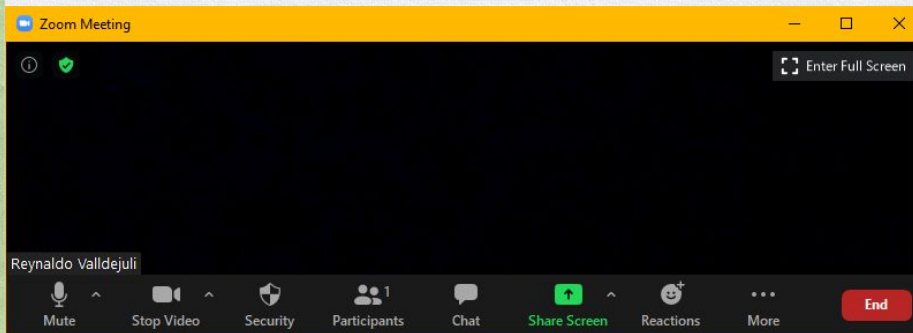


Zoom Meeting Preparation

- Please make sure your phone or computer is muted to minimize background noise.
 - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Mute.”
- Please make sure you have turned off your camera to save bandwidth and prevent any connectivity issues.
 - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Stop Video.”
- Please submit questions during the presentation in the “Chat” function located on the bottom of your screen.



NOTICE: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance at this meeting please contact Idoecommunications@la.gov.

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



**Office of Career and College
Readiness Office Hours
March 11, 2021**

Office Hours Norms

Participants may submit questions **via the online chat feature**.

Submitting questions via the chat allows CCR the opportunity to not only answer your question while on the call but to also add your question and the answer to our publicly disseminated FAQ document(s).

This will be time for participants to ask questions about any program in the 4 work streams of the Office of Career and College Readiness. Those items are listed in the agenda.

Career and College Readiness

PATHWAY INITIATIVES AND READINESS SUPPORT

- School Reopening Updates, Advanced Coursework: AP, Dual Enrollment, IB and CLEP Testing

FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

- Freshmen Academies, Transitional 9th Grade, Counselor Institutes, Professional School Counselor liaison, Individual Graduation Plan, High School Planning Guides, Counselor Newsletter, Pupil Progression Plans, Direct Student Services

QUALITY DIPLOMAS

- Jump Start, Jump Start Convention, Jump Start Summers, Super Summer Institute, CTTIE, Career Development Fund, Quest for Success, Supplemental Course Academy, U.S. Presidential Scholar

POST-SECONDARY READINESS

- Fast Forward, Extension Academy, Diploma Orders, Community Service Diploma Endorsement, April Dunn Jump Start Pathways, Financial Aid Planning, Gifted and Talented Programming, Student of the Year, U.S. Senate Youth Program, Credit Recovery, Course Codes, Proficiency Exams, Transcripts

Pathway Initiatives and Readiness Support



Updated Quarantine Guidance

The CDC released [updated quarantine guidance](#) for fully vaccinated individuals on Monday, March 8. People are considered fully vaccinated for COVID-19 if they meet one of the following criteria:

