Important News for NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS

March 17, 2022

In This Issue

Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours	
Office Hours Title	**Zoom Link**
P-EBT Data Managers Office Hours	March 22 at 10 a.m.
Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours	March 22 at 3 p.m.
Science of Reading Implementation Office Hours	March 22 at 4 p.m.
Assessment and Accountability Office Hours	March 22 at 3:45 p.m.
Monthly Calls*	
Monthly Call Title	**Zoom Link**
Legislative and Policy Support Monthly Call	March 21 at 10 a.m.
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	March 22 at 3:45 p.m.
Teaching and Learning Monthly Call	March 23 at 1 p.m.
Education Technology Monthly Call	March 24 at 9 a.m.
School Choice Program for Students with Certain Exceptionalities Roundtable Informational Webinar	March 30 at 2:30 p.m.
System Leaders Monthly Call	April 1 at 9 a.m.
Nutrition Support Monthly Call	April 5 at 1 p.m.
Data Coordinator Monthly Call	April 7 at 1 p.m.

Monthly call presentations are available in the School Improvement Library. View the School System Support Calendar to access a complete schedule of events.
***Achieve! Incentive Round 2 and Super App application office hours and Q&A will take place during this call.*

Upcoming Deadlines	
Assessment Development Educator Review Committees Application Due	March 18
American Rescue Plan Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (ARP EANS) Program Application Deadline	March 28
SPED Fellow Academy: Cohort 3 Application	April 11-May 13

Office of School Choice

Louisiana Scholarship Programs

ARP EANS (Emergency Assistance for Nonpublic Schools)

The American Rescue Plan Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (ARP EANS) Program application is open! The Program may be available to provide Non-Public Schools with services or assistance to address educational disruptions resulting from Covid-19.

If you missed the chance to see the live version of our ARP EANS Program Launch Webinar or our Application Demo, a recording of these webinars is available in the Federal Support and Grantee Relations Library located on our website.

The ARP EANS application and program resources are also available in the Federal Support and Grantee Relations Library. Please review the program resources before filling out the application. **The application deadline is Monday, March 28 at 11:59 PM CST.**

Please email ARPinfo@LDOE-EANS.com with questions.

Teacher Leader Summit

The 2022 Teacher Leader Summit will be held Tuesday, May 31 - Thursday, June 2 at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. The Department is celebrating both ''Making a Comeback'' and our 10th year for this event.

Regular registration is open and will close on April 15 or at sellout. Tickets are available on a first come, first served basis. There is not a set number of seats allocated to each school, please register early.

The following educators would directly benefit from the sessions provided:

- Teachers
- Teacher Leaders
- Early Childhood Directors
- Teacher Preparation Providers
- Arts Teachers
- Librarians
- Counselors
- School Leaders
- System Leaders

When selecting educators to attend, systems should prioritize sending those that work directly within content areas such as:

- Career and Technical Education
- Arts
- High School Experience
- Diverse Learners
- ELA
- Early Childhood
- STEM
- Science
- Literacy
- Social Studies
- Technology
- Instructional Best Practices
- Student Well-being
- System/School Planning
- Curriculum and Assessment
- World Languages

Based on participant feedback, enhancements have been made to Teacher Leader Summit, including:

- An improved event app that allows networking with other attendees, Whova
- Increased registration value by including t-shirts and tote bags in the ticket price
- Networking opportunities throughout the event, including evening socials
- Length of day adjusted to meet the needs of participants

The Education Expo returns with high quality professional learning partners and non-profit organizations.

Please contact LDOEevents@la.gov with questions.

Monthly Call

Our next monthly call will be held on **Wednesday, April 20th at 2pm.** Our monthly calls are used to provide useful information and training related to all scholarship programs and nonpublic reporting requirements.

- In case you missed March's call, a copy of the presentation can be found **here**
- You can join the monthly calls using **this link:**

  https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95207641144?pwd=SDJib051bkVEemM3SzExcXRTUEJRUT09

Louisiana Scholarship Application Timeline

PROCESS	DEADLINE
Roster Verification *(Rosters placed in FTP-one round only)*	4/4-4-/8
School Informational Webinar **(Mandatory for all participating LSP Schools)**	4/11
Parent Informational Webinar	4/12
Parent Notification Letters	4/18 – 4/30
Site Registration for 2022-23	4/18 - 5/20
Roster Certification Due (declined awards for non-registered students)	5/27
Transfer Window Opens	6/15
Transfer Window Closes	7/18

All dates are tentative, please review future issues of the Nonpublic newsletter for all updates.

