



Yearlong Residents Kick Off the School Year by Jumping into Teaching
Undergraduate resident, Bailey Andrus from LSU- Alexandria, reads “First Day Jitters” to her second graders at Pine Prairie, in Evangeline Parish.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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- September 13: Regional Collaborative, Jefferson Parish School Board Building, Harvey
- September 18: Regional Collaborative, Trinity United Methodist Church, Ruston
- September 19 and 20: Louisiana Believe and Prepare Impact Collaborative, Baton Rouge
- October 16-17: BESE committee meetings, Claiborne Building, Baton Rouge

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

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- September 14: Deadline to submit application to the Department to offer innovative models, for consideration at October 16 BESE meeting
- September 28: Teacher of the Year and Principal of the Year nomination deadline
- September 30: Deadline to spend federal funds included in 2017-2018 Believe and Prepare grants
- November 9: Deadline to submit application to the Department to offer innovative models, for consideration at December 11 BESE meeting
- December 1: Deadline to submit program alignment extension status updates to the Department

BELIEVE AND PREPARE UPDATES

REGIONAL COLLABORATIVES

Starting this week, the Department began hosting regional collaboratives, which will replace Believe and Prepare regional meetings. This year's regional collaboratives will offer topics relevant to preparation provider work and will also offer opportunities for preparation providers and school system leaders to collaborate.

September 13, 2018: Jefferson Parish School Board Building, 501 Manhattan Blvd., Harvey, LA

September 18, 2018: Trinity United Methodist Church, 1000 Woodward Ave., Ruston, LA

Sessions designed specifically for preparation providers begin at 1:00 p.m.

Please contact Nicole Bono at nicole.bono@la.gov with any questions.

LOUISIANA BELIEVE AND PREPARE IMPACT COLLABORATIVE

The Department is excited to announce the first cohort of the Louisiana Believe and Prepare Impact Collaborative. The following preparation providers have been selected to participate: Louisiana Resource Center for Educators, Louisiana State University, Louisiana Tech University, McNeese State University, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, University of Louisiana Monroe, and University of New Orleans.

Through the Louisiana Believe and Prepare Impact Collaborative, [Deans for Impact](#) will design and facilitate a yearlong collaborative for Louisiana preparation leaders. The collaborative will be focused on using data to increase candidate learning in a specific focus area. Goals for the collaborative include:

- implementing a full improvement cycle focused on candidate learning in a particular focus area;
- improving processes used to collect and analyze data for continuous program improvement; and
- building trust among participants that facilitates cross-institutional learning with the potential to continue beyond the initial project period.

The first convening of the collaborative will be held September 19-20, in Baton Rouge.

Please contact Nicole Bono at nicole.bono@la.gov with any questions.

BELIEVE AND PREPARE FUNDING

BESE will consider allocations for **undergraduate resident and mentor stipends for 2018-2019 on October 16**. These funds will be accessible in eGMS by late October. The following school systems are hosting yearlong residents this school year: Allen, Acadia, Assumption, Ascension, Avoyelles, Bossier, Caddo, Caldwell, Central Community, City of Monroe, Concordia, East Baton Rouge, Evangeline, Grant, Iberia, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Lincoln, Livingston, Morehouse, Natchitoches, Orleans, Ouachita, Pointe Coupee, Rapides, Red River, Richland, Sabine, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Union, Vermillion, Vernon, Washington, Webster, West Baton Rouge, West Carroll, Zachary.

As a reminder, on June 19, BESE approved 2018-2019 formula fund allocations for preparation provider transition support. These funds include 2018-2019 formula funds, which are based on program providers' three year average of program completers, as well as the full balance of unspent 2016-2017 8(g) funds. **Providers will receive funding from a variety of sources, a small portion of which (less than 15 percent) must be spent by September 30.** Preparation providers should have received an email on July 5, 2018, with specific details regarding their formula fund allocations and timelines for spending these funds.

Please contact Nicole.Bono@la.gov with any questions regarding Believe and Prepare funding.

COMPASS EVALUATOR TRAINING

For providers who use the Compass rubric, there are two remaining Compass training webinars in September. As a reminder, **all Compass evaluators must register for a training**, pursuant to [Bulletin 130](#). These webinars have now been updated to accommodate a greater number of participants. Participants DO NOT need to register or re-register for these, but should do the following prior to the sessions:

1. Download the Zoom app and create a login. (<https://www.zoom.us>)
2. Make sure to have an empty browser open to copy and paste links during webinar.
3. Make sure to mute the microphone button so we do not hear feedback during call.

Presentation decks from these webinars are available in the [Compass Library](#) of the Louisiana Believes website under *Training Materials*. This is a self-guided training. In order to receive credit for your training, please make sure to complete the survey link provided on the final slide of either training.