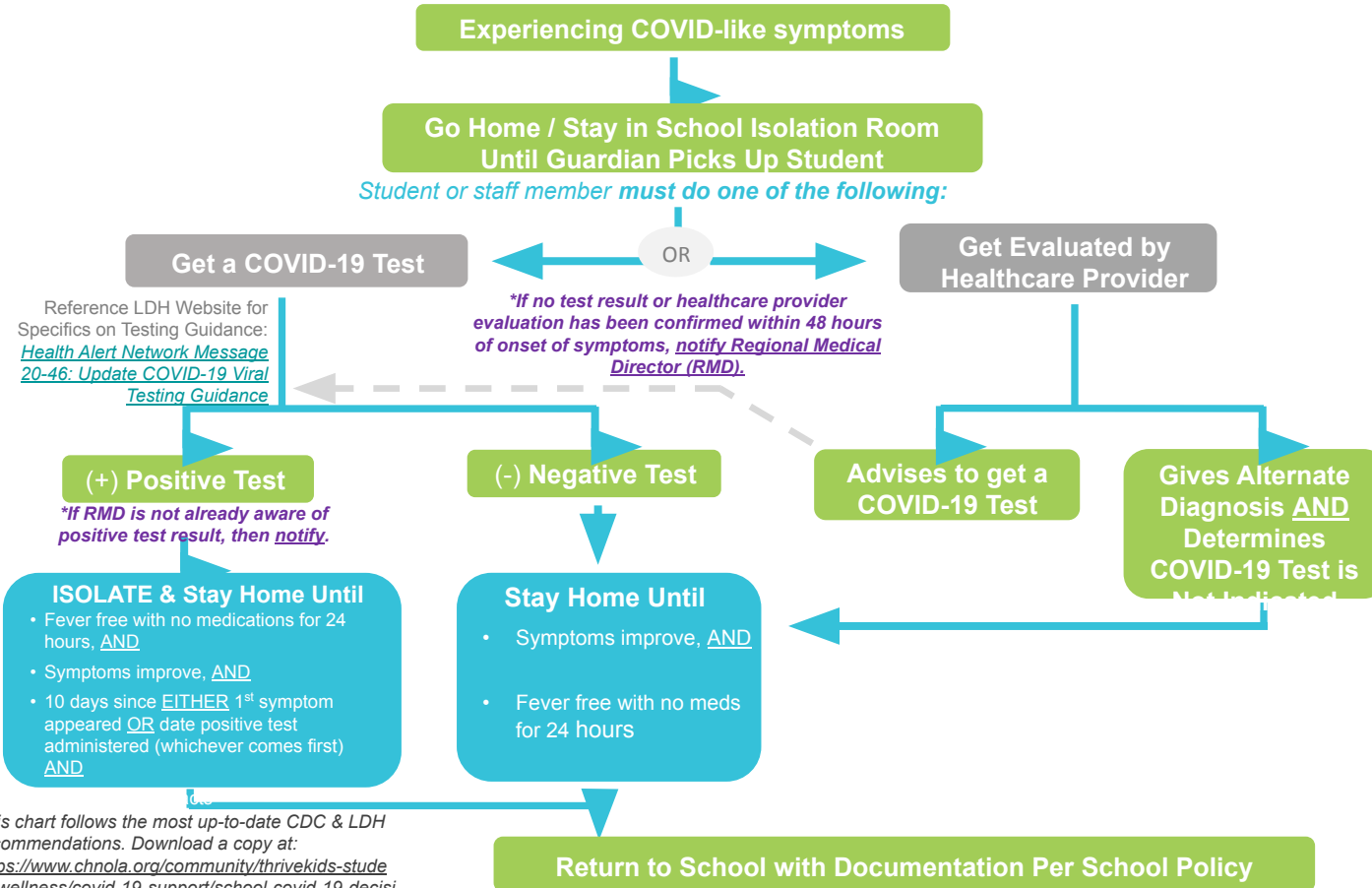
- ≥ 2 weeks after they have received the second dose in a 2-dose series (Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna), or
- ≥ 2 weeks after they have received a single-dose vaccine (Johnson and Johnson [J&J]/Janssen).

The updated guidance allows for the following:

- Fully vaccinated individuals in non-healthcare settings do not need to quarantine following an exposure regardless of how long ago they may have completed the COVID vaccine series.

School COVID-19 Screening Decision Tree:

Responding to a Symptomatic Individual – 3.8.2021



COVID-19 symptoms include but are not limited to:

- Fever ≥ 100.4 °F
- Shortness of breath
- Chest pain
- Increasingly nonproductive (dry) cough
- Body aches or fatigue
- GI symptoms (nausea, diarrhea)
- Loss of taste and/or smell
- Other flu or cold like symptoms such as headache, sore throat, or congestion

Reference LDH Website for Specifics on Suspect Cases & Contact Tracing: [COVID-19 Contact Tracing in Schools](#)

Children's Hospital New Orleans Hotline for School Wellness & Virtual Care ☐ 504.837.7760

Notification for close contact only needs to take place once a positive case is confirmed or if deemed necessary by RMD.

In case of an emergency, dial 911

This chart follows the most up-to-date CDC & LDH recommendations. Download a copy at: <https://www.chnola.org/community/thrivekids-student-wellness/covid-19-support/school-covid-19-decision-tree/>

Reference LDH Website for Form Titled: [Return-to-School Self-Certification for COVID-19](#)

School COVID-19 Screening Decision Tree:

Responding to Close Contact – 3.8.2021



Children's Hospital
New Orleans
LCMC Health



Close Contact

Go Home / Stay in School Isolation Room Until Guardian Picks Up Student & Notify Regional Medical Director

Do Not Quarantine if...

- Fully vaccinated (≥2 weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series, or ≥2 weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine),
- Within 3 months following receipt of the last dose in the series, **AND**
- Have remained asymptomatic since the current COVID-19 exposure.