LSP Roster Verification

All preliminary rosters for the 2022-23 school year will be placed on the FTP. ***An email will be sent once the rosters have been placed on the FTP.***
- You can access your FTP folder using this link: https://sftp.doe.louisiana.gov/thinclient/Login.aspx?alert=timeout
- To login to the FTP please enter your username and password.
    - Username: **[insert your sitecode]**@nonpublic
    - Enter your password for the FTP*(this is password that you should have set yourself)*
- Click on the folder labeled **"2022-23 LSP"** to access your roster for the upcoming year
- The roster will be labeled as follows: **schoolcode_schoolname_2022-23_Student Rosters**
- Click on the roster to access your list of students for the upcoming year.
    - **Please make sure all rollover students are included on the roster**
    - If a rollover student is missing from the roster, add the student information at the end of the roster
        - Make sure all information is filled out completely. In the "**Other Changes Needed"** column please indicate addition. (last column in the file)
    - If the student information is correct, please enter **"no change"** in the last column
    - If the student information **needs to be changed**, **please enter a description of the changes needed in the last column (do not make the change to the original record).**
    - Once you have fully completed your roster, change name of file to the following: **Verified_schoolcode_schoolname_2022-23_Student Rosters**

- **For additional information on how to complete the roster verification process, please review slides 20-27 from the March monthly call. You can access these slides here.**

If you have any issues accessing the FTP or questions about the roster, please contact our office via email at studentscholarships@la.gov for assistance.

FTP Logins
Please make sure you are able to login to the FTP. If you cannot access the FTP please send an email to studentscholarships@la.gov requesting assistance. **Remember to include your school code in the email request. The Deadline to test FTP logins is March 31, 2022.**

School Choice Program for Students with Certain Exceptionalities (SCP)

Roundtable Informational Webinar
We will be hosting a roundtable informational webinar for the School Choice Program on Wednesday, **March 30th at 2:30pm.** All participating schools are strongly encouraged to attend. We will be discussing the following topics for the 2022-23 school year:
- SCP Application process
- Priority criteria for applicants
- School input and opinions
- You can join the webinar using this **link: https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/94890385286**

If you have any additional questions regarding the School Choice program, please contact our office via studentscholarships@la.gov for assistance.

Operations

Ready to Achieve Operational Guidelines Masking and Transportation Update
Please share with system leaders, site administrators and school nurses.

The Louisiana Department of Health and the CDC released COVID-19 community levels to help communities and individuals make masking decisions based on their local context.

- Universal masking is recommended for any school in a parish with a high community level.
- Schools may continue to require universal masking regardless of community level.
- Individuals attending schools that do not require masking may choose to mask regardless of community level.
- School buses are no longer included in the federal mask requirement for transit.
- Schools should use community levels to determine their policy for wearing masks on school buses but can continue to require universal masking regardless of community level.

Community levels should be checked weekly to evaluate the need for masking in school systems.

Please contact LDOECOVID19support@la.gov with questions.

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

ELPT
Please share with district test coordinators.

- March 18: All materials must be returned to avoid delays in scoring and reporting.
- March 21: All testing irregularities and voids should be submitted to assessment@la.gov.

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LEAP 2025
Please share with district test coordinators.

- Available now: LEAP high school test administration manuals in DRC INSIGHT.
  - LEAP high school manuals are not printed by the vendor for schools.
- March 17: LEAP grades 3-8 test administration manuals will be available in DRC INSIGHT.
  - LEAP grades 3-8 manuals are printed for schools and will be delivered on March 28.
- March 21: Test setup opens in DRC INSIGHT for both LEAP grades 3-8 and LEAP high school.
- March 21: LEAP 2025 testing schedules are due to assessment@la.gov.

ACT
Please share with district test coordinators.

The ACT Schedule of Events is on the ACT State Testing site. Please be sure to use this to keep up with important dates and deadlines for ACT.

- March 8 – 17: Administer the ACT online with standard time or accommodations and/or supports for Test Window 1. (Online testing available on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday only.)
- March 8 – 18: Administer the ACT paper accommodations and/or supports, and non-college reportable test for Test Window.
- The ACT Technical Guide for Online Testing provides information for preparing for the ACT online test, including minimal hardware requirements for TestNav.
- ACT has made a correction to the Louisiana Questions phone number. The correct direct line for Louisiana is 319-337-1579
- March 14 – 18: Receive materials for testing for Window 2 for ACT (per selection in PANext)
  - After materials arrive, distribute *MyACT* non-test instructions and *Taking the ACT* to all students.
- March 16 – 31: Create and assign student to test sessions for the March 22-31 testing window
- March 18 – 31: Precache test content for Testing Window 2 (if utilizing proctor caching)
- March 22 – 31: Administer ACT online with standard time or accommodations and/or supports, non-college reportable, and paper accommodations and/or supports

K-3 Literacy Screening for Fall
Please share with district test coordinators.

