



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Overview

In 2021-2022, several policy changes were approved that impact teacher preparation providers (TPPs). [Act 438](#), of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session, requires coursework specific to the teaching of reading and literacy. [Act 244](#), of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session, requires that teacher preparation programs require no more than 120 credit hours unless approved by the Board of Regents or for dual certification. Lastly, [Act 607](#), of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session, requires that teacher preparation programs require 3 credit hours, or 45 contact hours, of coursework engaged in content specific to teaching students with dyslexia.

Newly approved providers will show evidence of meeting these requirements as part of the program approval process. Existing providers must acknowledge and sign the attached assurances to ensure policy will be met.

Submission Requirements

Every provider should submit one assurance selecting all approved pathways: undergraduate, certification-only, MAT, and practitioner. Assurances should not be submitted for each individual pathway of the approved provider.

Submission Process

Assurance documents should be signed and submitted through Louisiana Department of Education's program [application portal](#). The submission window closes on **June 30**.

Steps for completing the assurances submission are:

1. On the PDF Assurances document below, read each assurance statement. Then check the box ensuring that "My institution acknowledges and assures..." for the policy requirement that follows.
2. Appropriate parties must complete the signature page. This may be done via DocuSign or manually with an ink pen.
3. The program lead should log into the [application portal](#) and select the "2023 Teacher Preparation Program Assurances" application.
4. Select "Start" and begin the application.
5. Attach the completed, signed Assurances document to the application.
6. In the portal, check the "Assurance" checkbox indicating that all assurances will be applied to every certification area in your approved pathways.
7. Select "Mark as Complete."



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Program Approval: Teacher Preparation Provider

Provider Assurances for Teacher Preparation

NAME OF PROVIDER _____

As applicable to the program and certification area requirements, for any approved pathway and certification program, existing and future, the teacher preparation provider assures that:

My institution acknowledges and assures that:

Beginning September 1, 2024, a portion of the total required credit or contact hours must include the minimum number of hours in the teaching of reading and literacy ([2021 Act 438](#)) as follows:

- A. for certification in Birth-K, PK-3, 1-5--**9 credit hours or 135 contact hours**;
 - a. candidates must spend, at a minimum, **9 credit hours or 135 contact hours** engaged in foundational literacy instruction. The instruction must:
 - i. develop and assess candidate mastery of applicable literacy competencies, which are found in LAC 28:CXXXI. *Bulletin 746—Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel*;
 - ii. systematically and explicitly address the foundational literacy skills of phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Each course shall, at a minimum, integrate:
 - (a). how to effectively teach the foundational literacy skills of phonological awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension;
 - (b). how to differentiate instruction for teaching students with advanced literacy skills and students with significant literacy deficiencies, including dyslexia;
 - (c). how to implement effective literacy instruction using high-quality instructional materials;
 - (d). how to administer literacy assessments to students and use the resulting data to improve literacy instruction for students;
- B. for certification in middle grades 4-8-- **6 credit hours or 90 contact hours**;
- C. for certification in secondary 6-12, all-level K-12-- **3 credit hours or 45 contact hours**; and
- D. for all special education areas (e.g.early interventionist, hearing impaired, significant disabilities, visually impaired, general-special education mild/moderate 1-5, general-special education mild/moderate 4-8, general-special education mild/moderate 6-12 programs)-- **9 credit hours or 135 contact hours**.*
 - a. The 9 credit hours should include 3 hours addressing literacy intervention for students with disabilities.

**The credit/contact hours in this assurance are contingent on June 2023 BESE approval.*

My institution acknowledges and assures that:

Per [Act 244](#), all students who enter a teacher education program during the 2024-2025 school year and thereafter, the approved teacher education program shall be no more than **120 credit hours, or the equivalent contact hours**, unless designated by the Board of Regents as dual degrees or dual certifications ([2022 Act 244](#)).



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My institution acknowledges and assures that:

Per [Act 607](#), all students who enter a teacher education program during the 2024-2025 school year and thereafter, for all certification areas, must spend **3 credit hours or 45 contact hours**, within the existing credit hour requirements, engaged in coursework regarding teaching students with dyslexia, taught by a faculty member who has been provided specialized training in instructing teacher candidates on pedagogical methods for teaching students with dyslexia ([2022 Act 607](#)). The coursework shall include but need not be limited to:

- A. an overview of the body of scientific work regarding dyslexia, including the history, epidemiology, and clinical presentation, including early clinical indicators of dyslexia and common, persistent classroom presentation;
- B. an overview of evidence-based instruction for individuals with dyslexia including remediation of
- C. weaknesses, fortification of strengths, and common accommodations to help mediate between the two; and
- D. an introduction to the process of becoming a dyslexia practitioner or dyslexia therapist, pursuant to R.S. 17:392.2.

The above course may be included as part of the required hours in the teaching of reading and literacy ([2021 Act 438](#)), or it may be an additional course beyond the required teaching of reading and literacy hours at the discretion of the provider.

The signatures below indicate that leaders responsible for overseeing design and implementation of the programs included in this application, including deans and/or directors of colleges and/or schools who provide coursework for these programs, have approved the information provided in this assurance for submission to the Louisiana Department of Education. We further certify that the program will meet all minimum requirements as established in LAC 28:XLV. Bulletin 996 - Standards for Approval of Teacher and/or Educational Leader Preparation Programs, Section 303.L.

Dean or Director, Print/Type Name

Dean or Director, Signature

Date

Operating Agency CEO/Administrator, Print/Type Name

Operating Agency CEO/Administrator, Signature

Date

Other Campus/Provider Head or Designee, Print/Type Name/Title

Other Campus/Provider Head or Designee, Signature

Date