

Louisiana Believes

Special Education Advisory Panel

March 25, 2020

Agenda + Logistics

I. COVID-19

II. Annual Panel Membership and Meeting Schedule

III. State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)

IV. FFY 2020 State Level IDEA Grant Application

V. Follow-Up and Next Steps

Logistics

If you are experiencing audio difficulties, please make sure that your speakers are on and that your volume is at a suitable level.

The call will be in the listen only mode to ensure we get through the information. Please type questions into the chat box as we go along.

Dial in by phone: (646) 876- 9923

Meeting ID: 605042847#

Closed Captioning

To ensure accessibility, today's presentation is closed captioned. To access this feature click on the "Closed Caption" at the bottom of your screen.



- After selecting Closed Caption, you will see the captioning at the bottom of your screen.
- If you need to adjust the caption size, click on the arrow next to stop/start video and choose Video Settings.
- Click on Accessibility and move the slider to adjust the caption size.

Presentation

Please note the official March 25, 2020 SEAP meeting was canceled.

- This presentation is not a meeting of the advisory panel under Open Meetings Law.
- There will be no official business, no roll call, and no votes or official action.

This presentation is for informational purposes only. It is intended to provide members of SEAP and the public with updates on special education activities.

Comment Procedures

To submit a question or comment, click on “Chat” at the bottom of your screen, and type your message in the chat box.



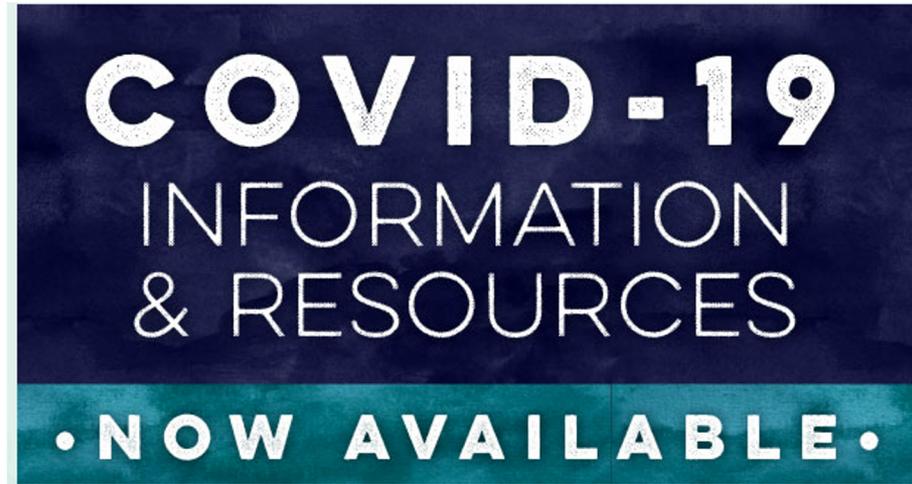
A world map is centered on a white background, which is itself set against a blue watercolor-style background. The map shows the outlines of continents in a light blue color. The text "COVID-19" is centered on the white area of the map.

COVID-19

COVID-19 Resources

The Department continues to closely monitor the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) outbreak. The Louisiana Believes website has a [centralized hub](#) for COVID-19 resources. This includes sections on early childhood, K-12, and additional information. Specific special education guidance is embedded throughout these sections.

For additional information, contact LDOECOVID19Support@la.gov.



The background of the slide is a watercolor-style illustration. It features soft, blended washes of light blue and white, creating a textured, ethereal effect. The colors are more saturated in some areas and lighter in others, giving it a painterly quality. The overall composition is centered and balanced.

Annual Panel Membership and Meeting Schedule

Panel Membership

The SEAP bylaws outline the following:

- Panel members will serve 3 year terms. Each term begins on July 1 and ends on June 30.
- If a member vacates their position, a new member will fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term of the previous member.
- Appointments will be staggered so that 1/3 of membership rotates off at the end of each year.
- Members shall serve no more than 2 consecutive terms and must reapply at the end of their term.

Membership Rotation

2020	2021
Carolyn McGee - Juvenile/Corr. Rep	Brenda Cosse - Parent
Cheramie Kerth - Administrator	Carla Parrie - Administrator
Donna Reno - Parent	Henry Brinkmann - Individual
Keita Wilson - Higher Education Rep	Jackie Tisdell - Parent
Lyndsey Jackson - Teacher	Kelly Boyter - Individual
RaeNell Houston - Private School Rep	Randall Brown - Individual
	Shayla Hilaire - Homeless Rep
	Sylvia Melancon - Related Services Rep

Interview Process

Per the SEAP bylaws, applications for vacant positions will be posted on the Department website three months before term ends or whenever a vacancy is advertised. Applications will be accepted for thirty days.

