

# 2024 Louisiana Aspiring Educator Summer Academy

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## Overview

The Louisiana Aspiring Educator Summer Academy is a one-of-a-kind, five-day, hybrid of a summer camp and a professional learning experience for high school students enrolled in the [Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway](#) or other coursework aimed at attracting and developing future Louisiana educators.

The Aspiring Educator Summer Academy will bring together one hundred aspiring educators from around the state for a high-energy, professional leadership experience that propels them on their pathway to becoming highly effective, educational leaders in our state.

Hosted by the Louisiana Department of Education and staffed by a team of advisors and coaches from around the state, the Louisiana Aspiring Educator Academy will take place at the University of Louisiana Lafayette on July 8-12, 2024. The academy staff will be made up of up to 30 exceptional individuals who represent different parts of the Louisiana educator pipeline.

- Twenty college students will lead and serve as coaches to smaller cohorts of academy participants.
- Ten exceptional teachers, professors, and other practicing educators will serve as advisors throughout the week.

## Goals

During the Academy, participants will:

- Continue to increase their skills and knowledge related to becoming a highly-effective educator.
- Develop steps to increase their leadership and advocacy skills.
- Network and build a community amongst other Louisiana aspiring educators.

## A Day At the Academy

A general day at the academy will give participants an opportunity to engage in workshops led by extraordinary Louisiana education advocates, to be mentored by exceptional educators at various points in their careers, to practice skills related to being an effective educational leader, and to network and build community with other Louisiana aspiring educators.

Time	Activity	Description
8:30-9:00	Morning Dorm Huddle	Coaches review daily schedules and lead participants in community building and daily goal setting.

Time	Activity	Description
9:00-9:45	Breakfast	UL Lafayette Cypress Dining Hall
10:00-11:30	Morning Seminar	Participants will engage in an interactive seminar that explores their own values and strengths as they relate to leadership in the classroom. Participants will walk away with a deeper understanding of themselves and how their identity and experiences impact their future work as an effective educator.
11:30-12:45	Cohort Collab	Cohorts prepare a lesson to lead during the afternoon's clinical experience.
1:00-1:45	Lunch	UL Lafayette Cypress Dining Hall
2:00-3:30	Clinical Experience	Cohorts lead groups of children from UL Lafayette summer camps in their prepared lesson.
3:30-4:30	Cohort Debrief	Participants debrief their clinical experience and complete reflection aligned to the Pre-Educator Pathway Learner Engagement Microcredential. Participants make connections between Morning Seminar and their clinical experiences.
4:30-5:30	Afternoon Seminar	Participants will engage in an interactive seminar with guest speakers on a variety of topics related to educational innovations.
5:30-6:30	Dorm Break & Network	Get to know fellow aspiring educators.
6:30-7:30	Cohort Dinner	UL Lafayette Cypress Dining Hall
7:30-9:00	Social Event	Nightly social hosted by coaches.
9:00-10:00	Evening Dorm Huddle	Participants reflect on the day by sharing highlights, lowlights, and goals for the next day.  Coaches set expectations for the next day.

## Application Process and Timeline

To be nominated to attend the Academy,

- Interested participants can complete the [application](#).
- School system and teacher leads can nominate one student from each participating high school to attend the academy by completing the [application](#).
- School system leads can also nominate up to five alternates.
- School systems must confirm student eligibility to attend the academy.
- Alternates will be selected to fill vacant spots. All alternates will be notified by 06/21/2024 of their registration status.

## Registration Timeline

Date	Description
02/29/2024 - 05/24/2024	Student application form will be open for student nominations.
05/25/2024 - 05/31/2024	Applications will be reviewed, candidates will be confirmed by their school system, and participants will be selected and notified.
06/06/2024	Participants must have materials submitted in a form sent out in the acceptance email.
06/07/2024 - 06/21/2024	If spots are still available, alternates will be selected and notified.
06/06/2024	Aspiring Educator Summer Academy Parent/Participant Information Webinar <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Webinar Date and Time: Monday, June 6, 2024 @ 5:30 pm</li><li>• Webinar Link: <a href="https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92470536616?pwd=bG9rQ3RtME1mSHlydk1zNm1DbGI1dz09">https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92470536616?pwd=bG9rQ3RtME1mSHlydk1zNm1DbGI1dz09</a></li><li>• Webinar Phone Number: 1-346-248-7799</li><li>• Meeting ID: 924 7053 6616</li><li>• Passcode: 447377</li></ul>

## Academy Participant's Characteristics & Qualifications

School systems that offer the Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway are eligible to register one aspiring educator per high school to attend the Summer Academy. Additionally, each school site will nominate up to five alternates to be considered to attend the academy.

An ideal academy participant is a high-school student that is determined to make a positive impact in the field of education in Louisiana.

- Rising tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grade students previously enrolled in at least one of the Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway courses listed below are eligible to attend the academy free of charge.
- Academy participants are responsible for their transportation to and from the Academy. School systems are encouraged to support and partner with nearby school systems when possible.
- Students should possess dispositions, interests, and characteristics of effective educators including but not limited to:
  - being open-minded, compassionate, respectful, inclusive, and service-oriented;
  - having an interest in community, state, and national service;
  - possessing a desire to serve children and the community through improving outcomes for all children no matter their background, zip code, or family circumstances;
  - enjoying collaborative activities;
  - sharing a passion for a certain topic or content area;
  - developing strong interpersonal and communication skills;
  - exploring skills and strategies of an effective 21st century educator.

## Questions & Answers

**I am a high school Pre-Educator Pathway student interested in attending the Summer Academy. What should I do next?**

- Inform your Pre-Educator Pathway Teacher, or Pre-Educator Club Sponsor about your interest in attending.
- Complete the [application](#).

**I am a Pre-Educator Pathway Teacher or System Leader. What do I need to do to nominate and register students to attend the 2024 Summer Academy?**

- Teacher leaders should share the opportunity with strong aspiring educator candidates that possess the characteristics described above.
- System leads should use the [nomination form](#) to register one participant and up to five alternates from each high school that offers Pre-Educator Pathway coursework. After submitting the nomination form, systems will be responsible for ensuring aspiring educators, parents/guardians, and teacher leaders remain informed of next steps.

**How will alternate candidates be reviewed and selected?**

- In addition to registering one student per high school, each school that offers the Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway will have the opportunity to nominate up to five alternates to be considered for the remaining Academy spots.
- The Summer Academy team will review the applications for all alternates submitted by school systems through the nomination form.
- School system leads, teacher leaders, and alternates will receive an email with next steps as alternates are selected to attend.

**Who should apply to serve on the Louisiana Summer Academy Staff?**

- **Coaches-** College students that are currently enrolled in a Louisiana teacher preparation program and/or college/university with a demonstrated interest and skill in mentorship, service, and leadership will be considered to serve as coaches.
- **Advisors-** Currently practicing exemplary educators with a specific interest and demonstrated skill in teaching, teacher mentorship, and aspiring teacher development will serve as advisors during the academy.
- For more details related to being considered for academy staff, refer to the 2024 Louisiana Summer Academy Staffing Descriptions in the [Pre-Educator Pathway Resource Library](#).

**How can I find out which schools are eligible to submit Academy participants?**

- If you have any questions about the Academy, including eligibility, contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov).