

Teaching and Learning Call

February 26, 2025



Agenda

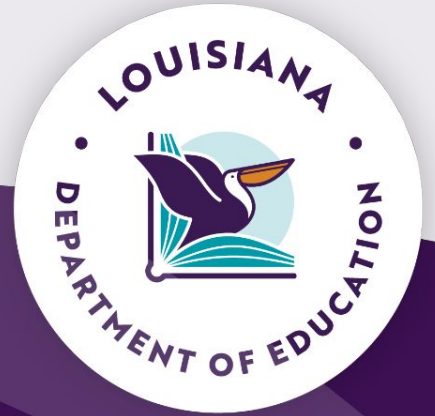
- I. Spotlight: Third Grade Promotion
- II. Academic Content
- III. Diverse Learners
- IV. Literacy
- V. Educator Talent and Workforce Development
- VI. School Improvement
- VII. Teacher Leader Summit

Suggested participants for this call:

- 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: Third Grade Promotion



R.S. 17:24.11: Third Grade Retention and Promotion

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

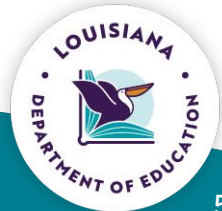
- Applies to those students in traditional public schools
- Literacy screening
- Individual reading plan
- Exceptions for good cause
- Required instructional services to retained students



Composite

Promotion is dependent on the composite score which is composed of the following subtests:

- Nonsense Words Fluency: Correct Letter Sounds and Whole Words Read
- Oral Reading Fluency: Accuracy and Automaticity
- Words Read Fluency: High-Frequency Words
- Maze: Comprehension



Nonsense Words

- Mimics English spelling patterns only
- Assesses the alphabetic principle and primary phonics
- Assesses the student's ability to use decoding strategies
- Provides insight into student application of phonemic awareness and decoding strategies
- Assesses ability of decode multisyllabic words
- Should NOT be taught. Students will increase their performance on the nonsense word reading assessments if provided with explicit and systematic instruction in sound-symbol correspondences and phonics.



Oral Reading Fluency

- Addresses accuracy -ability to apply advanced phonics and word recognition in the reading of connected text
- Addresses automaticity - the rate to which a student reads
- BOTH impact comprehension



Oral Reading Fluency

Instruction

- Low accuracy, low fluency -benefit from systematic, explicitly instruction in phonics and word-level reading accuracy and automaticity
- High accuracy, low fluency -benefit from opportunities for ample fluency practice through multiple reads of text with focus on students' phrasing, pausing at punctuation, and reading with expression