New Evaluator Training Webinar Link: September 11, 1:00-3:00 p.m. New evaluators should log on to this link: https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/606421196	Recertification Training Webinar Link: September 12, 1:00-3:00 p.m. Veteran evaluators should log on to this link: https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/248633194
New Evaluator Training Slide Deck Link: https://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/key-compass-resources/2017-2018-compass-new-evaluator-training.pdf?sfvrsn=8	Recertification Training Slide Deck Link: https://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/key-compass-resources/2018-2019-recertification-compass-training.pdf?sfvrsn=4

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.

TEACHER PREPARATION QUALITY RATING SYSTEM

Business Rules for the Teacher Preparation Accountability System

Based upon the recommendation from the Teacher Preparation Accountability Workgroup, the Department contracted with a team of researchers at the University of Virginia to develop a set of business rules for the teacher preparation accountability system. The business rules define:

- a framework for which certification areas will be reviewed during the onsite review,
- how certification areas can be aggregated to a “subunit” level to ensure that the Teacher Preparation Quality Rating System provides actionable feedback to teacher preparation providers,
- the minimum sample size needed for a quality rating to be calculated at the pathway level, and
- the minimum sample size needed to calculate the Teacher Quality domain.

The business rules were developed and refined with feedback from the Educator Research Consortium and teacher preparation providers. They are now final and will be discussed at the September regional collaboratives. The business rules will be posted in the [Preparation Library](#) following the regional meetings.

Focus for the On-site Review during the Learning Phase and first Accountability Cycle

All teacher preparation providers will participate in an on-site review during the Learning Phase (2018-2019 and 2019-2020) of the Teacher Preparation Quality Rating System.

As outlined in the business rules for the Teacher Preparation Quality Rating System, the on-site review will focus on – and provide specific feedback for - **active* Elementary, Middle/Secondary Math, and Middle/Secondary ELA** programs during the learning phase and during the first accountability cycle. On a case-by-case basis, small, similar programs may be combined so as to expand the evidence base.

*Active programs are defined as programs:

1. with enrolled candidates
2. with candidates participating in clinical experiences (if the program has enrolled candidates, but those candidates are not teaching lessons, the program would not be reviewed)

Data Exchange Update

The Department is excited to provide an update relative to the data exchange, which includes pathway and program information as well as employment and effectiveness data for recent program completers. This information is used to calculate the Meeting Educator Workforce Needs and Teacher Quality domains of the Quality Rating System.

This fall, teacher preparation providers will receive the employment and effectiveness data for their 2015-2016 program completers. Teacher-level effectiveness data may only be provided for program completers, who submitted a [signed consent form](#). The former consent forms will be accepted for 2015-2016 program completers, permitting the release of their VAM data.

Providers will receive an email with additional information prior to releasing their data onto their FTP.

Email believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM APPROVAL

Approved Extension Requests and Innovative Proposals

Providers who received teacher preparation program alignment extensions from BESE are required to submit their final status updates to BESE during their January 2019 meeting. In order for the Department to prepare the reports for submission to BESE, we must receive information from providers by December 1. The Department will contact providers with further details regarding the submission of their final updates.

Providers that would like to seek approval from BESE to offer innovative models for teacher preparation programs must submit their applications to the Department according to the deadlines below.

- September 14: For consideration at the October 16 BESE meeting.
- November 9: For consideration at the December 11 BESE meeting.

Request to Offer New Programs

Preparation providers seeking approval to offer new programs that result in initial certification must follow the process outlined below. Preparation providers must first submit a [Notice of Intent](#) (NOI), and once that is received, the Department will send a link to the application.

Current and new providers may access resources available on Louisiana Believes via the [Preparation Library](#).

Notice of Intent Submitted By	Application Submission Deadline	Evaluation Period	Notification of Evaluation Results	BESE Considers (if recommended for approval)
6/1/2018	7/1/2018	7/1/2018-8/30/2018	9/1/2018	10/17/2018
11/16/2018	12/14/2018	1/4/2019-3/15/2019	3/18/2019	4/17/2019
7/1/2019	8/1/2019	8/1/2019-9/13/2019	9/13/2019	10/15/2019

Email believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

SEARCH FOR LOUISIANA'S NEXT STATE TEACHER AND PRINCIPAL OF THE YEAR

The Louisiana Department of Education recognizes great teachers and school leaders are critical to student success. Annually, the Department honors some of the state's most successful educators through the Louisiana Teacher and Principal of the Year programs.

Part of the selection process for naming the district and state-level winners includes [recommendations](#) from teachers, principals, district employees, parents, colleagues, and community members.

If you know someone who meets the criteria below, please submit a nomination. Self-nominations and multiple nominations are also accepted.

- Demonstrates excellence in the field, guiding students of all backgrounds and abilities to achieve excellence.
- Demonstrates leadership and innovation inside and outside of the classroom walls that embodies lifelong learning.
- Collaborates with colleagues, students, and families to create a school culture of respect and success.

Nominations must be submitted via the [nominations portal](#) by Friday, September 28, 2018.

The portal may also be accessed by visiting the [Department's website](#). Nominations will be sent to the local school districts for consideration as they select their top candidates to participate in the state-level process.

For questions, contact excellenteducators@la.gov.