2020 Rotation Timeline

Advertise: April 2020

Interviews: May 2020

Appoint: June 2020

We need one panel member to participate in the interview process with panel co-chairs.

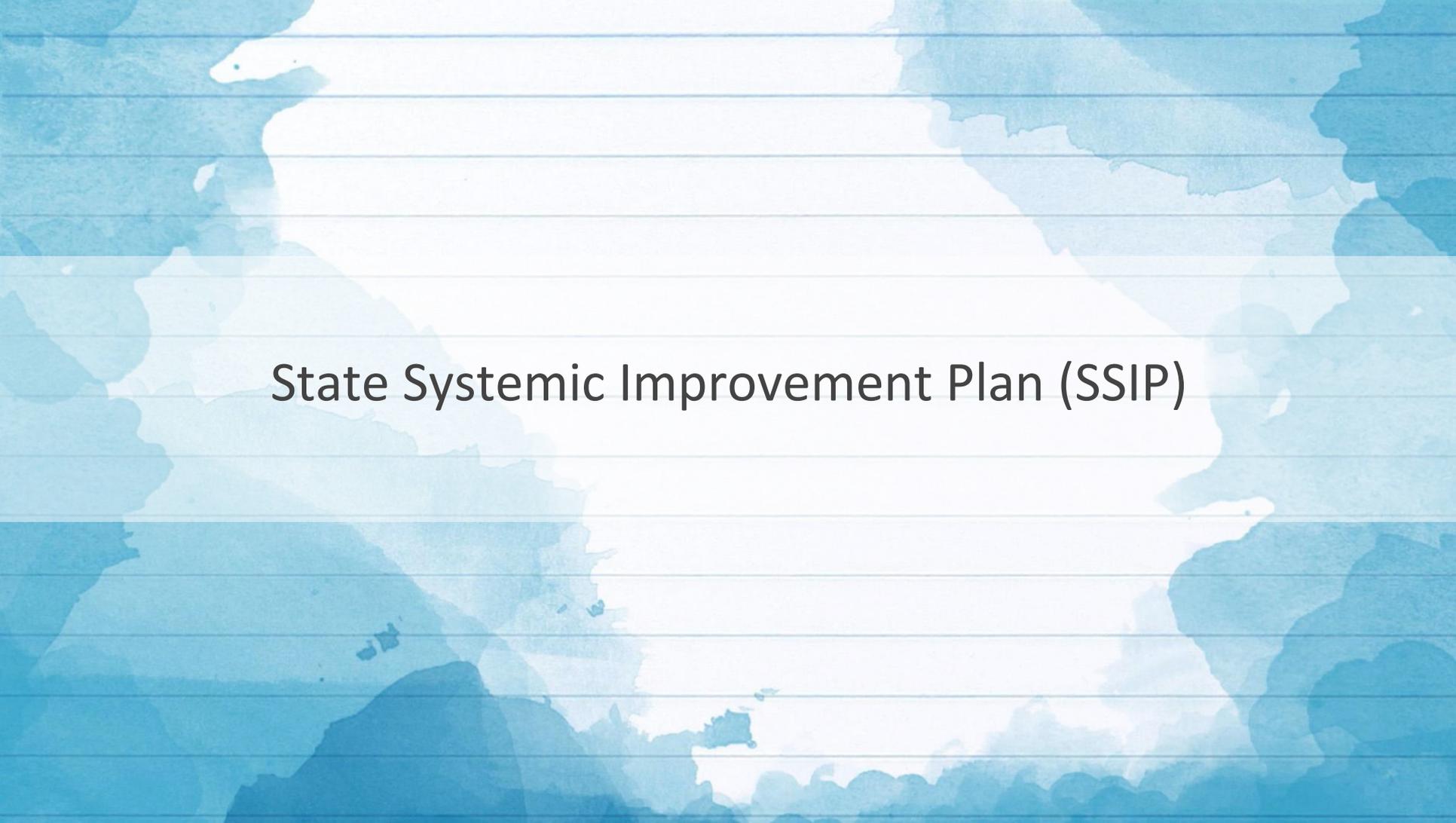
2020-2021 Meeting Schedule

2020

- Wednesday, June 17 (Retreat)
- Wednesday, July 8
- Wednesday, September 23
- Wednesday, November 18