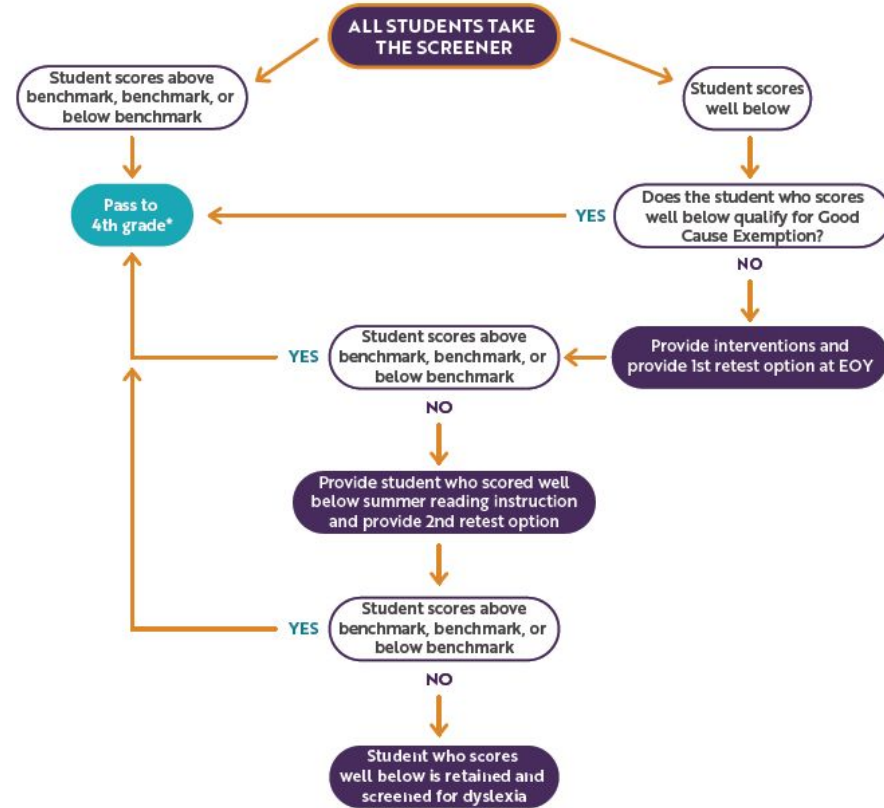
Timeline

Students are given three opportunities to score above *well below*.

- EOY benchmark in April
- School systems may administer the second EOY grade 3 screener **during their last week of school**, but no earlier.
- With this change, we will now require that the 3rd and final grade 3 screening **be given no sooner than two weeks after the second screening**.
- You can choose to begin later than your last week of school and you can choose to have more than two weeks between the second and third screener to accommodate the remediation that you are planning for your students.



Decision Making Flowchart



*Local pupil progression determines other promotion requirements, such as grades and absenteeism.

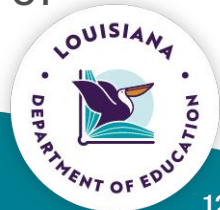
Good Cause Exemptions

- A student with Limited English Proficiency who has been enrolled in an English language assistance program for fewer than two years. If a student comes from out of state and was in an English language assistance program, then those years count.
- An Individualized Education Program (IEP) indicates that the screener is not appropriate for the student with a disability for the purpose of retention.
- A student's Individualized Education Program or Section 504 Plan reflects that intensive reading intervention has been received for two years. The IEP or 504 Plan must include a reading goal.



Good Cause Exemptions cont.

- A student who has not met Bulletin 1508 eligibility criteria as a student with an exceptionality, has been previously retained in kindergarten, first, second, or third grade, and has received intensive evidence-based structured literacy intervention for two or more years.
- Intervention should be documented through an individual reading improvement plan (now known as the IASP).
- A student has been diagnosed with dyslexia as documented on an IEP or 504 Plan with accompanying supporting documents or medical diagnosis documentation. This does not include students with characteristics of dyslexia.



Good Cause Exemptions cont.

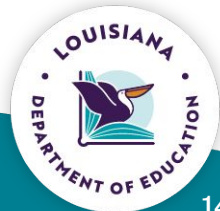
- A student demonstrates an acceptable level of proficiency on a BESE-approved alternative standardized assessment
- A student, including a student who receives accommodations, who has scores in the Mastery achievement level on the English Language Arts section of the LEAP 2025 assessment

Note: Regardless of a student qualifying for a good-cause exemption, literacy screening, intervention, and progress monitoring should continue.



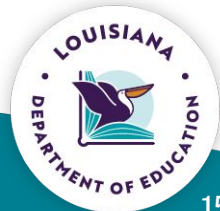
FAQ Responses

- There is no minimum number of hours required for summer learning. This is an LEA decision.
- LEAs should use available system funding to support summer learning programs.
- Science of Reading training is available through the LDOE Professional Learning Platform.
- A waiver option is not available as this is state statute. This includes an IEP team and parents choosing to have their child not screened.
- Good Cause Exemption forms should be kept in student records at the school.
- All third grade students are held to this law regardless of their enrollment date.



Take Action Now

- Review Middle of the Year (MOY) data to determine areas of growth/decline.
- Verify all families have received MOY reports and communication.
- Ensure daily targeted small-group interventions and progress monitoring.
- Consider using any remaining Accelerate: High Dosage Tutoring funds to target this population of students.
- Prepare for summer learning opportunities.



