February 29: [Secondary Staffing and Scheduling: DeSoto Parish School Board](#)

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.



Mentor Funding

School Systems received Mentor funding in mid-January. System leads also received an email with a list of Mentors eligible for funding on January 12.

If a school system did not receive funding for a Mentor the most likely reason for ineligibility is:

- The Mentor was not coded as 112, teacher.
- The Mentor did not possess the required Mentor certification or Mentor waiver by October 1, 2023.
- The resident they supported did not hold their required certification (PL or resident license) by October 1, 2023.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.



Pre-K Mentor Funding

Mentors coded as Pre-K teachers are not eligible for MFP Mentor funding. School systems receive funding for these Mentors through an allocation in EGMs, using 8g funding.

If your school system reported an eligible Pre-K Mentor, the system lead should have received an email following the January BESE meeting with details about accessing this funding in EGMs.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.



2024-2025 Evaluation Learning Year

Key Improvements for Educator and Leader Evaluation include:

- Grounded in **evidence-based practices** that enhance teaching and leadership practices;
- A more **fair and transparent** process that includes multiple measures, supports self reflection, and gives teachers a voice;
- **Better feedback** for improvement and resources to support individual growth; and
- Stronger connections between evaluation and **professional learning**.



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Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.



Key Components of the Louisiana Evaluation Systems Pilot

Louisiana Leader Evaluation System	Louisiana Educator Evaluation System
<p>Louisiana Leader Rubric</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training and Certification for Evaluators and School Leaders <p>Beginning, Middle, and End-of-Year Conferences</p> <p>Self-Assessment</p> <p>School Leader Survey for Principals</p>	<p>Louisiana Educator Rubric</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training and Certification for Evaluators and Designated Observers• Training for Educators <p>Professionalism Surveys</p> <p>Self-Assessment</p> <p>Follow-up Coaching and Support Cycles</p>

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.



Professional Learning Platform

The LDOE will be releasing a [Professional Learning Platform](#) this spring for all school system employees at no cost to the school system. This user-friendly, statewide platform will house all professional learning and the [Professional Learning Partner Guide](#) in this one platform; professional learning modules and webinars will no longer live on the LDOE website. System and school level leaders will also be able to create professional learning modules in the platform.

[The Professional Learning Platform Overview](#) includes additional information on:

- creating EdLink credentials.
- requesting Canopy permissions.
- participating in Canopy Informational Webinars.
- completing online training in the Professional Learning Platform.

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



Statewide Quality Rating Scores

The 2021-2022 Performance profiles are the first public release of scores that reflect the shifts made through the Believe and Prepare initiative implemented in 2018. The state Quality Rating Scores are the highest since the accountability's inception in the 2017-2018 school year. Due to COVID, only one year of VAM is used in this year's calculation.

- The state undergraduate pathway score increased from 2.0 to 2.6, Level 3: Effective.
- The state post-baccalaureate pathway score increased from 2.4 to 2.8, Level 3: Effective.
- 78% of pathways increased their score or remained the same, and 85% of pathways increased their level or remained the same from the previous year.
- 52% of the pathways increased their domain score for Meeting Workforce Needs.



Science Sample Course Outline

The LDOE is excited to release the [Science Course Outline](#). During the 2022-2023 school year the Department brought together teacher preparation faculty and K-12 science experts to develop a sample course outline for elementary science methods courses. This outline provides course objectives, activities, and assessments. It was created by leading science experts across Louisiana. Please share this resource with any science support staff.

As a reminder, we also have math and ELA sample course outlines in the Believe and Prepare [library](#).

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.



Learning Year Evaluator Training

All school systems will participate in the Learning Year during the 2024-2025 school year. The COMPASS evaluation system will not be used.

- Draft observation rubrics will be shared early 2024.
- Webinars will be held in the spring.

Face-to-face training for system and school leaders will take place this summer in nine regions across the state. Please see the [Louisiana Leader and Educator Rubric and Evaluation Training Guidance](#) for available dates within each region.

Teacher training will be available in August in the Professional Learning (PL) Platform. Additional resources will also be made available to systems.

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.