Return to School After 14 Days in Quarantine

Quarantine

NO

Option to Get Test at Day 5-7

YES

(-) Negative Test

(+) Positive Test

Return to School After 10 Days in Quarantine

Must be symptom-free

Return to School After 7 Days in Quarantine

Follow Symptomatic Decision Tree

If one of these two options to shorten quarantine are chosen, ALL non-pharmaceutical interventions including mask-wearing and social distancing need to be maintained until the full 14-day quarantine period has been completed. (If masking and social distancing cannot be maintained, we recommend utilization of the 14-day quarantine period.)

Reducing length of the quarantine period DOES NOT ELIMINATE THE RISK OF COVID-19. If any COVID-19 symptoms develop during the 14-day period after a close contact:

- Immediately self-isolate
- Follow Symptomatic Decision Tree
- Strongly recommended to get a COVID-19 test

[Self-Certification for COVID-19](#)

Reference LDH Website for Form Titled: [Return-to-School](#)

This chart follows the most up-to-date CDC & LDH recommendations. Download a copy at:
<https://www.chnola.org/community/thrivekids-student-wellness/covid-19-support/school-covid-19-decision-tree/>

CLOSE CONTACT =

- Within 6 feet of someone who tested positive, for a **cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period**, regardless of whether either party was wearing a mask;
- Timing of exposure must have taken place within 2 days of the positive person's onset of symptoms or positive test result (whichever came first).

Reference LDH Website for Specifics on Suspect Cases & Contact Tracing:
[COVID-19 Contact Tracing in Schools](#)

Children's Hospital New Orleans Hotline for School Wellness & Virtual Care ☐ 504.837.7760

Notification for close contact only needs to take place once a positive case is confirmed or if deemed necessary by RMD.

In case of an emergency, dial 911.

Updated School Reopening Resources

[School Reopening Guidelines](#) have been updated with current CDC links to resources for school systems.

The [School Reopening FAQ document](#) has been updated to include information about vaccination availability and updated Phase 3 guidance surrounding events held on a K12 campus after the instructional day.

Louisiana Educator & Staff Vaccine Access

On February 18, Governor John Bel Edwards announced that the state of Louisiana would move to Phase 1B, Tier 2 of COVID-19 vaccinations. This new phase allows for K-12 and early childhood education staff to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

In order to ensure that all school systems have equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines and information about the vaccine, the Department worked with the Louisiana Department of Health to recommend that school systems develop a partnership with local clinics, hospitals or pharmacies to orchestrate logistics in administering the vaccine. We also asked that systems determine the number of employees who wish to receive the voluntary vaccine. Educators and support staff also have the option to schedule their vaccinations independently with their local providers.

- Eligible employees include those who are housed on site at a center or school.
- It also includes system employees whose work takes them to centers or school sites routinely.
- Employees will most likely be asked to present a badge, paystub or some form of school system identification to receive a vaccine.

Believe to Achieve: Louisiana ACT[®] NOW

The [Louisiana ACT[®] NOW](#) program provides funding to purchase pre-billed ACT test vouchers for eligible students in grades 12 and 10. To receive reimbursement for vouchers, school systems shall submit a [completed application](#) that includes specific programmatic, physical and accountability assurances no later than **April 17**. Vouchers purchased from ACT must be used for one of three administrations as outlined below.

Test Date	Registration Deadline
April 17	March 12
June 12	May 7
July 17	June 18

The cost of vouchers for ACT without writing is \$55 per student, and there will be no refund for unused vouchers. Please contact meredith.mcgovern@la.gov with questions.

Believe to Achieve: Louisiana ACT[®] NOW

Students in grade 12 are eligible for an ACT[®] voucher if all of these apply:

- The student has not earned an ACT[®] score that qualifies them for college admissions or TOPS, or who are seeking an opportunity to enhance their current level of TOPS Tech, TOPS Opportunity, TOPS Performance, TOPS Honors, or to seek other merit-based scholarship opportunities.
- The student is on target to complete all coursework necessary to graduate no later than August 31, 2021.
- The student is on target to meet all state assessment graduation requirements no later than August 31, 2021.

Students in grade 10 are eligible for an ACT[®] voucher if:

- The student requires an ACT[®] score to qualify for enrollment in a Dual Enrollment program or other academic program(s) that require an ACT[®] score.