Questions

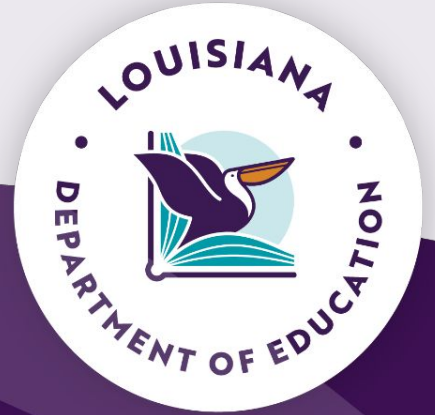
Good Cause Exemption Office Hours

- February 26 @ 2pm: [Zoom Link](#)

For questions about...	Contact...
Literacy guidance and policies, including the IASP	louisianaliteracy@la.gov
DIBELS administration, rostering, and reporting	assessment@la.gov
Diverse Learners, including students with Dyslexia	diverselearnersupport@la.gov



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
Gallopade International, Inc.	Gallopade Curriculum: Louisiana Social Studies, Grade 8	Social Studies	Tier 1
Kendall Hunt	BSCS Biology: Understanding for Life	Science	Tier 1

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

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.



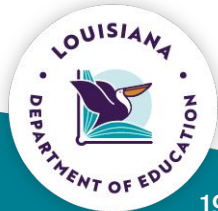
K-12 Science Summer Professional Learning

LDOE is hosting a series of in-person professional learning opportunities focused on planning with HQIM to support high-quality science instruction in July.

The series will include two-day regional workshops for [K-12 science educators](#) as well as [one-day leader sessions](#).

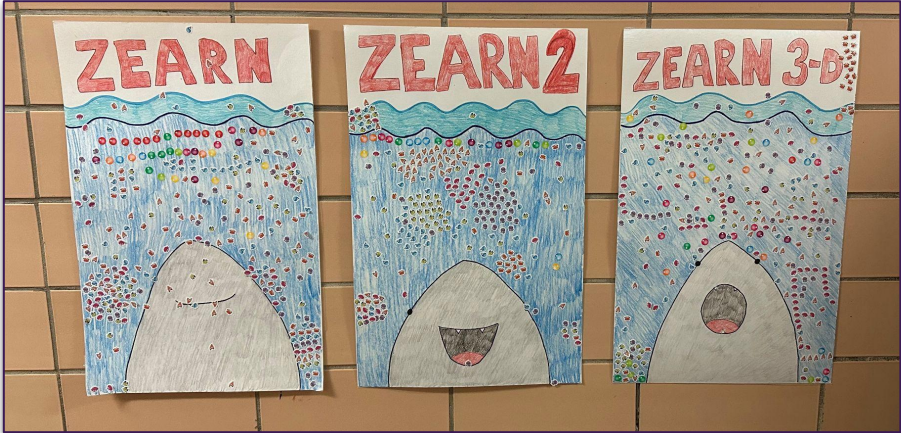
To request a seat, please fill out the [teacher registration form](#) or [leader registration form](#) by **April 3**.

Please contact stem@la.gov with questions.

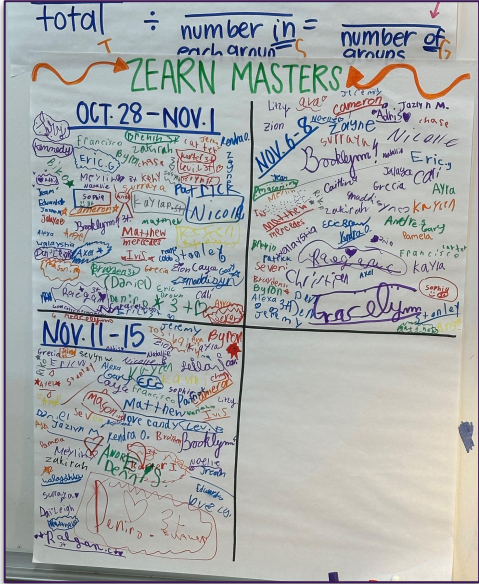


Zearn Highlights

Lafourche Parish



St. John the Baptist Parish



Please reach out to STEM@la.gov with questions



Zearn for SY 2025-2026

Zearn School Licenses are available for the 2025-2026 school year.

System leaders should complete the [School Account Confirmation Form](#) to express your interest in continuing Zearn engagement by **May 1**.

Remember to

- monitor student engagement of three grade-level lessons per week;
- encourage teachers to check reports; and
- celebrate schools, classes, teachers and students meeting goals.

