



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Program Approval Assurances

All Teacher Teacher Preparation Provider Assurances

Name of Provider _____

Upon receipt of these signed assurances, the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) will ask BESE to receive them at the next available meeting.

After July 1, 2018, teacher candidates will be admitted only to teacher preparation programs that meet the requirements established in Bulletin 746, *Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel*, and Bulletin 996, *Standards for Approval of Teacher and/or Educational Leader Preparation Programs*.

All Programs

As applicable to the pathway and program/certification area requirements established in BESE policy, the teacher preparation provider assures that:

- Candidates will meet minimum admission, GPA, and assessment requirements for enrollment and completion.
- Practice experiences will directly align with and sequentially develop the competencies identified in Bulletin 746.
- All programs will include practice/clinical experiences in classroom settings prior to the residency year, with all alternate programs providing a minimum of 9 credit hours or 135 contact hours of training and a minimum of 80 hours of actual practice experiences in classrooms prior to the residency year.
- Candidates who elect to complete the residency in a teacher of record's classroom must hold a valid Resident Teacher Certificate to be placed in a one-year residency.
 - For certification in B-K, PK-3, 1-5, or 1-5 integrated to merged, candidates will spend a minimum of 80 percent of the residency school site's instructional time each week engaged in residency activities.

- For certification in K-12, 4-8, 6-12, 4-8 integrated to merged or 6-12 integrated to merged, candidates will spend a minimum of 60 percent of the residency school site's instructional time each week in the first semester and 80 percent of the residency school site's instructional time each week in the second semester engaged in residency activities.
- Candidates will be supervised in all residency experiences by a team comprised of a school-based mentor teacher, the residency school site principal or designee, and a program faculty member.
 - The supervision will include, at minimum, two formal observations of teaching practice per semester, which will include feedback on performance and analysis of formative and summative student achievement results and candidate performance data. Observations may be conducted by any member of the supervision team.
- The residency will include a combination of the following experiences:
 - instructional goal-setting and planning, including Individual Education Plan (IEP) and Individual Accommodations Plan (IAP) review and implementation
 - classroom teaching
 - analysis of student assessment results, including formative and summative assessment data, student work samples, and observations of student class discussions
 - parent-teacher conferences and communication
 - interactions and collaboration with other teachers
- Will assess and document evidence of candidates' teaching competency for all candidates completing one-year residencies:
 - Assessments of teaching competency will be jointly administered by the preparation provider and the residency school site principal or designee.
 - Assessments of teaching competency will include, but are not limited to, the following:
 - observations that occur during the residency year
 - measures of teacher candidates' impact on all students' learning, which may include student learning targets.
- Reading requirements include:
 - early childhood PK-3, elementary 1-5, or general-special education mild/moderate 1- 5 programs: nine hours or 135 contact hours
 - middle grades 4-8 programs or general-special education mild/moderate 4-8: six hours or 90 contact hours
 - secondary 6-12 all-level K-12 or general-special education mild/moderate 6-12 programs: three hours or 45 contact hours

- special education areas (early interventionist, hearing impaired, significant disabilities, or visually impaired): nine hours or 135 contact hours
- For prescribed certification areas, the program shall include instruction on teaching foundational numeracy skills. Certification areas include B-5, PK-K, elementary 1-5, elementary 1-5 integrated to merged, mathematics 4-8, mathematics 4-8 integrated to merged, mathematics 6-12, and mathematics 6-12 integrated to merged. Instruction shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:
 - effectively teaching foundational mathematics skills explicitly and systematically;
 - implementing effective mathematics instruction using high-quality instructional materials;
 - providing effective instruction and interventions for students who have difficulty with mathematics; and
 - understanding and using student data to make instructional decisions. (*Bulletin 996*)
- The program shall include instruction on teaching students computer science, which may be incorporated into an existing course of study. The coursework shall include, but need not be limited to the following:
 - an introduction to the Louisiana Computer Science Content Standards;
 - an overview of computational thinking and computer science content, including broad knowledge of computing systems, internet safety, and data analysis to enhance student learning; and
 - an overview of standards-based instruction based on the core concepts and practices found within the Louisiana Computer Science Framework. (*Bulletin 996*).
- English Learner requirements include:
 - instruction on teaching language acquisition strategies to support English learners, which may be incorporated into an existing course of study. (*Bulletin 996*). All [updated competencies](#) in *Bulletin 146* will be incorporated to meet the above requirement.
- Crisis Intervention and Seclusion and Restraint requirements include:
 - For all certification areas, the program shall include instruction in crisis intervention and effective strategies for behavior management of students with disabilities, which may be incorporated into an existing course of study. (*Bulletin 996*)
 - The teacher candidate differentiates instruction, behavior management techniques, and the learning environment in response to individual student differences in cognitive, well-being, language, and physical development, incorporating trauma-informed principles and crisis intervention strategies. (*Bulletin 146*)

- An applicant for initial certification shall have earned coursework that includes instruction in crisis intervention and effective strategies for behavior management of students with disabilities, which may be incorporated into an existing course of study. (*Bulletin 746*)
- All candidates in their residency year will be placed with a certified mentor teacher. (*Bulletin 746, Bulletin 996*)

Traditional: Undergraduate Pathways

The teacher preparation provider assures that:

- Candidates will meet minimum GPA requirements of 2.20 or higher on a 4.00 scale to enter a college or university program.

If conditionally admitted:

- If the program awards credit hours, the applicant must achieve a GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in the first 12 semester hours of the program.
- If the program does not award credit hours, the applicant must demonstrate mastery of competencies as required by the program and the school system in which the applicant completes clinical practice.
- Undergraduate residencies will take place in a public or approved non-public school in a classroom in the certification area with a teacher of record who holds a valid Level 1, 2, 3, Type A, or Type B teaching certificate in the area for which the candidate is pursuing certification pursuant to Bulletin 746.
 - Residents placed in charter schools must be placed with a teacher of record who has demonstrated effectiveness pursuant to state law and Bulletin 130.
 - A one-year out-of-state residency placement may be permitted when the teacher preparation program is approved to operate in the state in which the residency will take place. An out-of-state residency placement must be indicated by the teacher preparation program with the application for the Resident Teacher certificate.

Post-Baccalaureate: MAT

The teacher preparation provider assures that candidates:

- possess a non-education baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university;
- have a 2.20 or higher grade point average (GPA) on a 4.00 scale

If conditionally admitted:

- If the program awards credit hours, the applicant must achieve a GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in the first 12 semester hours of the program.

- If the program does not award credit hours, the applicant must demonstrate mastery of competencies as required by the program and the school system in which the applicant completes clinical practice.
- pass the required content examinations or meet alternate requirements pursuant to Bulletin 746. If no examination has been adopted for Louisiana in the certification area, candidates must present a minimum of 30 semester hours of coursework specific to the content area.
- shall allow candidates to complete the residency as a teacher of record or in a classroom under a teacher of record.
 - Candidates completing the residency as a teacher of record must hold a valid practitioner teacher license pursuant to Bulletin 746.
 - Candidates completing the residency under a teacher of record must be in a public or approved non-public school in a classroom in the certification area with a teacher of record who holds a valid level 1, 2, 3, type A, or type B teaching certificate in the area for which the candidate is pursuing certification pursuant to Bulletin 746.
 - Residents placed in charter schools must be placed with a teacher of record who has demonstrated effectiveness pursuant to state law and Bulletin 130.

Post-Baccalaureate: Certification-Only

The teacher preparation provider assures that candidates:

- possess a non-education baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university;
- have a 2.20 or higher grade point average (GPA) on a 4.00 scale to enter a private provider program

If conditionally admitted:

- If the program awards credit hours, the applicant must achieve a GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in the first 12 semester hours of the program.
- If the program does not award credit hours, the applicant must demonstrate mastery of competencies as required by the program and the school system in which the applicant completes clinical practice.
- pass the required content examinations or meet alternate requirements pursuant to Bulletin 746. If no examination has been adopted for Louisiana in the certification area, candidates must present a minimum of 30 semester hours of coursework specific to the content area.
- Practitioner teacher programs shall require candidates to complete the residency as a teacher of record. Candidates must hold a valid practitioner teacher license pursuant to Bulletin 746.

- shall allow candidates to complete the residency as a teacher of record or in a classroom under a teacher of record.
 - Candidates completing the residency as a teacher of record must hold a valid practitioner teacher license pursuant to Bulletin 746.
 - Candidates completing the residency under a teacher of record must be in a public or approved non-public school in a classroom in the certification area with a teacher of record who holds a valid level 1, 2, 3, type A, or type B teaching certificate in the area for which the candidate is pursuing certification pursuant to Bulletin 746.
 - Residents placed in charter schools must be placed with a teacher of record who has demonstrated effectiveness pursuant to state law and Bulletin 130.

Post-Baccalaureate: Practitioner-Only

The teacher preparation provider assures that candidates:

- will possess a non-education baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited university;
- have a 2.20 or higher grade point average (GPA) on a 4.00 scale to enter a private provider program.

If conditionally admitted:

- If the program awards credit hours, the applicant must achieve a GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in the first 12 semester hours of the program.
- If the program does not award credit hours, the applicant must demonstrate mastery of competencies as required by the program and the school system in which the applicant completes clinical practice.
- pass the required content examinations or meet alternate requirements pursuant to Bulletin 746. If no examination has been adopted for Louisiana in the certification area, candidates must present a minimum of 30 semester hours of coursework specific to the content area. If the program does not award credit hours, the applicant shall demonstrate mastery of the competencies required by the program and by the school system in which the applicant completes the required clinical practice.
- shall require candidates to complete the residency as a teacher of record. Candidates must hold a valid practitioner teacher license pursuant to Bulletin 746.

Add-On Certifications: Private Providers Only

- For add-on certification programs, the teacher preparation provider ensures that:
 - all teachers earning an add-on certification currently hold a valid Louisiana teaching certificate;

- all coursework used for add-on certification is for regular credit and not of a remedial or developmental nature;
- no final grade below a "C" will be accepted for any add-on endorsement purposes;
- semester hours earned to add certification areas and/or levels to an existing certificate cannot include repeat (or duplicate) coursework;
- all candidates meet the requirements for their add-on endorsement area, including the required coursework hours and passing scores on the Praxis, where applicable, **as outlined in Bulletin 746**, Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel.

The signatures below and corresponding initials above indicate that leaders responsible for overseeing the 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 application for submission to the Louisiana Department of Education. We further certify that, if approved, the programs and residency model described in this application will meet all minimum practice experience requirements as established in Bulletin 996.

The signatures below indicate that leaders responsible for overseeing the 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 shall sequentially develop and assess teacher candidates' mastery of applicable Louisiana teacher preparation competencies codified in LAC 28:CXLVI (Bulletin 146) through a combination of general education, content area, and teaching coursework, assessments, and related practice experiences” (Bulletin 966).

Department Head/Program Lead, Print Name

Department Head/Program Lead, Signature

Date

Dean or Director, Print Name

Dean or Director, Signature

Date

Other Provider Head or Designee (if applicable), Print Name & Title

Other Provider Head or Designee (if applicable), Signature

Date