Human Capital Handbook

The Department, in partnership with the Urban Schools Human Capital Academy, developed the [Human Capital Handbook](#). The purpose of Louisiana's Human Capital Handbook is to provide relevant knowledge that school systems can use to implement a strategic Human Capital (HC) approach to ensure that school systems have a quality workforce.

Each chapter is structured with:

- a summary of the topic;
- an explanation of why this work is important;
- important data points;
- key steps to take; and
- a story of impact.

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.



Human Capital Handbook Webinar Series

Content	Webinar Date and Time
Principal as Human Capital Leader	March 5 at 10 a.m.
Retention & Career Management Strategies	April 9 at 10 a.m.
Sustainable Staffing Strategies	May 7 at 10 a.m.
Cycle of Driving Improvement	June 11 at 10 a.m.

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.



MESH Marketing Toolkit

The [Marketing Toolkit](#) developed and designed in partnership with MESH, a marketing and advertising agency, is being released in December.

This Toolkit is designed to assist school systems in highlighting their accomplishments, attract families and staff members to the school system, and improve the school system's visibility and reputation within the community.

The Toolkit provides school systems with a variety of social media templates, marketing tools, and advertising designs such as fliers, brochures, and digital ads, that are completely customizable for the individual school system.

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.



Teacher Leader Summit: Leading the Next Level

The [2024 Teacher Leader Summit](#) is an annual professional learning conference that brings together Louisiana birth to grade 12 educators and content experts. Educators participating in the event will share their knowledge, learn new skills, and prepare for the 2024-2025 school year.

This year's Teacher Leader Summit will focus on our ability to lead the next level of our Vision for Success.

- The Teacher Leader Summit will take place from May 28 - May 30, 2024, at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (NOENMCC).
- Early Bird Registration will open January 5 and close February 2.

Please contact events@emergentmethod.com with questions



Professional Learning Partner Guide

School systems can begin using the [Professional Learning Partner Guide](#) (PLPG) as they begin planning for the 2024-2025 school year in the Super App. The PLPG, which streamlines all approved partners into a single guide, can help school systems connect with outside partners to meet their needs.

School systems can search the following guides:

- instructional materials,
- literacy,
- support for diverse learners,
- content leader and mentor teacher,
- educator certification and certificate programs,
- high school planning,
- early childhood ancillary certificate, and
- Jump Start training.

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



Professional Learning Partner Guide

The LDOE has released a single, comprehensive, digital [guide](#) of approved professional learning partners. Previously, the LDOE has produced over ten separate, static vendor guides for school systems to access as they choose the partners that best fit their needs. Based on feedback from partners and school systems, the dynamic [Professional Learning Partner Guide](#) (PLPG) is more accessible and user-friendly for school system leaders.



Please contact Em.Cooper@la.gov with questions.



Geaux Teach Scholarship

The Geaux Teach Fund was established in the 2022 Regular Legislative Session with an allocation of \$5M for the purpose of awarding scholarships to students in teacher preparation programs. Students may receive up to \$5,000 annually to cover the cost of tuition fees, textbooks, and instructional materials required for enrollment. School systems are encouraged to share this information with future educators and educators enrolled in alternative certification programs.

Additional information about the Geaux Teach Program, including the [Geaux Teach Application](#) and answers to [Frequently Asked Questions](#), may be accessed on the [LOSFA website](#).

Please contact deborah.paul@la.gov with questions.



2023 Mentor and Content Leader Training Provider Effectiveness Report

The 2023 Training Provider Effectiveness Report was received by BESE at the October board meeting. This report contains training and assessment data for Mentor and Content Leader training providers for participants that were enrolled in the assessment platform between **08/01/2020 - 7/31/2022**.

The final report is available in the [Mentor Teacher](#) and [Content Leader](#) libraries.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.



Evaluation Updates

There are currently 17 Louisiana school systems participating in an evaluation pilot. These systems will use new tools and processes designed to provide support and feedback to educators to improve instruction and leadership. Feedback from the pilot will be used to inform adjustments prior to full implementation.

Timeline

2023-2024 Pilot Year

2024-2025 Learning Year

2025-2026 Full Implementation

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.



Evaluation Updates

Per Bulletin 130, all evaluators must renew certification annually. The [2023-2024 Rater Reliability Evaluator Training](#) and [companion](#) are available in the [Compass Library](#).