2021

- Wednesday, January 20
- Wednesday, March 24
- Wednesday, June 16 (Retreat)
- Wednesday, July 7
- Wednesday, September 22
- Wednesday, November 17

The background of the slide is a watercolor-style illustration. It features a central white area that tapers towards the top and bottom, creating a sense of depth. This white area is surrounded by various shades of blue, from light, airy washes to darker, more saturated tones. The overall effect is soft and artistic, typical of watercolor painting.

State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP)

SSIP: Timeline and Structure

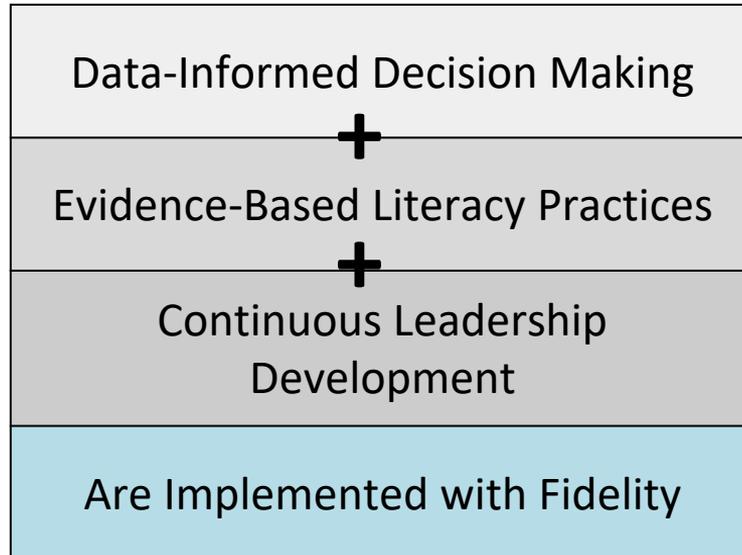
The SSIP is a comprehensive, multi-year plan focused on improving results for students with disabilities. The SSIP is broken up into three “phases”, each with specific development and reporting requirements. LDOE reports on progress annually.

Phase I Analyze	Phase II Plan	Phase III Implement + Evaluate
Analyze Current Conditions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Data Analysis ● Infrastructure Analysis ● Measurable Result ● Theory of Action ● Improvement Strategies 	Develop a Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Infrastructure Development ● Implementing Evidence-based Practices ● Evaluation 	Report on Progress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Activities Planned, Completed, and Adjustments ● Results of Evaluation ● Student-level Outcomes
FFY 2013 Completed and Approved	FFY 2014 Completed and Approved	FFY 2015 Onward Due April Each Year

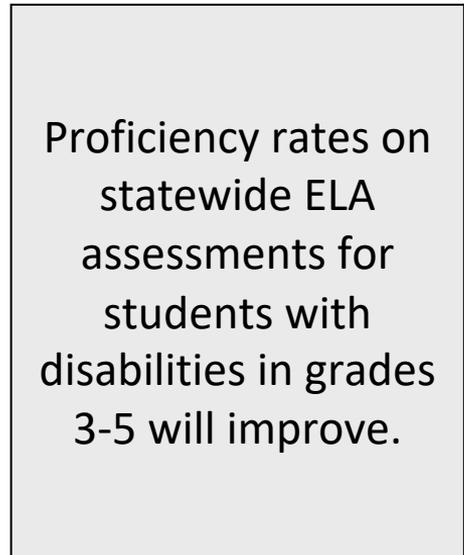
SSIP: Theory of Action

The SSIP utilizes a theory of action to ensure all activities lead to intended outcomes.