Please reach out to STEM@la.gov with questions



Act 260 Numeracy Professional Learning

- Leaders should encourage appropriate pacing for completion by **August 1**.
 - February: Modules 14-15
 - March: Modules 16-17
- Upcoming Office Hours
 - [Wednesday, March 19, 9 a.m.](#)
- [Numeracy Community of Practice](#)
- Teacher Leader Summit 2025 sessions

Please reach out to STEM@la.gov with questions.



Bayou Bridges Instructional Slide Decks

The following Bayou Bridges Instructional slide decks are now available:

- Unit 6 for all grade levels
- Unit 7 for grades 3 and 8

Access these slide decks on the [Bayou Bridges](#) landing page under each grade level section.



Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.





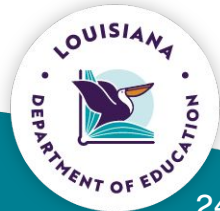
Social Studies Office Hours

Join the LDOE social studies team for our third office hours session to receive additional support with [Bayou Bridges, a K-8 Social Studies Curriculum](#).

- Time and Date: Wednesday, March 5, 3:15 p.m. on [Zoom](#)
- Topic: Alternate pacing options using [Bayou Bridges](#)

See the 2025 [Social Studies Office Hours flyer](#) for future dates, topics, and access to past office hours slides.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.



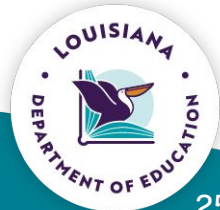
K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Computer Science Implementation Webinar

Webinar Dates and Times:

- March 18 at 9 a.m.
- March 19 at 2 p.m.

Prior registration is required. Please see the [K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Computer Science Implementation Webinar](#) information document for further details and registration links.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions

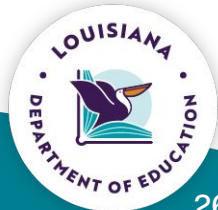


Computer Science Implementation Support Office Hours

Office hours supporting school systems in computer science implementation will begin in February and continue every third Thursday of the month.

- **Date and Time:** February 27, 10 - 11 a.m. on [Zoom](#)
- **Meeting ID#:** 984 5967 4085

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions



International Associate Teacher Program

Superintendent Signing Statements for schools requesting IATs for the 2025-2026 school year should be completed via DocuSign **by March 15.**

More information:

- [Louisiana International Associate Teacher Program Guide](#)

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



International Program Opportunities and Exchanges

LDOE can aid schools and systems in efforts to provide access to international opportunities and exchanges for students, teachers, and communities.

- [International Associate Teacher Program](#)
- Virtual Exchanges
- In-Person Exchanges
- STEM Exchanges

Review [International Program Opportunities and Exchanges Flyer](#) and complete the survey by **May 1**.

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



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 as described in legislation.

Funds will be dispersed similar to the initial special education camera funds.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.



IDEA Application Funding Priorities Survey

Each year, the LDOE submits a grant application on the use of state-level IDEA funds to the U.S. Department of Education. As part of this year's grant application development process, the LDOE is seeking feedback on how to prioritize funding for allowable special education activities. Any interested stakeholders, including school system representatives, parents, educators and other members of the public should complete the [survey](#) by March 14.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.



Alternate Assessment Participation Review

Under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), any school system with **more than 1.0% of students participating** in the ELA, math or science alternate assessment must take certain actions.

2023-2024 LEAP Connect data and corresponding documents will be available in the data management FTP in March. School systems should review their data and take any required actions by **April 11**.

Contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

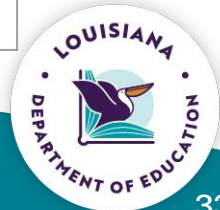


Special Education Parent Involvement Survey

Below is a timeline of this year's parent survey.

Timeline	Milestone
February-March 2025	Survey packages sent to selected school systems
March-June 2025	Survey window open
Summer 2025	The LDOE analyzes results
February 2026	Outcomes reported in the SPP/APR
Spring 2026	The LDOE reports outcomes to school systems

Contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.



