

Southeastern Louisiana University Residency Interview Days



On March 21st and 27th, Southeastern Louisiana University hosted Residency Interview Days, which enabled its sixty-eight potential resident student teachers to choose their top two districts for clinical placement. Southeastern's Residency Program is currently partnered with five school districts: Ascension, Livingston, St. Charles, St. Tammany, and Tangipahoa. After the interview days, each district analyzed their workforce needs and used this data to confirm their selection of residents.

In This Issue:

- [Upcoming Events and Deadlines](#)
- [Believe and Prepare Updates](#)
- [News and Opportunities](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS AND DEADLINES

- Late April: School systems are notified about selection of nominees for Mentor Teacher training
- April 20: Preparation Provider nominations for Mentor Teacher and Content Leader trainings due
- April 20: Preparation Provider Educator Certification Portal surveys due
- April 23: Believe and Prepare support meeting 1:00-4:00 pm, Claiborne building, Baton Rouge
- April 23: Registration opens for Teacher Leader Summit
- May 1: Launch of new Educator Certification Portal
- May 4: Program Approval Assurances for Alignment due
- May 18: Registration closes for Teacher Leader Summit
- **May 29-June 1: 2018 Louisiana Teacher Leader Summit**
- June 15: Deadline to spend all 8(g) funds in Believe and Prepare Grants
- June 22: Deadline to submit reimbursement requests for 8(g) funds in Believe and Prepare grants

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, preparation providers, 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) may be utilized to cover the travel costs associated with attending the Summit.

Registration opens on **April 23rd** and closes on May 18th. Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis. Details regarding registration will be posted [here](#) on April 23rd.

BELIEVE AND PREPARE SUPPORT MEETING

The Department will host a Believe and Prepare support meeting on Monday, April 23rd from 1:00-4:00 pm in Baton Rouge at the Claiborne building. This meeting will focus on highlighting the successes preparation providers have had in transitioning to competency-based programs that include yearlong residencies. In addition, it will include updates on Believe and Prepare funding, program approval, as well as opportunities for collaboration and discussion. Please RSVP [here](#) for this meeting.

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

2018-2019 MENTOR TEACHER TRAINING

The Department received nearly 600 nominees for 2018-2019 Mentor Teacher Training. We are again offering preparation providers seats in the full nine days of training. Preparation providers interested in sending faculty to the full training must complete this [survey](#) no later than **Friday, April 20th**. There is

no fee for preparation provider faculty to attend Mentor Teacher training, but they must commit to attending the full nine days of training.

In addition, preparation providers can utilize this same survey link to nominate faculty to attend 2018-2019 Content Leader training. Please note that Content Leader training does have a cost of \$3,500 per person.

A list of training dates and locations for Mentor Teacher training and Content Leader training will be provided at the Believe and Prepare support meeting on Monday, April 23rd.

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

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 will submit a set of assurances to the Department.

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	May 4, 2018	June 19, 2018
Innovative model proposals	April 2, 2018	June 19, 2018

Approved extension requests

Teacher preparation providers with BESE approved extensions must submit milestones that have been completed to align programs to BESE policy, and any additional work that is needed to complete the alignment process. This includes securing institutional approval for the aligned programs, and/or a draft of the innovative model for the August 15, 2018 BESE meeting to the Department for review by **July 6, 2018**. The Department will schedule calls with these providers to discuss the process for submitting the required information within the upcoming weeks.

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.

EDUCATOR CERTIFICATION PORTAL

The Department is excited to announce the launch of a new educator certification portal that is designed to provide excellent customer service to all stakeholders, as well as digital submission of certification request. The portal will launch on **May 1, 2018**.

The portal will allow for:

- electronic submission of fillable PDF certification applications,
- online payment of fees for certification applications, and
- direct communication between the Department, preparation providers, and educators.

Preparation providers are asked to complete this quick [survey](#) by **April 20, 2018**, to provide the Department with your certification specialist's contact information in preparation for our launch. We will email them directly regarding how to set up their accounts.

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.

The Department plans to bring 2018-2019 Formula Fund allocations for Preparation Provider transition support to BESE for approval in June 2018. These are formula funds, so no application is required.

NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

In February, 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 invites school systems, educators, and preparation provider partners across the state to join us during National Teacher Appreciation Week, May 7-11, in elevating the most noble of professions on social media!

To participate, preparation provider partners are encouraged to:

- post pictures or videos of your teacher candidates thanking them for what they do, or
- post a picture or video saying "Thank You" to a teacher that made a difference in your life – or inspired you to find your calling as an educator.

Be sure to tag the Department in your posts using the hashtags **#ThankATeacher** and **#BeATeacherLA**.

Also, 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**.

Together we can make an impact on the teaching profession, by changing the way the world, and most importantly our youth, see it.

Social media graphics promoting Teacher Appreciation Week will be available on the Department's [website](#), along with other materials for the statewide teacher recruitment campaign.