IF



THEN



SSIP: Theory into Practice



SSIP: Putting Theory into Practice

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
SSIP Pilot Activities	Pilot Implementation of Diverse Learner Supports	Pilot Foundational Reading Supports	Pilot implementation of high quality intensive intervention materials.
	Development of Intensive Intervention Materials rubric	Identification of high quality intensive intervention programs.	
SSIP Scaled Activities		Scale-out Implementation of Diverse Learner Materials	Scale-out Implementation of Foundational Reading Supports
		Intervention Content Leader	Intervention Content Leader

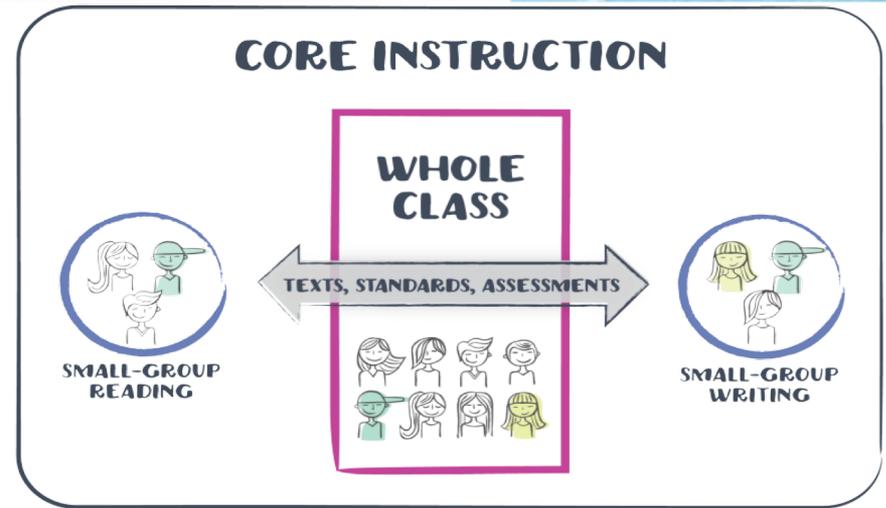
SSIP: 2019-2020 Activities

Pilot Activities:

- Foundational Reading Supports
- Identification of Intensive Intervention Materials

Scale Activities:

- Implementation of Diverse Learner Supports
- Intervention Content Leader



FOR STUDENTS WHO PERSISTENTLY STRUGGLE



- > INTENSIVE INTERVENTIONS FOR SMALL GROUPS OR INDIVIDUALS
- > POSSIBLE IDENTIFICATION FOR SERVICES

SSIP: Demonstrating Strong Results

Upon evaluation of SSIP activities, the following results have emerged:

- An increase in implementation fidelity of high-quality ELA curriculum **from 54% to 86%**.
- An increase in the average implementation score of evidence-based literacy practices **from 77% to 81%** scoring a level 2 or higher within a 0-3 scaled score.
- An increase in the implementation of evidence-based professional development practices **from 81% to 86%**.

Additionally, the work of the SSIP is beginning to improve results for students with disabilities statewide. As SSIP activities are scaled across Louisiana, proficiency rates for students with disabilities on **statewide ELA assessments have increased over by over 5%**, from 34.03% to 39.43% within one year.

SSIP: Key Activities Planned for 2020-2021

Pilot Activities:

- Intensive Intervention Pilot (Fall 2020)
 - Pilot intensive intervention materials to address gaps in foundational reading skills
 - Develop guidance for state-wide implementation of intensive intervention materials

Scale Activities:

- Teacher Leader Summit (May 2020)
 - Support the implementation of Diverse Leader Supports
 - Support the implementation of Foundation Reading Supports
- Intervention Content Leader Redesign (July 2020)
 - Build expertise of ELA teachers to effectively use resources to ensure students achieve mastery of grade-level standards

The background of the slide is a watercolor-style illustration. It features soft, blended washes of light blue and white, creating a textured, painterly effect. The colors are more saturated in some areas and lighter in others, giving it a sense of depth and movement. The overall aesthetic is clean and professional, suitable for an official document or presentation.

FFY 2020 State Level IDEA Grant Application

IDEA Federal Funding Sources

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) supports students with disabilities through multiple funding sources.

	IDEA Part C	IDEA Part B 619	IDEA Part B 611	IDEA Part D
Students Served	Ages 0-3	Ages 3-5	Ages 3-21	N/A
Grant Focus	Formula grant that assists states in providing early intervention services for infants and toddlers	Formula grant targeted specifically at children ages 3-5 with disabilities to provide a FAPE	Formula grant to provide funding for the provision of FAPE for students ages 3-21	Discretionary grant to support research, technical assistance and dissemination, technology, personnel development and parent-training and information centers.
State Agency	LDH	LDOE	LDOE	Anyone who applies
Application Required	Y	N	Y	Y

IDEA Part B 611 Grant Overview

The IDEA Part B 611 grant award details the amount that must be spent in the following three categories of expenditures:

IDEA Flow Through

The State must flow this money directly to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) for the provision of special education services to eligible students. This comprises approximately 87 percent of the total award.

