

# Louisiana Believes

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**Louisiana Connectors Overview**  
**October 2016**

# Background

- Based on the Louisiana Student Standards for ELA and math adopted in the spring of 2016, Louisiana is proposing a set of aligned expectations, Louisiana Connectors, to ensure the standards are accessible to students with English language learning needs and significant cognitive disabilities.
- Along with meeting with a diverse group of stakeholders to develop a draft set of aligned standards for students with significant cognitive disabilities, the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) completed a comparative analysis of the [Louisiana Student Standards](#), the Louisiana Extended Standards, and the work of the [National Center and State Collaborative \(NCSC\)](#).
- The analysis showed that there is general, though not complete, alignment between the Louisiana Student Standards and the NCSC Core Content Connectors.
- Where discrepancies were found, edits were recommended. These edits ensure that the Louisiana Connectors are fully aligned to the Louisiana Student Standards and accessible to students with significant cognitive disabilities.

# Louisiana Connectors

The Louisiana Connectors are the pathways for students with significant cognitive disabilities to meet the Louisiana State Standards; they are not learning standards that stand separate and apart from the standard expectations we have for typical students.

The Louisiana Connectors capture the “big ideas” of each content area, while also maintaining alignment to the standard expectations.

- To review the draft math Louisiana Connectors for K-12 click [here](#).
- To review the draft English Louisiana Connectors for K-12 click [here](#).

# Louisiana Connectors: Branding

Historically, the learning expectations for students with significant cognitive disabilities have been defined as the Extended Standards and have been measured by the Louisiana Alternate Assessment Level 1 (LAA1). The new proposal includes revising the name of both the standards and the corresponding assessment.

	<b>Former</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
<b>Standards</b>	Extended Standards	Louisiana Connectors
<b>Assessment</b>	LAA 1	LEAP Connect

# Louisiana Connectors: Format

- The draft Louisiana Connectors documents for math and English are formatted so that the Louisiana Connectors are located side-by-side with the corresponding Louisiana Student Standard.
- Each individual Louisiana Connector names the benchmark to be met on the pathway to achieving of the Louisiana Student Standard.
- If a Louisiana Connector is not present in the document, this indicates that the learning expectations did not appear in the NCSC Learning Progressions Framework which identified the core content of each grade. As a result, there are no corresponding Louisiana Connectors for such standards.

# Louisiana Connectors: Coding

The coding for the Louisiana Connectors reflects those of the Louisiana Student Standards and adds two appendages: an “LAC” to indicate that this is a Louisiana Connector and an additional tag (e.g. “a, b, c...” ) that shows the breakdown of the LSS into the corresponding skills under the Louisiana Connectors.

Louisiana Student Standard ELA Grade 9	Draft Louisiana Connectors (LAC)
<b>RL.9-10.1</b> Cite relevant and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.	<b>LAC.RL.9-10.1a</b> Use two or more pieces of evidence to support inferences, conclusions, or summaries of the plot, purpose, or theme within a text. <b>LAC.RL.9-10.1b</b> Determine which piece(s) of evidence provide the strongest support for inferences, conclusions, or summaries of text.

# Feedback on Louisiana Connectors

- Your opinion is very important to us: the survey results will be used to inform the final version of Louisiana Connectors that will be considered by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) this winter.
- After reviewing the draft of the Louisiana Connectors, please **submit feedback by 5 p.m. on November 18 by completing [this survey](#).**
- You may also join an informational webinar on either **November 1<sup>st</sup> from 2:30-3:30** or **November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 2-3** to discuss the framework of the Louisiana Connectors.
  - Conference Number(s): 1-855-240-2575
  - Participant pin code: 60265090
  - <https://louisianaschools.adobeconnect.com/sped/>

# Timeline

- October 18, 2016- Public Comment Begins
- November 1, 2016- Alignment Overview Webinar from 2:30-3:30
- November 3, 2016 – Alignment Overview Webinar from 2:00-3:00
- November 16, 2016- Special Education Advisory Panel
- November 18, 2016- Public Comment Closes
- December 6, 2016- BESE Considers Proposal