

Director of Academic Innovation

The Director of Academic Innovation (DAI) reports to the Deputy Superintendent of Teaching & Learning and is tasked with the responsibility of leading the agency's vision of supporting educators through technological innovations while also increasing relevance across all content areas. The DAI will play a critical role in maintaining knowledge of innovative approaches to education, and providing training for instructional design support to maximize the quality of pedagogical best practices. The DAI will also facilitate statewide professional development, as directed, to support instruction and prioritize innovative approaches in the classrooms.

Position Rationale: The main goal of the Director of Academic Innovation is to provide leadership and management as Louisiana embraces the consistent need to instructionally innovate, build meaningful student connections to learning, and keep learners safe in today's globally electronic settings.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to the following:

70% ADMINISTRATION, IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF INNOVATIVE PROGRAMMING

- Supports school systems in their use of technology-enhanced approaches
- Ensures the use of AI-powered services are used in a safe and constructive manner
- Collaborates with stakeholders to design, develop and support high-quality, digital tools for learning
- Leads both formal and informal training opportunities for school systems in the effective uses of technology for teaching and learning
- Implements instructional concepts to build digital materials that promote learning
- Develops, maintains, oversees and coordinates faculty training and development activities encourage innovative use of technology for content-relevant teaching and learning
- Monitors education research, trends, and developments to support school improvement efforts and program development; and fosters the sharing of high yield strategies and opportunities for collaboration within and among all levels
- Acts as a resource for school systems regarding the design and development of technology-based instructional materials
- Engages in continuous assessment of Academic Innovation services
- Provides expertise in current industry standards and principles of good practice

- Consistently advises academic content on ways in which learning can be relevant and meaningful for students
- Consistently advises academic content on ways in which learning can be fun for students
- Works alongside academic content to foster meaningful learning for students
- Stays current through research of learning and technology trends and represents the agency by participating in collaborative research into teaching and learning, professional development, conferences and organizations
- Makes research-based recommendations for implementation of teaching and learning technology

25% TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- Develops, manages, plans, coordinates and organizes special and/or confidential projects and activities as directed by executive leadership
- Researches, gathers, organizes and summarizes data for briefings and special Academic Innovation projects.
- Researches, writes, edits and/or coordinates preparation of special reports, briefings and Academic innovation presentations on behalf of executive leadership

5% OTHER

- Completes all additional duties and projects as assigned Deputy Superintendent, State Superintendent and LDOE Chief of Staff.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS AND BACKGROUND

- Bachelor's Degree
- Proven ability to work effectively with others
- Strong oral and written communication skills
- Ability to apply principles of logical or scientific thinking to define problems, collect data, establish facts and draw valid conclusions
- Possess the skills necessary to manage, inspire, and motivate people
- Ability to work with agency appointing authorities, school system leaders, state employees, and other agency heads
- Ability to work independently, prioritize tasks to meet deadlines and maintain accuracy and attention to details
- Ability to be flexible and perform multiple tasks successfully
- Project management expertise
- Creative thinker