

What is the Believe and Prepare Collaborative?

The Believe and Prepare Collaborative brought together the best minds from both higher education and K-12 to design teaching methods course [outlines](#) for elementary and secondary math and ELA courses that, in turn, are available for public use. Through this next phase of work, higher education faculty will conduct an action research project on the implementation of content from the course outlines, coach others to implement the course outline content, and implement course outline content in their preparation courses.

Why is this collaborative important?

Teaching requires deep content knowledge and understanding of pedagogy, and preparing teachers to be effective is complex. Standards for math and ELA instruction have changed significantly over the past several years. K-12 school systems expect teachers to enter the profession ready to implement high-quality instructional materials aligned to the standards. The collaborative brought higher education faculty and K12 content experts together to ensure that preparation courses and K-12 needs are aligned.

What is the goal of the collaborative?

The goal of the collaborative is to ensure that teachers completing teacher preparation programs are well prepared to effectively implement standards-aligned instruction using high-quality curriculum materials.

What will collaborative participants do?

Continuing Collaborative members will

- design and implement an action research project based on the implementation of course outline content; and
- provide bi-monthly coaching and support to a new collaborative member.

New Collaborative members will

- implement course outline content into their methods courses; and
- collect and analyze student work samples from implemented activities and assessments.

Who should apply?

- Higher education faculty who teach math or ELA methods courses should apply.
- Only returning collaborative members are eligible to serve as a coach.
- Due to limited funding, six to seven coaches and six to seven new collaborative members will be selected.

What is the time commitment?

- This collaborative will require five in-person or virtual convenings. In person convenings will be held in Baton Rouge. These will be 2-3 hours each.
- Coaches will be required to meet with new collaborative members twice per month for a total of two hours per month for nine months. This may be done virtually.
- Independent work time will also be required at approximately six hours per month for nine months for new collaborative members and eight hours per month for nine months for returning collaborative members.

Will there be compensation for participation in the collaborative?

Continuing collaborative members will be compensated a \$5,000 flat rate for this work. New collaborative members will be compensated a \$4,000 flat rate for this work. This funding is to cover travel costs for in-person meetings in Baton Rouge and the time the participant spends attending meetings and working on the deliverables of the project outside of their normal work hours.

What is the application process?

Interested applicants should respond to the below questions and submit to believeandprepare@la.gov by **Friday, August 13, 2021**.

2021-2022 Believe and Prepare Collaborative Application	
Teacher Preparation Provider Name	
Applicant's Name	
Title	
Email	
Phone	
Years of experience in K-12/Years of experience in higher education	
Which teacher preparation courses will you teach in the 2021-2022 school year (including summer 2022)	
Are you a member of the collaborative already? Which cohort did you participate in (math/ELA)?	
Support of Supervisor	<p>If selected, I commit to attend all meetings and virtual work sessions and complete tasks assigned outside of meeting time. I am further committed to utilizing the designed course outline in my methods courses. My dean and/or superintendent supports my participation in this collaborative.</p> <p>Applicant Signature _____ Date _____ Dean or Superintendent Signature* _____ Date _____ *Can replace Dean or Supervisor signatures with email confirmation.</p>

All applicants should respond to the following application questions. Please limit each response to 500 words or less. Please attach a resume or CV with this application.

Continuing Collaborative Members	New Collaborative Members
Provide a brief description of the action research project you will conduct. Include a statement of your research focus and the methods you will use.	What do you believe are the most essential skills for new teachers to know and understand when exiting your math or ELA methods course(s)?
Describe how you have implemented content from the course outline in your course(s) so far.	How do you currently implement high quality instructional materials into your course(s)?
What challenges do you expect new collaborative members to have in implementing course content into their own course(s)?	<p>For ELA instructors How do you address the science of reading in your course(s)?</p> <p>For math instructors How do you address supporting students with unfinished math learning in your course(s)?</p>