- The [2023-2024 Evaluation Guide for Teachers](#) is also available in the Compass Library.

Systems are encouraged to begin setting [Student Learning Targets \(SLTs\)](#) and conducting observations.

- [Resources](#) for setting SLTs are available in the Compass Library.
- Per Bulletin 130, evaluators and evaluatees must meet to discuss all SLTs.
- Per Bulletin 130, all educators will require two observations for the 2023-2024 school year.

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.



Mentor Waiver

At the April BESE meeting, the Board approved a waiver for the Mentor policy for the 2023-2024 school year. Mentor teacher waivers will be granted on a case-by-case basis through the application process established by the LDOE and at no fee to the applicant, school system, or teacher preparation provider. The 2023-2024 Mentor Waiver [application](#) is currently open.

[Mentor Waiver Applications](#) should be created by the **system leader** responsible for resident placement and/or Mentor recruitment and support. The [Mentor Credential Waiver Application guide](#) provides step by step directions on the application process. Mentor waivers must be issued by October 1 for Mentors to be eligible for funding.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.





The [Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway](#) is a Grow Your Own initiative focused on high quality early career development for the next generation of Louisiana's educators. In the 2023-2024 school year, a series of supports will be offered to support Louisiana school systems in the development, implementation, and expansion of the Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway.

- [Pre-Educator Pathway Resource Library](#)
- [System Lead Professional Learning Community](#)
- Grow Your Own Learning Visits

Details and reminders about all supports will be shared through the [Pre-Educator Pathway Contact List](#).

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.



Associate Teacher Program

Under [ACT No. 99](#) of the 2023 Regular Legislative Session, the State of Louisiana now allows schools to hire candidates holding an associate's degree who are enrolled in a teacher education preparation program to serve as a teacher of record. **The authorization for the associate teacher to be a teacher of record is issued by the school system, not the LDOE.**

To be eligible for the Associate Teacher Program, the candidate must:

- Have an associate's degree from an accredited college or university.
- Be continuously enrolled in an undergraduate teacher education program at an accredited college or university for the purpose of obtaining a bachelor's degree.
- Be at least twenty-five years of age.

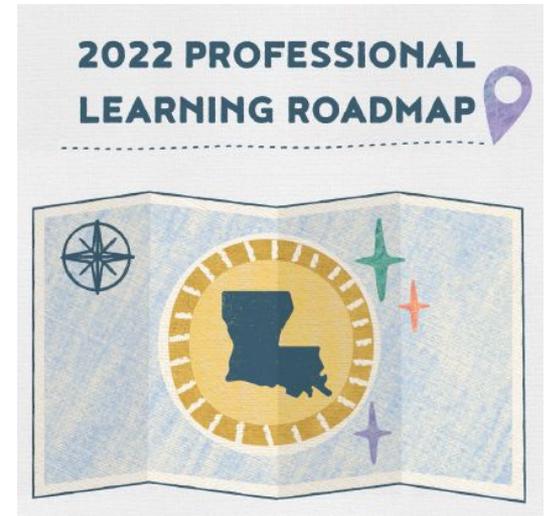
Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.



Professional Learning Roadmap

A key component of overall school system strategic planning is the implementation of a comprehensive professional learning plan.

The [Professional Learning Roadmap](#) intends to guide and support school system and school leaders in their implementation of essential professional learning structures: school system instructional leadership team, school instructional leadership team, and teacher collaboration.



Mentor and Content Leader Training

As a reminder all CIR schools must have a trained Mentor, ELA content leader, and math content leader. School systems recently received notification regarding their Super App funding to support this work.

School systems should use the [Mentor and Content Leader Training Vendor Guide](#) to select an approved training program. The guide has been updated to include all newly approved programs.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.



Staffing and Scheduling

School systems may use the [Staffing and Scheduling Best Practices Guidance](#) to assist in making staffing and scheduling decisions aligned to the best practices below for the 2023-2024 school year.

- High-quality core instruction is the foundation.
- Effective literacy instruction is central to student success.
- Students with unfinished learning and diverse learners need extra instructional time.
- Both core instruction and acceleration must be provided by content strong staff.
- Meeting the various needs of students supports academic achievement.
- Access and opportunities should be at the forefront of all these strategies.