This fall, school systems may select from one of four approved options for screening: Acadience Reading, DIBELS 8th, STEEP, and STEP. With the exception of STEP, screenings are free of charge. Please see the K-3 Literacy Screener Guidance 2021-2022 for more information.

Assessment Content

Assessment Development Educator Review Committees
Please share this announcement with school system leaders, school leaders, and teachers.

The Division of Assessment Content will convene assessment committees in June and July to

- develop scoring parameters for field tested constructed-response items or extended-response tasks,
- review newly developed items and passages for content and bias or sensitivity concerns,
- review leased items for alignment to the Louisiana Student Standards, and
- review data from field-tested items.

Interested educators should access the Assessment Development Educator Review Committees document for information on exact dates, meeting details, and links to apply to participate on specific committees. The deadline to apply is March 18.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

Perkins Super App Webinar
Please share with Perkins coordinators.

Join this webinar for more information related to the 2022-2023 Perkins Super App submission. In this webinar we will address frequently asked questions related to program-specific questions, budget, and required uses of funds.

Webinar Date and Time: April 1 at 9:30 a.m.
Webinar Link: https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95187252545
Passcode: 656326
Meeting ID: 951 8725 2545
Webinar Phone Number: 1-470-250-9358

Please contact charmaine.cureton@la.gov with questions.

LOSFA TOPS Processing Webinars
Please share with school counselors.

LOSFA will be hosting the 2022 TOPS Processing Webinars for Professional School Counselors. These interactive, virtual events are designed to help minimize TOPS processing errors for graduating seniors.

Part 1: A Comprehensive Review of TOPS Processing. This webinar will provide an overview of the TOPS processing cycle and review solutions to common errors that prevent or delay TOPS processing, including best practices for submitting documents to LOSFA.

March 29, 2022 at 9 a.m.
March 30, 2022 at 12:30 p.m.

Part 2: Preparing Your Seniors for TOPS Processing. This webinar will take an in-depth look at residency verification for TOPS, STS requirements for LOSFA, and navigating the Student Hub.

March 29, 2022 at 12:30 p.m.
March 30, 2022 at 9 a.m.

Use the links above to register for the webinar(s) of your choice. You will receive an email confirmation containing the Zoom login information after registering. The email will come from Rhonda Bridevaux <no-reply@zoom.us>. Please check your junk or spam mail if you do not receive the email in your inbox. Please contact Rhonda.Bridevaux@la.gov at LOSFA with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Diverse Learners Supports

SPED Fellow Academy: Cohort Three

SPED Fellow Academy is a yearlong, comprehensive development program for novice special education leaders (administrators) across Louisiana. The program will provide in-person training, coaching, and a community of practice that will instill the knowledge and skills the next generation of leaders needs to lead and sustain change to improve outcomes for students with disabilities. Learning will cover topics such as strategic budgeting, stakeholder engagement, laws and policies, leveraging data, leadership development including managing teams and sustaining change. In addition to a robust curriculum, the program will support fellows in examining a systems level problem of practice, developing a theory of action to address the problem of practice, and developing an action plan to lead systems level change.

We encourage full-time administrators who are managing across these areas to apply between April 11 and May 13. To improve our special education leadership pipeline, this year applications will be open to SPED coordinators who plan to be school system special education leaders in the next 3-5 years. Please note that a recommendation letter from the SPED coordinator's current special education supervisor will be required.

If you are interested in learning about SPED Fellow Academy, please attend an informational session on **April 8 at 9 a.m. or 12:30 p.m**.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

National Down Syndrome Congress Hosting 2022 Convention in New Orleans
Please share with special educators, students with Down syndrome and their families.

The National Down Syndrome Congress Convention is a four-day event designed to provide a meaningful and educational experience for individuals with Down syndrome, their families, caregivers, and medical and educational professionals who dedicate their lives to the Down syndrome community. Attendees will choose **one** of three conferences that run simultaneously during the Convention:

- General Conference, intended for parents, grandparents, adult siblings, and professionals;
- Youth and Adults Conference, for individuals with Down syndrome age 15 (by June 23) and older; or
- Siblings Conference, a place for siblings only, who are rising 4th through 12th graders in the 2022-23 school year.

Registration opens March 14. The convention will be held in New Orleans June 23-26, 2022.

Please contact info@ndsccenter.org with questions.

Educator Development

Mentor Teacher Funding Increase for 2021-2022
Please share with system leaders who support mentors.