Parental Involvement Survey Participants

Ascension Parish	Cameron Parish	Concordia Parish	Franklin Parish	Lafourche Parish	Livingston Parish	St. John Parish	Washington Parish
West Feliciana	Zachary Community Schools	City of Baker Schools	Fannie C. Williams	Advantage Charter Academy	Impact Charter School	LA Virtual Charter	SWLA Charter Academy
Willow School	Einstein Charter HS Sarah T. Reed	New Harmony High	Athlos Academy	McDonogh 35 HS	Collegiate Baton Rouge		

Contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.



Statewide Access to LRP Modules for Special Education

LDOE is partnering with LRP to bring professionals statewide access to 17 professional learning modules on a variety of topics:

- IEP compliance
- Evaluations and reevaluations
- Measurable annual goals
- Legal requirements and practical considerations for the use of seclusion and restraint
- FBAs and BIPs
- ESY
- Behavior and students with autism
- Dispute resolution

Get started today!

Visit

<http://ladoe-ds.lrp.com>
and self-register for your
eCourses.

Please contact directstep@lrp.com with questions.



Fast Track ESL Add-on

Tuition-free courses are available for teachers and leaders to earn an [ESL Add-On credential](#). Please complete the 2024-2026 [Early Interest Survey](#) to receive information about Project Endorsement Plus opportunities.

[Professional Development Courses](#) are also included with Project Endorsement Plus:

- Looking at Student Academic Language Foundations (LASAL) Professional Development
- Parents as Partners in Literacy (PaPiL) Professional Development

Please visit [ASPD](#) or email registration@aspdgroup.com for more information.

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.



English Learner Institute

The Louisiana Department of Education is excited to continue the English Learner Institute, which provides essential information and updates regarding English Learners.

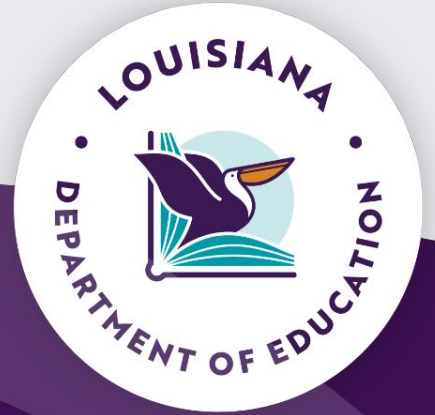
The upcoming institute will focus on best practices for supporting English Learners, and also feature speakers who are experts in the field. We encourage all EL Directors/Coordinators to attend and participate in this opportunity to learn and collaborate with colleagues from across the state.

Please mark your calendars for the English Learner Institute on [May 14, 2025](#) (Registration closes May 9, 2025).

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.



Literacy



Tiered Pathway for Literacy Support Framework

The Tiered Pathway for Literacy Support Framework is now available on the LDOE [website](#).

This resource is intended to provide guidance for Louisiana school systems to make critical decisions regarding the Louisiana TPLS Framework, uplift our shared vision for literacy, and increase the coherence of strategic literacy support for all students.

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.



TPLS Launch Sessions

- Launching Tiered Pathway for Literacy Support for System Leaders

[March 12](#) 1:00-2:00 p.m.

- Launching Tiered Pathway for Literacy Support for School Leaders

[March 27](#) 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.



Reading Intervention in Secondary Schools Webinar Series

- Reading Intervention in Secondary Schools: Session 3
March 26 10:00-11:30 a.m.
- Reading Intervention in Secondary Schools: Session 4
April 30 10:00-11:30 a.m.

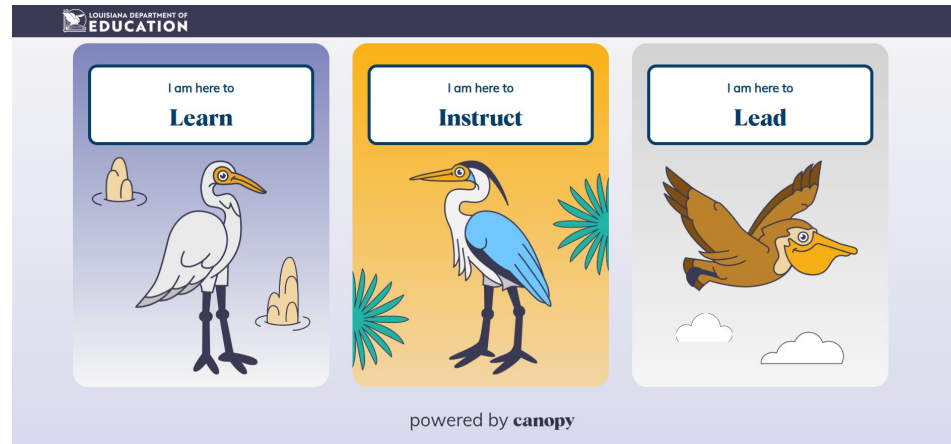
Please contact haley.montz@la.gov with questions.



