

Office of Teaching and Learning: Educator Talent and Workforce Development

Policy Implementation Timeline

Teacher Preparation Program Approval and Certification

Overview

This timeline is in alignment with legislation and policy revisions to ensure all preparation programs are making the appropriate changes to be in compliance. All laws are reflected in [Bulletin 996](#) - Standards for Approval of Teacher and/or Educational Leader Preparation Programs, [Bulletin 746](#) - Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel, and [Bulletin 146](#) - Louisiana Competencies and Standards for Teachers and Educational Leaders.

Literacy Exam and Coursework

[Act 108](#) of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session requires early literacy training for K-3 teachers of reading, math, science, and/or social studies, including special education teachers, and principals and assistant principals of schools that include grades K-3. [Act 438](#) of the 2021 Regular Legislative Session requires coursework in teacher preparation programs specific to the teaching of reading and literacy. [Act 448](#) of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session requires kindergarten through third-grade teachers seeking initial licensure to pass an examination of scientifically researched and evidence-based teaching of reading. Specific [guidance](#) is available regarding the literacy exam and coursework, including an [FAQ](#).

Timeline	Action
June 2022	BESE adopts Teaching Reading: Elementary (5205)
January 1, 2023	Teaching Reading: Elementary (5205) effective for initial certification
June 2023	Standard Setting Study for Teaching Reading: Elementary Subtest (7002)
January 2024	BESE adopts the Teaching Reading: Elementary Subtest (7002)
Summer 2024	Coursework review for Science of Reading competencies
January 1, 2024*	Per R.S. 17:71(A)(8) , an applicant applying for initial certification to teach K-3rd shall pass the BESE-approved Teaching of Reading: Elementary or Teaching of Reading: Elementary Subtest exam

Timeline	Action
September 1, 2024	Completers in teacher preparation programs must have the required number of semester hours or contact hour equivalent in the teaching of reading and literacy in alignment with the science of reading competencies
March 2025	BESE approves the removal of literacy requirement for add on endorsement in any secondary non-core area

* Candidates already enrolled in the year-long residency and holding either the Practitioner License (PL) or Resident Teacher License (R) prior to January 1, 2025, are not subject to this provision.

Dyslexia Requirements

[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.

Timeline	Action
October 2022	BESE approves requirements in Bulletin 996
Summer 2024	Coursework review
2024-2025	Students entering preparation programs must have the required coursework
September 1, 2028	Certification office will begin looking for coursework that includes the competencies

Numeracy Competencies

[Act 347](#) of the 2023 Regular Session states that BESE shall revise teacher certification requirements and the requirements of teacher education programs to require instruction on foundational numeracy skills standards for candidates seeking certification to teach students no later than December 31, 2023.

Focus groups were held with preparation providers to provide feedback and clarity on the updated [competencies](#), and a [crosswalk](#) was developed.

Timeline	Action
October 2023	Focus groups with teacher preparation providers and K-12 to discuss and review requirements for competencies from legislation
December 2023	Updated competencies approved by BESE
January 2024	Providers begin making changes to current coursework language and syllabi to match the competencies to submit for approval

Timeline	Action
Fall 2024*	Providers complete the numeracy training on the LDOE PL Platform
January 2025	Providers update courses to be in alignment with the training
January 2026	Courses are being taught with updated competencies
Fall 2026	LDOE will collect course descriptions
September 1, 2028	Certification office will begin looking for coursework that includes the competencies

* As new instructors are hired and onboarded, they should complete the course.

Computer Science Requirements

[Act 211](#) of the 2024 Legislative Session, also known as the "Computer Science Education Advancement Act," aims to build a comprehensive computer science education for Louisiana students through key actions outlined in the [K-12 Computer Science Education Plan](#). This legislation requires teacher education programs to include instruction on teaching students computer science, which may be incorporated into an existing course of study beginning on June 30, 2026.

Timeline	Action
October 2024	K-12 Louisiana Student Standards for Computer Science and teacher preparation course implementation timeline approved by BESE
April 2025	Updated teacher preparation course requirements approved by BESE
May 2025	Providers begin making changes to current coursework language and syllabi to match the requirements to submit for approval
August 2025	Providers update existing courses or add a new course to address computer science instruction within all teacher preparation programs
Spring 2026	LDOE will collect course descriptions
June 30, 2026	Teacher preparation programs must include instruction on teaching students computer science
September 1, 2030	Certification office will begin looking for coursework that includes the competencies

EL Workgroup

In 2024, the [EL Taskforce](#) made recommendations for teacher preparation programs to include instruction on teaching language acquisition strategies that support English language learners. This can be incorporated into existing coursework. Further competencies are being developed in conjunction with a workgroup, including teacher preparation providers, and will be added to policy.

Timeline	Action
April 2025	Teacher preparation course implementation timeline approved by BESE
February 2025	Focus group to develop policies
March 2025	Focus group regarding the competencies
August 2025	BESE to approve competencies
January 2026	Focus group to review options for EL certification
Spring 2027	LDOE to collect course descriptions
August 2027	Teacher preparation programs must include instruction on teaching language acquisition strategies to support English Learners
September 1, 2031	Certification office will begin looking for coursework that includes the competencies