Infant CLASS® Supports Request for Applications April 2019
The purpose of this webinar is for community networks learn about how their community can improve interactions in infant classrooms through the Infant CLASS® Supports Request for Applications (RFA).

I. Overview and Infant CLASS® Requirement Background
II. Request for Applications (RFA) Timeline
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   A. CLASS® proficiency courses
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To increase the quality of infant care, Louisiana is rolling out Infant CLASS® in stages; by 2020-2021, it will be fully incorporated into the state’s quality rating and improvement system.

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<td>Infant CLASS® Pilot</td>
<td>Infant CLASS® Learning Year</td>
<td>Full Implementation</td>
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| ● Lead agencies identified all infant classrooms and set up those classrooms in the portal | ● All infant classrooms will be observed for a learning year  
  ● Performance Profile ratings released in fall 2020 will not be impacted by Infant CLASS® results | ● Infant CLASS® is fully incorporated into the unified quality rating system  
  ● Performance Profile ratings released in fall 2021 will reflect Infant CLASS® observations |

louisiana Believes
To prepare teachers to provide high quality interactions with infants, the Department will offer lead agencies the opportunity to implement professional development in Infant CLASS® in their communities.

- The Louisiana Department of Education is offering lead agencies the opportunity to apply for community-level grants to provide teachers and directors with high-quality professional development in Infant CLASS®.
- Teachers need support and training to improve interactions with infants and to be successful when Infant CLASS® observations begin.
- Infant CLASS® observations will be calculated into Performance Profile ratings during the 2020-2021 school year.
## Overview

### Infant CLASS® Supports RFA Timeline

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 8, 2019</td>
<td>Infant CLASS® Supports RFA is released.</td>
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<td>April 10, 2019</td>
<td>Informational webinar is provided on Infant CLASS® Supports RFA.</td>
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<td>May 17, 2019</td>
<td>Applications are due to the Department. Email the application as a PDF document to <a href="mailto:Lizzie.Cosse@la.gov">Lizzie.Cosse@la.gov</a> by noon.</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 19, 2019</td>
<td>Award recipients will be announced.</td>
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<td>July 1, 2019 - January 31, 2020</td>
<td>Funding period. All funding must be spent by January 31, 2020.</td>
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Professional Development Offerings
Professional Development Offerings

Through grants, the Department will support access to Teachstone professional development opportunities, which vary based on the goals and needs of each community.

- **CLASS® proficiency courses**
  - Intended for teachers or directors to gain a better understanding of Infant CLASS® and how to improve infant-teacher interactions
  - No previous experience needed

- **CLASS® mastery courses**
  - Intended for those proficient in CLASS® to become local coaches or trainers
  - New coaches/trainers will then provide CLASS® coaching and training to more teachers and administrators in your community
  - Prerequisites required
These professional development offerings are intended for teachers and directors who need a basic knowledge in Infant CLASS® to improve infant-teacher interactions.

- **Introduction to the CLASS® Tool (Face-to-Face)**
  - Participants learn the basics of the CLASS® instrument, domains, and dimensions for Infants and Toddlers
  - 1 trainer for up to 50 on-site participants

- **myTeachstone**
  - Online subscription service that allows coaches to pair teacher’s CLASS® data with individualized PD resources and targeted support
  - 12-month subscription (25 subscription minimum) that includes access to a resource library of videos, courses, articles, activities, and other rich media content
CLASS® Proficiency Courses (continued)

- **Learn about Infant CLASS® Dimensions**
  - 1 hour online training introduces participants to the four dimensions that make up the Infant CLASS® tool in a quick, engaging introductory program
  - Also accessible in the myTeachstone resource library

- **Infant CLASS® Observation Training**
  - 2 full-day trainings to become successfully certified as an Infant CLASS® Observer
These professional development offerings are intended for experts in CLASS® to become local CLASS® coaches or trainers who could then provide coaching/training to more teachers and administrators in your community.

- **CLASS® Group Coaching-Infant/Toddler (MMCI)**
  - Prerequisite: participant must be a reliable observer in both Infant and Toddler tools
  - 3-day training
  - Develops reliable observers into in-house, expert coaches who can support teachers in your community

- **Infant CLASS® Train-the-Trainer**
  - Prerequisite: participant must be a reliable Infant observer AND must be an affiliate trainer on another age level (Toddler or Pre-K)
  - 2-day training
  - Develops in-house CLASS® experts who can train other staff on CLASS® fundamentals
Resources on Teachstone Offerings

- **Teachstone Trainings**: Visit Teachstone’s website to learn more details about Infant CLASS® professional development offerings.

- **Sedra.Spano@teachstone.com**, (704) 641-6802: Contact a Teachstone Regional Director for more specifics on PD pricing and logistics.

- **LDOE Professional Development Vendor Guide**: The Department created a guide of approved PD vendors. Teachstone information can be found on page 10.
Infant CLASS® Supports RFA Application Process
Lead agencies interested in accessing Infant CLASS® Supports for their communities must submit an application detailing how they would implement professional development opportunities.

Lead agencies must submit an application detailing:

• a breakdown of the Infant CLASS® Support options they would like for teachers and directors;
• participating sites and approximate number of teachers;
• a timeframe for implementation; and
• a projected budget of how funds would be distributed.

More details about the application can be found in the Request for Application (RFA).
RFA Application Process: Elements to Consider

Lead agencies applying for Infant CLASS® Supports should make strategic, data-driven decisions when completing their applications.

- Look closely at your community’s data:
  - Number of infant classrooms
  - Infant CLASS® scores for pilot communities
  - Performance Profile ratings
- Which participants does your community need to invest in most?
- Which professional development offerings make the most sense to help those participants?
- What other costs do you anticipate with implementation?
Funding Request

Each applicant will need to complete a funding request like this.

Applicants will break down the cost for proficiency courses vs. mastery courses. You can do a combination of both.

Finally, you’ll add the total funding for proficiency courses to the total funding for mastery courses.
In this example, the lead agency’s plan is to provide 20 teachers with proficiency courses.

Additionally, the lead agency’s plan is to offer two individuals mastery courses that will make them either a coach or a trainer. In turn, those two new trainers are anticipated to train 30 people in their community.
Questions?

For questions or additional information about the application process, email Lizzie.Cosse@la.gov.

For specific questions regarding Teachstone professional development offerings, email Sedra.Spano@teachstone.com.