Science and Art of Teaching Reading Part 2

The *Science and Art of Teaching Reading* professional learning series part 2 is now available through the [Louisiana Professional Learning Platform](#). Participants must score at least an 80% to pass.

Course code- **C7626END**



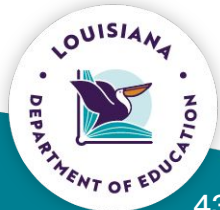
Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.



High Dosage Tutoring (HDT) Allocations

- Allocations for HDT cannot be carried over to the next fiscal year.
- Systems should review their HDT plan and maximize their remaining funds.
- Funds should be used to directly support HDT as outlined in the system's HDT plan.

Please contact tutoring@la.gov with questions.

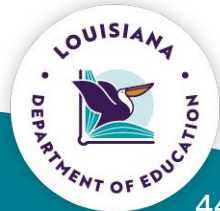


High Dosage Tutoring Highlight

Jodi Lemoine, M.Ed, NBCT

Director of Accountability,
West Feliciana Parish Schools

Ms. Lemoine served on a panel at the *2025 Accelerate Annual Convening* to discuss how her district partnered with an external provider to enhance their efforts in providing interventions for students.



Educator Talent and Workforce Development



LEADS Implementation Support & Resources

- The last round of [LEADS Implementation On-Site Support Sessions](#) for the 2024-2025 school year will be held in March. Registration is open on [Eventbrite](#).
 - Sabine - Post-Conferences
 - Central Community Schools - Coaching Plans
- Resources to support professional learning are available in the [LEADS Public Collections](#) section of the Professional Learning Platform.
 - [Full Length Lesson Sets](#) - Set 1: Fifth Grade Math
 - [Video Clip Collection](#)

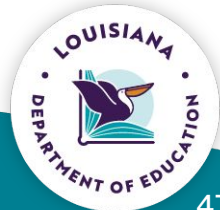
Please contact LEADS@la.gov with questions.



LEADS Evaluator Training

- Training for all system and school-level leaders and observers will be offered this spring and summer. Additional training will also be offered in the fall and winter for new hires.
- Training is required for all first-time LEADS evaluators and designated observers. Register on [Eventbrite](#) for selected training.
- **All school systems will participate in the LEADS 2025-2026 Implementation Year.**

Please contact LEADS@la.gov with questions.



Aspiring Principal Fellowship Application

The Louisiana Department of Education is excited to offer the fifth cohort of the Aspiring Principal Fellowship for the 2025-2026 school year.

- This year-long fellowship will equip up to 50 individuals with the essential knowledge and skills to step into the principal role.
- Fellows will engage in school visits with exemplary practicing principals and professional learning aligned with current state initiatives.
- Interested candidates should complete this [Aspiring Principal Fellowship Application](#) no later than April 7. Fellowship applicants will be notified of acceptance by May 9, 2025.
- Additional information about the Aspiring Principal Fellowship can be found in the [APF overview document](#).

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.



Educators Rising State Conference

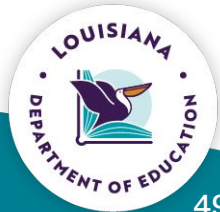
The 2025 Louisiana Educators Rising State Conference will be held on March 21 at University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

Louisiana Aspiring Educators from middle schools, high schools, and colleges are welcome. Events for the day include Educators Rising competitions, professional learning, and lunch.

[Register your pre-educator students now.](#)

Please contact edrising@louisiana.edu for more information.

Please contact edrising@louisiana.edu with questions.



School Improvement



Level Up School Support Institutes at TLS 2025

Level Up SSI at TLS will bring ILTs together to reflect on key learnings from this year's SSI sessions, assess progress on goals, identify needs and create actionable plans for the next school year to ensure all students have access to grade-level standards.

