

The School Improvement Best Practices strategy supports school systems and schools in adopting the essential components that drive high-quality professional learning (HQPL). HQPL is necessary to ensure Louisiana’s children experience a positive educational journey that results in them graduating on time and being prepared for college, career, or service. Subsequently, the LDOE identified five evidence-based, School Improvement Best Practices that support children receiving a high-quality education . The five best practices are:

- instructional leadership team support,
- teacher collaboration support,
- teaching standards support,
- principal standards support, and
- career pipeline support.

Continuing during the 2024-2025 academic year, all CIR schools are required to implement the Instructional Leadership Team Support and Teacher Collaboration Support as the professional learning structures that will aid in school improvement efforts. The implementation of these structures include 3 days of onsite support and access to digital resources from a high-quality vendor. School systems may apply for funds through Super App or use other funding sources for schools without an intervention label.

School improvement best practices will again “level up” existing implementation efforts of professional learning structures. High-quality professional learning opportunities continue to occur through [School Support Institutes](#), partnerships with high-quality vendors, and LDOE support from the School Improvement Support Specialists (SISS). Attendance at School Support Institute sessions are required for CIR schools. Attendance is optional for UIR-A schools as well as non-labeled sites.

To ensure schools continue to “level-up” use of professional learning structures:

- Teacher Leader Summit sessions provide an additional layer of support to systems in the implementation, application, or evaluation of professional learning structures to ensure instructional program coherence . All CIR schools are required to attend one full-day session.
- High-quality vendor support assists school systems and CIR schools in implementation efforts. Funding may be requested for a total of 3 support days.

Use the charts below for details on the best practice requirements and Super App funding requests. More details on Teacher Leader Summit sessions will be released this spring. Please email the [Division of School Improvement](#) with questions.

School Improvement Requirement	Description	Funding Request	School System Planning Item
Portal Access*	Schools will receive access to EE PASS, an online content library that provides access to resources and self-study opportunities throughout the year. Schools will receive 3 days of onsite and/or virtual coaching (one in fall, winter, and spring). These days are allocated explicitly to support the application of new learning received during the Teacher Leader Summit.	\$11,000 per school	P5.3.1

*Portal access is a required, one-time purchase for the 2024-2025 school year. This component must be included to support the required ILT and Teacher Collaboration implementation at CIR schools.

School Improvement Best Practice	Description	Funding Request	School System Planning Item
Instructional Leadership Team (ILT) Support	ILTs are an evidence-based, school improvement best practice that focuses on building capacity and making decisions. ILTs consist of leaders who serve in various capacities across the school system and within schools who collaborate to result in improved teaching and learning experiences. ILT support is provided through SSI, TL summit, and LDOE field-based support from School Improvement Support Specialists (SISS).	No funding request required	P5.3.1
Teacher Collaboration (TC) Support	TC promotes teacher development by providing teachers with weekly, job-embedded learning that is facilitated by a skilled educator that serves within the building and seeks to meet student needs by affording teachers the opportunity to collaborate with peers. ILT support is provided through SSI, TL summit, and LDOE field-based support from School Improvement Support Specialists (SISS).	No funding request required	P5.3.1

School Improvement Requirement	Description	Funding Request	School System Planning Item
Teacher Leader Summit	Required participation from CIR schools will be funded by the Department. Each school should plan to send members of the Instructional Leadership Team and school system personnel, ideally the same members who attend School Support Institutes , to attend the 2024 Teacher Leader Summit. Seat allocations remain consistent with those for School Support Institutes.	Required participation from CIR schools will be funded by the Department.	P5.3.2

School Improvement Requirement	Description	Funding Request	School System Planning Item
SSI	Required participation from CIR schools, in addition to optional participation for UIR-A schools, will be funded by the Department in accordance with the seat allocation for each Instructional Leadership Team. Each school should plan to send three members of the Instructional Leadership Team to the School Support Institutes . These ILT members' responsibilities should include planning/facilitating ILT meetings (principal, head of school, etc.), observing and providing feedback to classroom instruction (content leaders, master teacher, instructional facilitators/coordinators), and meeting the needs of diverse learners (Special Education and/or English Learner support coordinator) plus system leaders whose responsibilities include supporting CIR schools and/or supervising principals. Each ILT will choose one pathway to attend together for the entire training sequence.	Required participation from CIR schools will be funded by the Department.	P5.3.3

How to request funds for School Improvement Best Practices

Super App Funding Requests

- Item P5.3.1 (School Improvement Best Practices) has a funding request box for Portal Access and each required best practice (instructional leadership team support and teacher collaboration support) in addition to optional best practices (teaching standards support, principal standards support, and career pipeline support). School systems should include a funding request of \$11,000 per site for Portal Access and Coaching Support at each CIR school which is implementing the required best practice. School systems should use the tables above to make requests for the required best practices in the provided funding request entry blanks within Super App. In addition to making a request, school systems should identify the number of CIR schools implementing each item.
- Item P5.3.2 (Teacher Leader Summit) is required for CIR schools and will be funded by the Department. School systems should enter the number of teachers and school leaders from CIR / UIR-A schools implementing School Improvement Best Practiced the school system plans on sending to Teacher Leader Summit 2023.
- Item P5.3.3 (School Support Institutes) is required for CIR schools and will be funded by the Department. School systems should identify the number of school system and school leader participants from CIR / UIR-A schools attending School Support Institutes.