The Department has determined that mentors supporting **year-long undergraduate residents** in the 2021-2022 school year will receive a $1,800 stipend instead of the usual $1,000 stipend. These funds will be added to school system allocations in eGMS. School systems should have received an email with details regarding the mentor allocations the week of March 7.

This additional funding is for **one year only,** based on availability of funds.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Post- Baccalaureate Mentors
Please share with system leaders who support mentors.

Policy requires that alternate certification candidates in their first year on a Practitioner's License (PL) be mentored for five hours per week**.** School systems will verify this mentoring through an attestation form that is part of a candidate's application for a Level 1 certificate or renewal of a Practitioner License. Candidates without the mentoring will be unable to renew the PL or advance to the Level 1 certificate.

A list of current first year PLs was sent to school systems on February 17. School systems may access this list using the link provided. The Department will send an updated list to school systems monthly.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Literacy

Middle and High School Professional Development Series
Please share with middle and high school teachers, leaders, and support staff.

The sixth session of a new professional development series focused on middle and high school literacy was released today! This session shares ways to build reading comprehension and implement support for struggling readers by providing instruction on how to identify topics to write about in order to help develop expertise in that content area. Additional sessions will be released weekly on Tuesdays in the Literacy Library. Pre-recorded sessions will include topics designed to build knowledge around implementing literacy strategies and best practices across all content areas in the middle and high school grades. Teachers and leaders can access the Middle and High School PD Schedule for a listing of session titles, session descriptions, and release dates.

Session Links
- Recording: Session 6 - Building Comprehension - Writing Summaries
- Slide deck: Session 6 - Reading Comprehension - Writing Summaries

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.

Reminders

- ***Operations***

- ***Career and College Readiness***

- ***Teaching and Learning***

    - **Diverse Learners Supports**

    - **Literacy**

Operations

2021-2022 ESSA and IDEA Monitoring Rubrics Released
Please share this announcement with school system leaders, federal program directors, and special education coordinators.

The Department will continue to implement a risk-based monitoring selection process for federal program monitoring. The ESSA monitoring rubric will be made available to every school system assigned a letter grade. Additionally, the IDEA monitoring rubric will be made available to every school system assigned an LEA Determination. In most circumstances, school systems will receive two monitoring rubrics, ESSA and IDEA.

The monitoring rubrics, also known as a monitoring report card, provide a detailed preview of compliance factors and performance data analyzed to determine the most appropriate monitoring experience for school systems. Monitoring rubrics will be available for download via FTP March 11 and will be accessible until April 15. The Department reserves the right to make adjustments to monitoring rankings based on factors which may not be included on the rubric. For any school system selected to participate in program monitoring, a formal monitoring notification from an assigned Department monitoring team leader will follow.

Please direct all questions regarding ESSA and IDEA monitoring rubrics to Tasha Anthony and Cindy Hilton at DOE-program.monitoring@la.gov.

Louisiana Comeback Plan
Please share with school system leaders and federal program directors.

The Department called on school systems across the state to join the Louisiana Comeback, a cooperative campaign to accelerate student learning and ignite academic recovery.

This year, school systems made significant investment in three key areas:

1. Attendance and well-being
2. Recovery and acceleration
3. Professional learning

The Department anticipates celebrating our schools who have made a comeback, with student academic achievement. This year, we will reward "Comeback Campuses" to schools who achieve the following:

Elementary/Middle Schools
In 2022, achieved or exceeded percent proficient rates of 2019 without increasing the percent of unsatisfactory rates from 2019.

High Schools
In 2022, achieved or exceeded perfect proficient rates of 2019 without increasing the perfect of unsatisfactory rates from 2019, **and** achieved or exceeded their ACT average score of 2019.

More information about our "Comeback Campuses" will be provided on the April System Leaders Call.

Career and College Readiness

LOSFA ACT Guide
Please share with school counselors, assistant principals and ACT prep instructors.

The Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance has developed an ACT Guide to help students and parents navigate the ACT registration process and access test prep materials and information for test day.

The ACT Guide is conveniently located on the LOSFA website under Financial Aid 101, TOPS, and the Counselor Corner.

Please contact rhonda.bridevaux@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Literacy

Middle and High School Professional Development Series
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The fifth session of a new professional development series focused on middle and high school literacy was released today! This session shares ways to improve overall reading comprehension and implement support for struggling readers. Additional sessions will be released weekly on Tuesdays in the Literacy Library. Pre-recorded sessions will include topics designed to build knowledge around implementing literacy strategies and best practices across all content areas in the middle and high school grades. Teachers and leaders can access the Middle and High School PD Schedule for a listing of session titles, session descriptions, and release dates.

Session Links
- Recording: Session 5 - Reading Comprehension
- Slide deck: Session 5 - Reading Comprehension

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.