- A TLS Level Up registration link and code was sent to designated system and school leaders the week of February 17.
- System leaders may complete a group registration for TLS Level Up participants in their system.
- Please contact SSIsupport@la.gov with questions.

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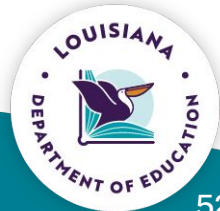


School Support Institutes 2025-2026

Please see the [overview document](#) for more details. Registration will be open on May 1.

In-person Session 1 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM		Session 2 Asynchronous	In-person Session 3 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM		In-person Session 4
Monroe	Sept 23, 2025	Participants will complete a self-paced asynchronous session online	New Orleans	Jan 21, 2026	Teacher Leader Summit 2026
Shreveport	Sept 24, 2025		Baton Rouge	Jan 22, 2026	
Lafayette	Sept 30, 2025		Lafayette	Jan 23, 2026	
New Orleans	Oct 1, 2025		Monroe	Jan 27, 2026	
Baton Rouge	Oct 2, 2025		Shreveport	Jan 28, 2026	

Please contact SSIsupport@la.gov with questions.

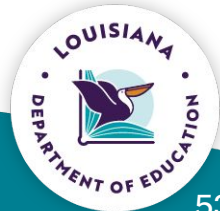


System Leader Regional Collaborations 2025-2026

System Leader Collaborations will be held in the afternoon from 1 pm to 4.
Registration will be open on May 1.

Session 1		Session 2	
Monroe	Sept 23, 2025	Baton Rouge	Jan 22, 2026
Shreveport	Sept 24, 2025	Lafayette	Jan 23, 2026
Lafayette	Sept 30, 2025	Monroe	Jan 27, 2026
Baton Rouge	Oct 2, 2025	Shreveport	Jan 28, 2026

Please contact SSIsupport@la.gov with questions.



Teacher Leader Summit 2025



Registration and Payment Updates

Early bird [registration](#) is now open. The registration link is on the [Teacher Leader Summit Landing](#) page.

Paying by check should only be used as a last resort for systems that do not have the means to pay by credit card. Checks from individual schools or individuals cannot be accepted. If paying by check, please include your confirmation number, the system name, and a list of attendees covered by the check received. If paying by check, please send payment to:

Louisiana Department of Education
Attention: Appropriation Control
P.O. Box 94064
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Checks must be received by May 2.

Please contact ldoeevents@la.gov with questions.



Call Summary



Key Deadlines & Action Steps

March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● March 15: Superintendent Signing Statements for IATs● March 21: Educators Rising State Conference at ULL
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● April 3: Registration due for High School Science Leader Summer Professional Learning● April 3: Registration due for High School Science Educator Summer Professional Learning● April 7: Deadline to submit Aspiring Principal Fellowship Application● April 11: Complete Alternate Assessment Participation Forms
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● May 1: International Program Opportunities and Exchanges Survey● May 1: complete the Zearn School Account Confirmation Form● May 9: Registration due for EL Institute: Session 4
August	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● August 1: Grade 4-8 math teachers must complete Act 260 Numeracy Training.

Upcoming Webinars & Calls

Month	Date, Time: Title and Zoom Link
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none">February 27, 10 a.m.: Computer Science Office Hours
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">March 5, 3:15-4:00 p.m.: Social Studies Office HoursMarch 11, 9:00 a.m.: Zearn Support for LeadersMarch 12, 1:00 p.m.: Tiered Pathway for Literacy Support for System LeadersMarch 13, 9:00 a.m.: EdTech Monthly CallMarch 18, 9 a.m.: Computer Science Implementation WebinarMarch 19, 9 a.m.: Numeracy Leader Office HoursMarch 19, 2 p.m.: Computer Science Implementation WebinarMarch 20, 10:30 a.m.: High School Science Leader Support Monthly CallMarch 20, 10 a.m.: Computer Science Office HoursMarch 26, 10 a.m.: Reading Intervention in Secondary SchoolsMarch 26, 1 p.m.: Teaching and Learning Monthly CallMarch 27, 1:00 p.m.: Tiered Pathway for Literacy Support for School Leaders