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.



Praxis Exams Adopted

Earlier this month, BESE adopted two new Praxis exams:

- Computer Science (5652), effective 6/1/24, score 149
- Louisiana Elementary Multiple Subjects Exam (7001), effective 6/1/24
 - Includes:
 - Reading Language Arts (7002) -includes the incorporation of the Teaching of Reading exam
 - Mathematics (7003)
 - Social Studies (7004)
 - Science (7005)

Please contact certification@la.gov with any questions.



Certification Simplification

Policy adopted at January BESE simplified certification. New endorsements or changes to existing endorsements were added to allow an educator to maintain a single teaching certificate:

- Artist (Art, Creative Writing, Drama, Dance, Music, Theater, Visual Arts)
- Talented (Music, Theater, Visual Arts)
- Librarian (additional options)

Please contact certification@la.gov with questions.



Certification Status Changes

Certification renewal is based upon effective evaluations in a Louisiana approved school.

Non-Practicing status:

- Teachers or leaders who are **not serving/employed** or who are serving in another state/country
- Educators **serving on Educational Leader** certificates (EDL) should place their **teaching** certificates into **non-practicing** status
 - **EDL** would be placed into **non-practicing** while serving on the **teaching certificate**
- The requested **effective date** of non-practicing status should be the **last date of employment in the evaluated role, within the certificate's validity, no earlier than August 1, 2012**



Certification Status Changes

Certification renewal is based upon effective evaluations via Compass.

Operational Role status:

- **Teachers** who are serving in a public school setting in roles that **cannot be evaluated per student growth measures via Compass**
- Operational Role status shall take effect on the **first day of employment** in a role that **cannot be evaluated per student growth measures**
- **EDL** certificates **are not** placed into operational role

Accurate experience verification forms must be included with all status change requests. Requests for Operational Role should include a **job description** to determine eligibility. This is now noted on the updated experience verification form available in the October 2023 published Renewal, Higher, Status change application.



Reinstatement of Lifetime Certificates

Lifetime certificates **lapse for disuse** if the educator does not serve as a teacher for five consecutive years without being regularly employed for at least one semester, or 90 consecutive days, as a teacher.

Lapsed certificates may be **reinstated for a five-year** period at the request of an employing school system.

At least **three effective ratings during the five-year reactivation period** must be earned to reinstate **lifetime** validity.

Please contact certification@la.gov with questions.



Certification Evaluation Updates

During the 2023 Legislative Session, Act 63 provides for the crediting of evaluations in a variety of settings towards the maintenance of certification. Act 63 allows for the use of successful evaluations in the following settings:

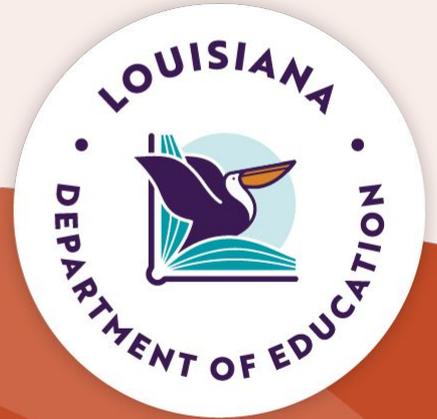
- Out-of-State (OS)
- In-state nonpublic
- Contracted or third party educators
- Allows for ‘mixing’ of evaluation types

Updates regarding these changes are included in sections 103, 507, and 519 of the proposed revisions for Bulletin 746 being heard at August BESE.

Please contact certification@la.gov with questions.



Reminders & Repeats School Improvements



Level Up: School Improvement Best Practices

Level Up: School Improvement Best Practices training, required for CIR schools for the 2024-2025 school year, will be delivered at Teacher Leader Summit 2024.

- The Department will fund TLS registration for a 3-member ILT (principal & two others) from each CIR school.
- The Division of School Improvement will collect the names of the ILT members from each CIR school to be registered. Level Up attendees should not use the regular TLS registration.
- One full day session of Level Up is required and will be pre-loaded for participants. Participants will be able to register for other TLS sessions outside of their scheduled Level Up day.

Please contact schoolimprovementdivision@la.gov with questions.