IDEA Set Aside

Set Aside funds are approximately 11 percent of the total grant award and are managed at the state level to support projects that improve outcomes for students receiving special education services. This section requires states to complete a budget outlining how funds will be spent in general categories as part of the application.

IDEA State Admin

The administrative funds are approximately 2 percent of the total grant award. These funds are reserved at the state level to carry out administrative functions of the grant.

IDEA 611 Set Aside Grant Application Categories

The US Department of Education IDEA grant application requires states to outline how state-level set aside funds will be spent in 15 different categories. Each state is required to devote some set aside funds to a complaint enforcement and monitoring system and has the option of devoting funds in categories that support activities such as

- technical assistance, personnel preparation, and professional development and training,
- high risk fund to address high needs students with disabilities,
- provision of assessment accommodations and an alternate assessment,
- positive behavioral interventions and supports and appropriate mental health services, and
- use of technology in the classroom.

The federal fiscal year (FFY) 20 IDEA grant application and a descriptions of projected activities can be found on the Louisiana Believes [Special Education Funding page](#).

IDEA 611 Set Aside Grant Application

IDEA GRANT APPLICATION

Each year, the Department completes an IDEA grant application that outlines the use of IDEA Part B 611 state-level set aside funds. These funds are reserved for a variety of specified activities such as support and direct services, technical assistance and personnel preparation, monitoring and mediation, and improving the use of technology in the classroom.

Federal fiscal year (FFY) 2020 IDEA grant application development:

- Stakeholder input survey on IDEA funding priorities (available through February 21, 2020).
- Review the [FFY 2020 IDEA Draft Grant Application PDF](#)
- Review the [FFY 2020 IDEA Draft Grant Application Project Descriptions PDF](#)
- Provide public comment on the FFY 2020 IDEA Draft Grant Application (coming soon)

More information can be found on the Louisiana Believes [Special Education Funding page](#).

Funding Priority Areas

Louisiana believes that all students, including those with the most significant disabilities, deserve an education that prepares them to be independent and successful in life after high school. The IDEA draft grant application prioritized funding activities and initiatives for the 2020-2021 school year that support:

1. Building a workforce that is prepared to respond to the needs of all students with disabilities;
2. Developing standards aligned tools and resources that support the growth of students with disabilities and minimizes redundant work across the state;
3. Expanding high-quality curricula resources to students with significant disabilities; and
4. Establishing structures that ensure students have their individual needs identified and appropriately supported provided as early as possible and ensure students experience effective transitions to life after high school.

Necessary Activities

In addition to the priority areas, the IDEA draft grant application includes a plan for activities that the state must conduct to ensure the provision of a free appropriate public education to students.

Necessary Activities:

- Implement a monitoring and complaint investigation system*
- Support the provision of assessment accommodations and implement an alternate assessment
- Employ staff to provide assistance and support to LEAs
- Support the special education services for students enrolled in programs supported by the Special School District
- Provide support and professional learning opportunities for families
- Maintain a Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP)*

* Indicates that this is a requirement of the IDEA

Identifying Partnerships

Over Spring 2020, the LDOE will be seeking partnerships to provide professional development and technical assistance to school systems and families in the following areas:

- Family supports
- Positive behavioral interventions and supports

Historically, Louisiana's IDEA grant application has included funding in these areas and the LDOE has held contracts with vendors to provide these services. These contracts are in their final year of implementation which requires the LDOE to revisit priorities and partnerships. Based on stakeholder feedback, the LDOE believes these are critical activities and will be following state procurement and contract procedures to identify partnerships beginning in the 2020-2021 school year.

IDEA Grant Application Timeline

IDEA State-Level Activities Funding

IDEA State-Level Activities Funding	
January 30th – February 13, 2020	Public survey open on 19-20 IDEA funding priorities
January 30, 2020	SEAP discussion of application development timeline
January – Early March 2020	Development of application
February – April 2020	Stakeholder discussions
Early March 2020	Draft application posted
March 25, 2020	SEAP Presentation; 30-day public comment period opens
April – May 2020	Final revisions to application
May 15, 2020	Grant application finalized and mailed to OSEP

Follow-Up and Next Steps