

PROGRAM APPROVAL

The preparation program review process provides a comprehensive, unbiased evaluation of all teacher preparation program applications according to clearly defined standards found in BESE policy: [initial teacher certification competencies](#) and [teacher preparation program requirements](#).

Processes and tools for initial approval and alignment approval have been considered by the [Teacher Preparation Accountability Workgroup](#).

Currently approved teacher preparation program providers must demonstrate alignment to new policies by July 1, 2018. Teacher preparation providers with extenuating circumstances may submit a request to BESE for an extension of this deadline. All extension requests must be received by January 1, 2018.

Providers have two options for demonstrating alignment to new policies.

Assurances	Teacher preparation providers that align their programs to the new program design and practice experiences outlined in Bulletin 996 , Chapter 7 Subchapter C, will submit a set of assurances to the LDOE. BESE will receive the assurances. The assurances can be submitted through the Program Approval Application Portal: Alignment
Innovative model	Teacher preparation providers may seek approval to offer an innovative residency model that does not meet the minimum residency time requirements but meets a specific workforce need and includes high-quality clinical experiences. The LDOE will review these applications; BESE will consider the LDOE’s recommendation. This application can be submitted through the Program Approval Application Portal: Alignment

Providers can also apply for a new pathway(s) and/or certification area(s).

Initial Request	Teacher preparation providers can apply to offer new pathways and/or new certification areas. Current provider can submit a Notice of Intent to offer a new pathway and/or certification area(s). Once the NOI is received, the link to the application will be sent to the provider that submitted the NOI.
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Current and new providers may access resources available on Louisiana Believes via the [Preparation Library](#).

Educator Preparation Program Alignment Timelines

Request Type	Notice of Intent Deadline	Application Deadline	Notification of Evaluation Results	BESE Considers
Innovative	N/A	2/2/2018	N/A	4/17/2018
	N/A	4/2/2018	N/A	6/19/2018
Alignment	N/A	1/26/2018	N/A	3/12/2018
	N/A	3/2/2018	N/A	4/17/2018
	N/A	5/4/2018	N/A	6/19/2018
Initial: New Providers	5/1/2018	6/1/2018	9/1/2018	10/17/2018
	11/16/2018	12/14/2018	3/18/2019	4/17/2019