



November 2017

UL Lafayette's Residency In Action



Top Left: Secondary English and Social Studies residents engage in co-teaching in partnership with Vermillionville, "a living history museum and folk life park." **Top Right:** Pre-service teachers present action research. **Bottom left:** Residents teach during robotics camp offered to the community on Saturday mornings. **Bottom right:** Pre-service teachers view a virtual reality lesson created for 8th grade students.

Special thanks to Xavier University, UL Lafayette, and Louisiana Tech University for hosting the November Believe and Prepare Regional Meetings and for arranging site visits for Department staff.

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UPCOMING EVENTS AND DEADLINES

- November 15: Final deadline to submit 2016-2017 IDEA, TIF, Title I 1003(a) and Title II requests for reimbursement and periodic expense reports in eGMS
- November 15: Extended deadline for preparation providers to submit budgets for 2017-2018 Formula Funding or Residency Expansion grants
- December 15: Deadline for preparation providers to submit budgets for 2017-2018 High-Cost Needs grant
- January 1: Deadline for preparation providers to [submit extension requests for program approval](#)

BELIEVE AND PREPARE UPDATES

TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM APPROVAL

The teacher preparation program approval [portal](#) opened on **November 6, 2017**. Teacher preparation providers can now submit extension requests, as well as assurances of alignment to updated policies and proposals to offer an innovative residency design. Please refer to the [how-to-guide](#) when using the portal.

The applications to apply for new certification areas or new pathways will be available in the portal on **November 20, 2017**.

The Department will hold a webinar on **Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.** to demonstrate the portal. The Department will also organize additional in-person and virtual support opportunities throughout November and December.

Please complete this [survey](#) by **Friday, November 17, 2017**, to indicate your interest in one of these support opportunities.

REGIONAL SUPPORT MEETINGS

The Department staff will facilitate regional meetings for preparation providers throughout the 2017-2018 school year. These meetings will include updates on Believe and Prepare funding, policy, and transition processes, as well as opportunities for collaboration and discussion.

Please mark your calendars for the next Believe and Prepare regional meetings: **February 21, 22, and 23, 2018**. Further details will be provided in the December and January newsletters regarding these meetings.

Please contact nicole.bono@la.gov with any questions regarding the regional support meetings.

MENTOR TEACHER TRAINING

Mentor Teacher training is kicking off the week of November 27, 2017. Nearly 500 mentor teachers across the state have been selected by their district to attend this training. In addition, faculty from several preparation providers will also take part in this statewide mentor training. Training participants have been placed into cohorts based on their content area and location. Please visit the mentor teacher [webpage](#) for further details regarding the training.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions regarding Mentor Teacher training.

BELIEVE AND PREPARE FUNDING

All 2017-2018 Believe and Prepare grants are allocated and accessible in eGMS.

- Formula funding for undergraduate preparation providers was allocated in August; the extended deadline for submitting the budget for this grant is **November 15, 2017**.
- Residency Expansion was allocated in June; the extended deadline for submitting the budget for this grant is **November 15, 2017**.
- High-Cost Needs was allocated in October; the deadline for submitting the budget for this grant is **December 15, 2017**.
- Formula funding for districts to pay stipends to undergraduate residents and their mentors was allocated in October; the deadline for submitting the budget for this grant is **January 15, 2017**.

Please contact nicole.bono@la.gov with any questions regarding Believe and Prepare grants.

US PREP SUPPORT

US PREP will provide individualized support to providers focused on the shift to yearlong residencies and competency-based design. This support is optional and delivered at varying levels based on provider needs and available budget. The support from US PREP began with a needs assessment that was completed by preparation providers in October. US PREP is currently working with programs on an individual basis.

Please contact Sarah Beale, sarah.beal@ttu.edu, with any questions regarding US PREP support.

NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

EDUCATOR RESEARCH CONSORTIUM

The Department is [seeking applications](#) from Louisiana institutions of higher education that are interested in serving as the housing institution for the Louisiana Educator Research Consortium. The Louisiana Educator Research Consortium will consist of teacher preparation providers from across the state that are interested in conducting research relative to educator preparation. The housing institution will organize research, seek and receive grant funding, and inform educator preparation policy matters.

The deadline to submit applications is November 17, 2017, at 5 p.m. The institution selected to house the consortium will be notified the week of November 26, 2017.

To access the application, [click here](#).
Please email believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

BELIEVE AND PREPARE: SUPPORT FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES

On September 26, 2017, the Department released a report, which includes survey results from teachers statewide and documents the lack of access teachers in rural communities often have to training programs that ready them fully for the classroom. The full report can be found [here](#).

In response, the Department released a request for applications to address these issues, [Believe and Prepare: Full Preparation in Rural Communities](#), on October, 24, 2017. The RFA seeks [TIF districts](#) or [REAP-eligible districts](#) that are committed to piloting innovative approaches to increase access to high-quality preparation programs that provide ample time for hands-on practice in the classroom with appropriate supports, including an expert mentor teacher.

As part of this two-year grant opportunity, districts will receive customized support and services as they work to implement a practice-based, post-baccalaureate model that meets their workforce needs and provide post-baccalaureate residents with appropriate supports, including an expert mentor teacher. **Participating districts will also have support to develop deeper, more collaborative relationships with preparation providers.**

Applications were due on November 10, 2017. Selected districts who applied will be notified by November 17, 2017, and announced shortly thereafter.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov for more information.

EARLY CHILDHOOD PERFORMANCE PROFILES AND SCHOOL REPORT CARDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN LOUISIANA SCHOOL FINDER

On November 7, 2017, the Department launched [a comprehensive online reporting system](#) detailing how well child care centers and schools statewide are preparing students, birth through grade 12, for the next grade level and beyond. The interactive system, called the [Louisiana School Finder](#), details the first-ever early childhood performance profiles and the annual school performance scores, among other information valuable to families. It is the first of its kind in the nation.

For more information, click [here](#) to read the news release.