

2025-2026 Pre-Educator Pathway Development and Expansion Funding Guidance



The Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway is the foundation of Louisiana's strategy to develop educators from our communities for our communities. It centers on creating valuable experiences in K-12 systems that develop an aspiring educator's interest, skill, and knowledge related to the teaching profession. Participation in and completion of the Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway propels an aspiring educator through the educator pipeline and prepares them to work as a high-quality, 21st-century educator.

Limited funding is available for school systems that are interested in developing and expanding access to the [Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway](#).

Systems may apply for either Pathway Development Funding or Pathway Expansion Funding, depending on whether they have previously received LDOE funding for Pre-Educator Pathway implementation. If funding requests exceed the amount of available funds, priority will be given to systems requesting Pathway Development Funding. To apply, systems should complete the [funding application](#) no later than **May 30, 2025**.

Contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

I. Pre-Educator Pathway Development Funding

Systems that have not previously received LDOE-allocated funding to implement the Pre-Educator Pathway are eligible to apply for Pathway Development Funding.

By applying for Pathway Development Funding, systems agree to:

- Identify and begin to develop a Pre-Educator Pathway Teacher Leader by the end of the 2025-2026 school year;
- Offer at least one Pre-Educator Pathway course by December 2026; and
- Spend funds by the June 15, 2026 expenditure deadline.

If funding is received, systems may use funds for expenses related to the following:

- Pre-Educator Pathway Teacher Leader professional learning
 - Percentage of teacher pay and benefits for Teacher Leaders
- Aspiring Educator organization and/or credentialing costs
- Aspiring Educator clinical experiences

Funding Timeline

- Applications Open: May 5, 2025
- Applications Due: May 30, 2025

- Funding Allocations Reviewed by BESE: August 19, 2025
- Funding Decisions Communicated to Systems: September 1, 2025
- Funding Expenditure Deadlines: June 15, 2026

II. Pre-Educator Pathway Expansion Funding

Systems that have previously received LDOE-allocated funding to implement the Pre-Educator Pathway are eligible to apply for Pre-Educator Pathway Expansion Funding.

By applying for Pathway Development Funding, systems agree to:

- Continue developing the Pre-Educator program;
- Offer at least one Pre-Educator Pathway course by December 2025; and
- Spend funds by the June 15, 2026 expenditure deadline.

If funding is received, systems may use funds for expenses related to the following:

- Pre-Educator Pathway Teacher Leader professional learning
 - Percentage of teacher pay and benefits for Teacher Leaders
- Aspiring Educator organization and/or credentialing costs
- Aspiring Educator clinical experiences

Funding Timeline

- Applications Open: May 5, 2025
- Applications Due: May 30, 2025
- Funding Allocations Reviewed by BESE: August 19, 2025
- Funding Decisions Communicated to Systems: September 1, 2025
- Funding Expenditure Deadlines: June 15, 2026