

Teacher Leader Summit 2026 Education Expo

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) is calling for proposals for the Teacher Leader Summit 2026 Education Expo. The Education Expo is designed to connect Louisiana educators with high-quality professional learning partners and non-profit organizations outside of scheduled sessions for Q&A opportunities, relationship building, and the sharing of best practices.

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 2026-2027 school year.

Alignment to Louisiana's Education Priorities

The LDOE invites approved professional learning partners and non-profit organizations aligned with the LDOE's priorities to apply to participate in its Education Expo at the 2026 Teacher Leader Summit.

The LDOE strives for all Teacher Leader Summit content to be aligned with its academic vision and priorities. Before developing session content, applicants should first build a deep understanding of Louisiana's education priorities to ensure their proposal directly supports the state's goals for improving student outcomes.

- ✓ **Early childhood** leading to kindergarten readiness
- ✓ **Literacy** instruction aligned to the Science of Reading
- ✓ **Math** instruction from foundational to advanced skills
- ✓ Opportunities ensuring a **meaningful high school experience**
- ✓ An effective **teacher for every student**
- ✓ Expand **educational choice** for students and families

Key Focus Areas

Vendor booths focused on the following topics related to the three essential professional structures will be prioritized during selection.

Three Essential Professional Structures

- 1. High-Quality Professional Learning (HQPL) Cycle or High-Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM)
- 2. Observation and Feedback (informal and formal)
- 3. Professional Learning Roadmap Implementation

Trending Topics

Instructional Leadership Teams (ILT)

- School system ILT
- School-level ILT
- Long-range planning
- High-quality instructional materials implementation
- Implementing vision, mission, expectations, and a common language
- Using existing plans (e.g., literacy plans, Lau plans, school system strategic plans)
- Using data to inform instruction (e.g., curriculum-embedded assessments, exit tickets, formal and informal teacher observations, student work samples)
- Planning and implementing strategies to improve outcomes for diverse learners
- Attaining coherence in an instructional program

Teacher Collaboration

- Unpacking of high-quality instructional units and lessons
- Addressing the needs of diverse learners and providing targeted interventions
- Using student work and data samples to inform professional learning
- Reviewing and completing curriculum-embedded assessments to understand content and instructional strategies
- Using data to drive high-quality instruction in elementary, middle, and high school

Career Pipeline

- Content Leaders as Teacher Collaboration Facilitators
- Mentor Teacher implementation
- Coaching and feedback conversations
- Using teacher leaders on the ILT

Teacher Leader Summit will take place on May 26-28, 2026, at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (MCCNO). The Education Expo schedule is below.

Date	Expo Hours	Exhibitor Setup	Exhibitor Tear Down
May 25th	-	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	-
May 26th	8:00 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.	-	-
May 27th	8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	-	-
May 28th	8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	-	12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The following organizations are encouraged to apply:

- Approved [organizations](#) providing professional learning
- Vendors of texts for high-quality curriculum
- Career and Technical Education Institutions
- Teacher and principal associations
- Arts organizations
- Educator preparation providers
- High-dosage tutoring providers
- Advocacy groups

Informational Webinar

Join TLS representatives via Zoom on Monday, August 18th at either 10:00 a.m. or 3:00 p.m. to learn more about the application process and how to serve as an exhibitor at TLS 2026.

Webinar Details	
Webinar Date and Time: Monday, August 18, 10:00-11:00 a.m. Webinar Link Or dial: (US) +1 651-571-0800 PIN: 295 659 868#	Webinar Date and Time: Monday, August 18, 3:00–4:00 p.m. Webinar Link Or dial: (US) +1 651-571-0800 PIN: 295 659 868#-

What is the Education Expo?

As school systems will have already selected their 2026-2027 curricula and professional learning providers, the Education Expo is designed to be something other than a typical trade show focused on sales. Instead, the focus is on creating meaningful connections between partners and school systems. At a typical trade show, a sales team would staff the booth. For the Education Expo, the LDOE strongly encourages and recommends that those operating the booth be content experts, not sales and marketing professionals. Exhibitors agree only to discuss products/services for which they are approved as outlined in their application acceptance letters.

What is the Application Process?

If you would like to apply, please submit your application via this [Google form](#) or visit the [Teacher Leader Summit](#) webpage beginning **August 18, 2025**. Applications must be submitted for review by **December 5, 2025**.

Applications will be reviewed monthly, and applicants will get a status notification via email from ldoeevents@la.gov at the end of each month. Final approval notifications will be sent on **December 19, 2025**. The LDOE reserves the right to refuse any application for any reason, including, but not limited to, the applicant not being aligned with the LDOE’s strategies and priorities for the event.

High-quality curriculum provider applications will be evaluated on:

- Number of approved high-quality curricula across subject areas.
- Presence in the PL partner guide.
- Reach in high-needs areas.
- Alignment with the LDOE's strategies and priorities of the event.

Other partners and non-profit organization applications will be evaluated on:

- Support for implementing [Louisiana's Professional Learning Roadmap](#).
- Support for career and technical education.
- Impact on Louisiana educators and/or students.
- Alignment with the LDOE's strategies and priorities of the event.