Regulatory Flexibility Guidance: Graduating Seniors

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) has granted [additional opportunities for high school seniors to meet the LEAP 2025 and Career Diploma IBC credentialing requirement.](#)

The aforementioned opportunities are available to high school seniors who meet the following qualifications:

1. Met all other graduation requirements
2. Attempted all required LEAP 2025 assessments at least one time
3. Were enrolled during the spring 2021 semester and are graduating by August 31, 2021

Regulatory Flexibility Guidance: Graduating Seniors

All high school seniors who meet the qualifications have the option to substitute the following in lieu of the LEAP 2025 high school assessment requirement and/or Career Diploma credential requirement:

LEAP 2025 Substitution Opportunities

1. An ACT composite score of 17 or higher for all students; or
2. An ACT subject score of 17 or higher in the corresponding LEAP 2025 high school assessment; or
3. A score of Silver or better on ACT WorkKeys for students pursuing a Career Diploma; or
4. The student participates in 20 or more extended learning hours per LEAP 2025 high school assessment subject pair for which the student has yet to achieve level 2 (approaching basic/fair) or above, with such instruction provided by a qualified teacher. [A template will be provided to LEAs](#) to document the extended learning hours and the level of achievement.
 - a. School systems will determine the number of extended learning hours needed (**minimum 20**) and the assessment method used to determine whether or not the student is performing at the equivalent of Approaching Basic.
 - b. Qualified teacher is defined as holding a valid and current teaching certification or a final COMPASS evaluation of Effective:Emerging or better.

Regulatory Flexibility Guidance: Graduating Seniors

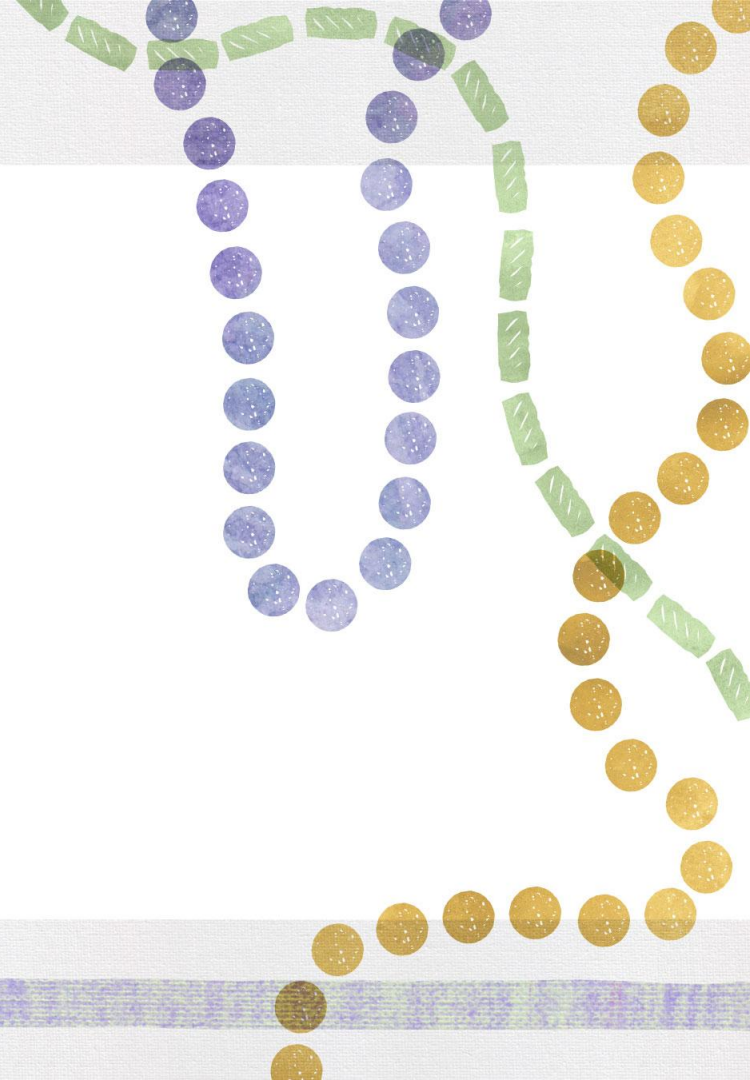
Career Diploma IBC Credentialing Requirement Substitution

1. WorkKeys Silver and above can substitute for the IBC credentialing requirement for the purpose of meeting graduation requirements.

A [dynamic FAQ document](#) has been provided with more details on inputting the updated waiver into STS and answers additional questions surrounding the policy.

