



Future *Educators* are *Rising* in Concordia, Grant, and Rapides Parishes through Partnership with Louisiana State University of Alexandria



Louisiana State University of Alexandria's Department of Education has established partnerships with school districts, high schools, and middle schools through *Educators Rising*. *Educators Rising* is a national organization dedicated to providing opportunities for students interested in the teaching profession. Left: *Educators Rising* club members from Buckeye High School visited the club members at Alexandria Senior High School. Right: Assistant Professor Dr. Arlene A. Duos visited *Educator Rising* club members at Tioga Junior High. Click [here](#) to learn more.

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UPCOMING EVENTS AND DEADLINES

- March 5: 2018-2019 Mentor Teacher and Content Leader nomination process begins
- March 12: BESE considers allocations for January-start residents and mentors ([Administration and Finance Committee](#))
- March 26: Deadline for school systems to submit [Mentor Teacher and Content Leader Nomination Template](#)
- April 16-20: Regional Support meetings
- April 20: School systems are notified about selection of nominees for Mentor Teacher and Content Leader training
- May 29-June 1: 2018 [Louisiana Teacher Leader Summit](#)

BELIEVE AND PREPARE UPDATES

LOUISIANA TEACHER LEADER SUMMIT

The [2018 Teacher Leader Summit](#) will take place **May 30-June 1** at the Morial Convention Center in New Orleans. This inspiring event, held annually, will bring together 6,500 school system leaders, school leaders, and teachers who are focused on creating meaningful growth for every student, every day. Educators will share their knowledge, learn new skills, and prepare for the 2018-2019 school year. This year, the Summit will include a special track for preparation leaders and faculty, which will include access to sessions related to Louisiana standards, curriculum, and assessments, as well as sessions focused on teacher preparation. Additionally, the Summit offers preparation providers an opportunity to learn alongside school system partners, and to gain the same knowledge and skills that their K-12 colleagues are receiving.

Believe and Prepare grant funds (Formula, Residency Expansion, and/or High Cost Need) **could be utilized to cover the travel costs associated with attending the Summit.**

Registration details will be included in the April Believe and Prepare Newsletter.

TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM APPROVAL

Currently approved teacher preparation providers must demonstrate alignment to new policies by July 1, 2018.

Assurances

Teacher preparation providers that are aligning 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 Department; BESE will receive those assurances.

Innovative Model

Teacher preparation providers may seek BESE 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.

Upcoming program alignment deadlines:

Request Type	Submission Deadline Dates	BESE Considers
Assurances for alignment	March 2, 2018	April 17, 2018
	May 4, 2018	June 19, 2018
Innovative model proposals	February 2, 2018	April 17, 2018
	April 2, 2018	June 19, 2018
Initial request (current providers)	February 16, 2018	April 17, 2018

Please refer to the [Educator Preparation Program Approval Policies and Guidelines](#) document, as well as the [Educator Preparation Providers](#) webpage for additional guidance and resources regarding program approval processes.

BELIEVE AND PREPARE FUNDING

Believe and Prepare Grants

All 2017-2018 Believe and Prepare grants are allocated and accessible in eGMS. **As a reminder, all 8(g) funds must be spent by June 15, 2018**, and requests for reimbursements must be submitted in eGMS by June 22, 2018. All federal funds (IDEA, TIF, Title I 1003(a), Title II) must be spent by September 30, 2018 and requests for reimbursements must be submitted in eGMS by November 15, 2018.

January Data Collection Process

The Department has conducted a second data collection process to identify residents beginning their yearlong residency in January 2018, and to make any necessary adjustments to the October allocations. Allocations for these stipends were brought to BESE for approval at the **March 12 [Administration and Finance Committee meeting](#)**.

CONTACT INFORMATION UPDATE

The Department recently created a [Pathways to Teaching](#) webpage that directs aspiring teachers to Louisiana's approved undergraduate and post-baccalaureate educator preparation programs. In order to ensure that we have the most up-to-date contact information for preparation providers, we are asking that you complete this brief survey to update contact information for key staff members. Please complete the [survey](#) by **Friday, March 30, 2018**.

REGIONAL SUPPORT MEETINGS

The Department recently held regional meetings across the state. These meetings included updates on Believe and Prepare funding, policy, and transition processes, as well as opportunities for collaboration and discussion.

Many thanks to Grambling State University, Louisiana State University of Alexandria, and Southeastern Louisiana University for hosting the February meetings. The materials from the meeting are [here](#).

The next round of regional meetings are tentatively scheduled for April 16, 18, and 20. Please check your calendars and let us know if there are any conflicts with these dates.

Please contact nicole.bono@la.gov with any questions regarding the regional support meetings.

MENTOR TEACHER TRAINING

Mentor Teacher training continues throughout the spring. Upcoming dates are provided below for those who attend training. Materials from mentor trainings can be located on the [Mentor Teacher](#) webpage. The Department has provided preparation providers with a list of attendees for mentor recruitment.

	Cohort #1	Cohort #2	Cohort #3	Cohort #4	Cohort #5	Cohort #6	Cohort #7
Sessions 7 & 8	March 19- 20	March 21- 22	March 22- 23	March 20- 21	March 19- 20	March 26- 27	March 26- 27
Location	New Orleans	Baton Rouge	Lafayette	Ruston/ Shreveport	Alexandria	Alexandria	Alexandria
Cohort Name	K-5 General	K-5 General	K-5 General	K-5 General	Secondary Math	Secondary ELA	Secondary General

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions regarding Mentor Teacher training.

2018-2019 MENTOR TEACHER & CONTENT LEADER NOMINATION TIMELINE

March 13-15, 2018	Collaboration Sessions - Learn more about the 2018-2019 Mentor and Content Leader Training
March 26, 2018	Deadline for school systems to complete and submit the Mentor Teacher and Content Leader Nomination Template
April 20, 2018	School systems receive notification of their nominees' acceptance to training

NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

BE A TEACHER STATEWIDE CAMPAIGN

Last month, the Department launched a statewide teacher recruitment campaign, [Be A Teacher LA](#), designed to elevate the teaching profession and increase the number of high school graduates and college students who enroll in an undergraduate teacher preparation program.

The Department encourages everyone to join in the campaign and help elevate the teaching profession by sharing inspirational stories and messages on social media about teachers using the hashtag **#BeATeacherLA**.

Specific stories include:

- Mentor teachers who are helping to grow the next generation of teachers in our state
- Teacher residents who are currently studying to become teachers
- Teachers who have returned to their community to teach in a school they once attended

If you know a teacher or teacher resident that has a great story to tell, please email us at excellenteducators@la.gov or share the story on social media using #BeATeacherLA.

Be A Teacher LA In the News:

- **WBRZ:** [Department of Education launches campaign to celebrate educators, recruit next generation](#)
- **WAFB:** [LDOE launches campaign to recruit next generation of teachers](#)
- **The Advertiser:** [Louisiana launches new teacher recruitment campaign](#)
- **The Advocate:** [Louisiana looks to Generation Z with new campaign to boost teaching profession](#)