Booth space is only available through the application approval process and full payment and registration within Cvent. All questions should be directed to ldoeevents@la.gov.

Important Dates

Date	Action Item
August 18	Information webinars and Education Expo applications open
December 5	Education Expo applications due
December 19	Exhibitors will receive an application status email confirmation
February 18 10 a.m or 4 p.m.	Approved Exhibitor Webinar -registration/payment/ exhibitor portal, lead capture. Mandatory, please attend one.
February 26, 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.	Office Hours - Designated Time for more one-on-one support
March 2	Payment due in full for accepted Exhibitors; Last day for full refund for cancellations; Sponsorship details due for evening networking events
March 23, 1 p.m. March 25, 4 p.m.	Approved Exhibitor Webinar . Booth logistics and convention center details. Mandatory, please attend one.
April 2, 10 a.m. April 6, 1 p.m. April 8, 4 p.m.	Office Hours - Designated Time for more one-on-one support
May 5th, 1 p.m.	Approved Webinar , please attend one.
May 7th, 4 p.m.	Approved Webinar , please attend one.
May 25	Booth setup takes place from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

May 26	Education Expo takes place from 8:00 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.
May 27	Education Expo takes place from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
May 28	Education Expo takes place from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
May 28	Booth teardown takes place from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Cvent Application

The Education Expo allows Exhibitors to meet and network with Louisiana educators during the annual Summit. The Education Expo is designed to connect Louisiana educators with high-quality professional learning partners and non-profit organizations for Q&A opportunities, relationship building, and the sharing of best practices.

1. The Education Expo will be held over three (3) dates. The Education Expo area will be secured with enhanced security after hours.
 - a. May 26th: 8:00 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.
 - b. May 27th: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 - c. May 28th: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
2. Engagement through Cvent.
 - a. Access to the event app, Cvent, which includes the following features:
 - Inbound leads, allowing attendees to directly contact exhibitors
 - Provide company details, links, and documents to highlight product and service offerings.
 - Access widespread visibility through the event home page, exhibitor lists, and engagement tools.
 - b. Lead Capture scan - Additional cost to the exhibitor
 - Scan attendees' Cvent app QR code by using the Lead Capture app.
 - Navigate to the list of Exhibitors and access videos, links, and documents.

Booth Fees

Below is a list of Education Expo booth details, along with pricing. Payment requirements and next steps will be outlined in the email to approved applicants. All payments must be received by **March 2, 2026**.

Additional services are available and will be considered at an additional cost. Once an application is approved and payment has been received, the event organizer will share the Freeman Event Services link with approved exhibitors. The link outlines ancillary items an exhibitor may want to pay for, such as electricity to the booth, round tables, high-boy tables, additional chairs, carpet, and sneeze guards. The

exhibitor will arrange all ancillary costs through the Freeman Event Services link. More information will be shared upon application approval and receipt of payment.

Booth	Regular Registration Cost	State Agencies & Non-profit (501c3)
20' x 10' Booth <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8' high back wall 3' high side drape (1) 6' x 30" H draped table (2) Limerick side chairs (1) wastebasket 7" x 44" one-line booth ID sign** Wi-Fi access 2 registration tickets* 	\$1,500	\$1000
40' x 10' Booth includes everything from the 20'X10' booth; additional table and chairs	\$2,000	\$1250
Innovation Playground (add-on) offers a bigger demo and interactive space. Demos can be featured in Cvent. Some seating is provided.	\$150	\$100
Classroom Lab (add-on) offers a session-like opportunity that can be featured in Cvent to provide attendees with hands-on interactions using the tools and techniques transforming today's schools. Seats 20.	\$250	\$200

*Purchasing a booth includes two booth staff registrations, which include lunch. If more booth staff will attend, additional registrations are required at a cost of \$249 each. These additional registrations can be made through the Exhibitor Portal.

Based on venue rules: Nothing may be taped, pinned, stapled, or otherwise attached to walls/wall surfaces in the building. No banners or other materials will be hung from the ceiling/rafters. Exhibitors are permitted to have signage, banners, and table runners within their booth. Anything attached to tables must not damage tables or any rented linens. Anything attached to the pipe and drape must not damage the pipe and drapes. Table runners should be draped from the table and affixed with spring clips. Banners, signage, and other accompaniments may be displayed on easels or banner stands where space is available within your booth. Outside food and beverages are not allowed. **Please see the full Terms and Conditions and Exhibitor Policies.

Exhibitor Sponsorship

Beyond a booth fee, exhibitors are encouraged to contribute as a sponsor. Sponsorship contributions will help support meals, snacks, and beverages. There are no predetermined sponsorship tiers; all donations are gratefully accepted. Sponsors will be highlighted in the Cvent app, opening session, and with signage throughout the convention center.

Sponsorships can be made when applying. The LDOE will then reach out to explain how to submit these contributions.