Please reach out to highschoolacademics@la.gov with questions

Postsecondary Readiness



Financial Aid Planning

The FAFSA is the form for state and federal financial aid for postsecondary endeavors. As a requirement of the IGP planning process throughout high school, every senior, as a requirement for graduation, must complete a FAFSA or have a waiver in place. We are currently ranked eighth nationally. If you would like your school's rate you can visit the LOSFA [Compete to Complete](#) site, contact us or ask your System Relations staff.

Any waivers issued for the Financial Aid Planning graduation requirement will be reviewed during the graduation cohort verification process and must be present for students to count in the cohort graduation rate.

For assistance with financial aid planning, please contact ldefinancialaid@la.gov.

Jump Start Construction Scholars Program

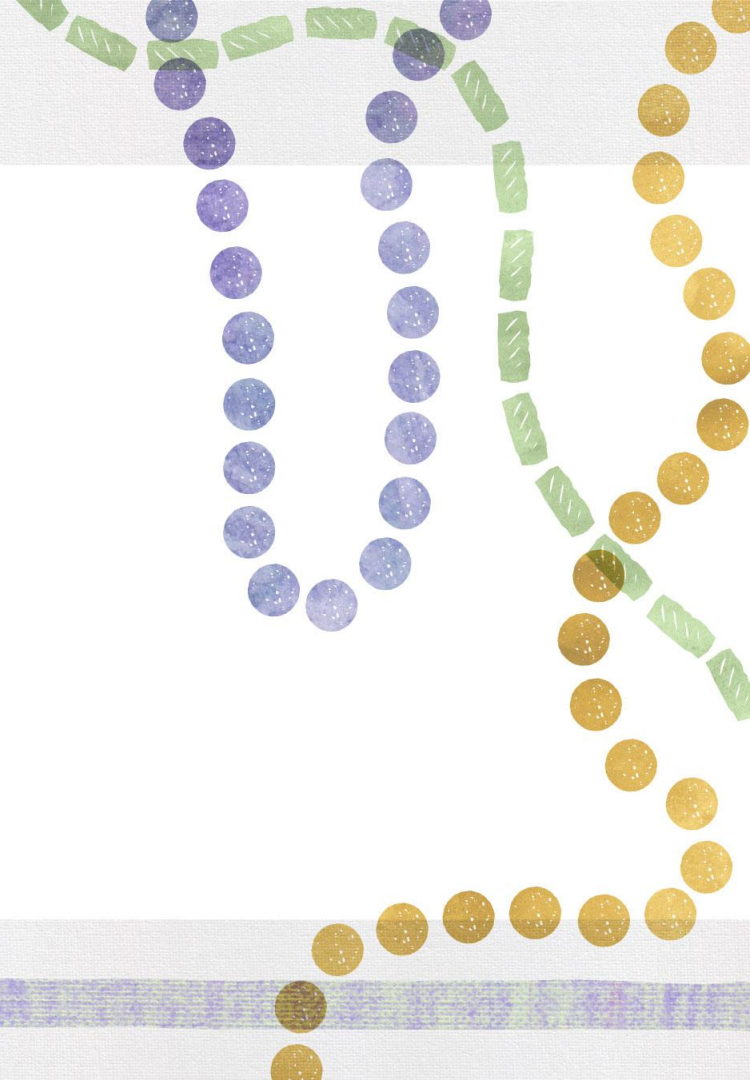
The Louisiana Construction Education Foundation, Louisiana's Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) and the Louisiana Department of Education are collecting [2020-2021 Jump Start Construction Connect Scholars Program Applications](#).

Scholarship Award

The Jump Start Construction Scholars program will provide up to 40 one-time scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each to students graduating from high school with a Jump Start Diploma and NCCER Credential planning to enroll in an LCTCS program or an Associated Builders and Contractors training program. The application deadline has been extended to April 12.

For more information, please contact megan.thompson2@la.gov.