Exhibitor Outreach and Marketing

To increase attendee satisfaction and provide participants with networking opportunities, the LDOE is encouraging outreach opportunities with our exhibitors. It is also recommended that exhibitors provide swag, giveaways, or other small items to help engage participants. Food/beverages as giveaway items are not allowed in the education expo. *Sponsoring a networking event does not defer booth cost.

- The sponsored networking option available is an evening social:
 - May 26th: 5:15 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
 - May 27th: 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
 - These can be held off-site close to the Convention Center and can include dinner or drinks for educators while they meet and greet with exhibitor teams, hear a speaker, socialize, or participate in professional learning activities.

Lead Capture Fees

Purchase lead capture licenses for your booth staff through Cvent’s Exhibitor Portal. The Lead Capture app allows Exhibitors to:

- Scan attendee badges
- Qualify leads
- Export leads to follow up with potential clients

Licenses available for purchase	Cost
Single license	\$249
3 package bundle	\$499
Additional license after bundle	\$149
Badge Kit API for Exhibitors using External Solutions	\$995

The Lead Capture app requires iOS 17 or higher. While Lead Capture is compatible with Android 9.0 or higher, it can only be downloaded on Android devices that have access to the Google Play Store. The app is not available on BlackBerry or Windows devices.

Exhibitor Portal

Once approved, exhibitors will register and submit payment through the Exhibitor Portal. This administrative exhibitor portal will also allow you to update your profile, set up booth staff, and add licenses for lead capture. Explore this [article](#) for more detailed information.

Terms and Conditions

Each exhibit booth will consist of a 20' back wall pipe and drape, one 6'30" table, two chairs, Wi-Fi access, two (2) lunch tickets, and a booth sign. Additional equipment and services are available on a rental basis from Freeman Event Services.

Exhibitor set-up will take place on May 25, 2026, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. All supplies and materials unloading must occur via the designated loading dock behind MCCNO.

Exhibitor tear-down will occur on May 28 2026, from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. All supplies and materials must be loaded via the designated loading dock behind MCCNO.

Exhibitors must be fully set up by 5:00 p.m. on May 25, 2026. Exhibitors must be in place and ready to function by 8:00 a.m. on May 26, 27, and 28, 2026. Exhibitors must be fully vacated from MCCNO by 4:00 p.m. on May 28, 2026.

- All exhibits must have an attendant during show hours. All displays must be fully contained within the designated exhibit space.
- Exhibitors signing this agreement (by way of the online application) shall not sublet any part of the space without the prior written approval of the event organizer.
- Use of public address systems and other sound amplification must have prior approval from the event organizer.
- The event organizer reserves the right to only accept applications aligned with LDOE's strategies and the event's priorities.
- Exhibit space cancellation notice must be submitted by March 2, 2026, to the event organizer at ldoeevents@la.gov to receive a full refund. Cancellations received after March 2, 2026, will receive no refund, and said booth space will revert to the event organizer.
- Exhibitors who are approved, pay for space, and are no-shows will not be refunded any portion of the registration fee. These exhibitors will be prohibited from participating in future Teacher Leader Summit Education Expos.
- Exhibitors who are approved but do not pay the registration fee in full by March 2, 2026, will have said booth space canceled and their attendance at the event revoked.
- Should the LDOE or MCCNO cancel the event, exhibitors are entitled to 100% of their registration fee.

- Liability and Lawful Operations: The LDOE and MCCNO will assume no responsibility for damaged, lost, or stolen property. Insurance on the exhibitor's property is the responsibility of the exhibitor.
- Electricity and the use of flammable materials must conform to all local regulations. Firearms and other weaponry are not allowed. No gasoline engines will be allowed to operate without written approval from the Fire Marshal and must be organized through the event organizer.
- Exhibitors shall comply with all federal, state, and municipal laws and administrative rules, including but not limited to those relating to licenses and permits, ordinances, and regulations applicable to the exhibit.

Indemnification: Any damage to premises is the responsibility of the Exhibitor causing the damage. Any restitution for such damage remains the Exhibitor's responsibility. The Exhibitor agrees to hold the LDOE and MCCNO harmless of any liability, injury, or damage to persons or property that may arise out of the use of the premises by the Exhibitor pursuant to this agreement. The Exhibitor agrees to hold harmless and indemnify the LDOE and MCCNO against all actions, liabilities, damages, losses, expenses, debts, taxes, fees, charges, assessments, and other claims which may be caused by, arising out of, or are in any way associated with or contributed to directly or indirectly, by any act, omission, negligence, fault, or violation of any law or regulation by the Exhibitor or any of the Exhibitor's officers, employees, agents, independent contractors, volunteers, guests, or visitors including but not limited to the costs of investigating, processing, litigating, or settling any such claim and the LDOE and MCCNO reasonable attorney fees.

Any matters not herein provided for shall be at the discretion of the event organizer and MCCNO. The laws of the State of Louisiana shall govern this agreement. If any action is brought with respect to this agreement, it shall be brought in the courts of Baton Rouge in the State of Louisiana.

Please contact ldoeevents@la.gov with questions.