Foundational Skills



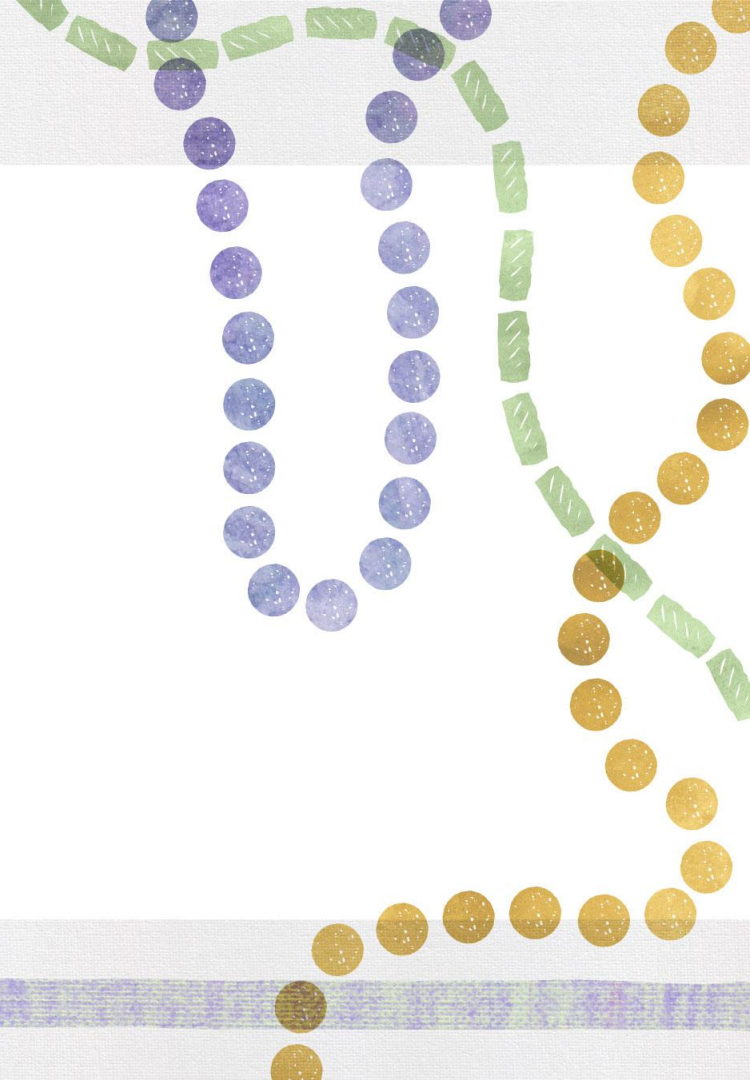
Individual Graduation Planning (IGP) Webinar

The 2021 IGP Webinar will provide school counselors with an overview of recent legislative updates and Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC) resources.

Webinar Date and Time	March 31 at 9 a.m.	April 7 at 9 a.m.
Webinar Link	https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95873761113	https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98761399712
Webinar Phone Number	312-626-6799	312-626-6799
Meeting ID#	958 7376 1113	987 6139 9712
Passcode	326318	156512

Please email leslie.gilliland@la.gov for support.

Quality Diplomas



Super Summer Institute

The dynamic [2021 Jump Start Super Summer Institute Catalogue](#) provides a list of professional development and training opportunities available this summer. This list will be released in next week's newsletter. It is not comprehensive and will continue to be updated as additional training options are confirmed. Schools systems can submit training opportunities and/or training requests to jumpstart@la.gov for review.

Registration costs are paid directly to the provider. Carl Perkins and Career Development Funds are eligible funding sources for registration.

Please email jumpstart@la.gov for more information.

Spring NCCER ICTP/Core Training Opportunity

NCCER ICTP/Core teacher certification will be held virtually from April 12-16 and continues April 19-23. The master trainer will work with craft instructors to complete performance profiles.

The cost of the certification class for ICTP/Core is \$600.00. Registration costs will be paid directly to the trainer. Perkins and/or CDF funds can pay for training costs.

Prior to registering for the training all potential craft instructors are required to submit documentation of skill. Upon verification, instructors will be provided a registration link.

For more information, please contact troy.borne@la.gov.

Moderated Question and Answer

Please submit any questions related to the following in the chat box:

PATHWAY INITIATIVES AND READINESS SUPPORT

- School Reopening Updates, Advanced Coursework: AP, Dual Enrollment, IB and CLEP Testing

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Helpful Information



Schedules, access links and information for the Department’s webinars can be found in the [LDOE Weekly Newsletter](#) and [2020-2021 School System Support Calendar](#).

Please reach out to the following contacts with questions:

highschoolacademics@la.gov	General questions about the office and about graduation requirements
ldefinancialaid@la.gov	Questions related to the financial aid policy or for assistance with FAFSA completion
SCA@la.gov	Questions related to Supplemental Course Academy/Course Choice
jumpstart@la.gov	Questions related to Jump Start
PPP@la.gov	Questions related to pupil progression
collegereadiness@la.gov	Questions related to dual enrollment or Advanced Placement