

LDOE Weekly Newsletter



January 15, 2019

Dear Colleagues,

I'm writing this week to ask your advice and guidance on a matter of profound importance for our state's young people and for its economic well-being.

Six years ago, our state launched [Jump Start](#), calling on school systems, colleges, and businesses to collaborate in providing career courses and workplace experiences to high school students, certifying them for the career fields most likely to lead to high-wage jobs. Prior to Jump Start, fewer than 2 percent of students graduated with a career diploma. Today, more than one in five students graduate with a career diploma and Jump Start credentials. Similarly, the number of industry-based credentials attained by Louisiana's students has tripled since Jump Start was introduced, even as the vetting of those credentials has increased. Jump Start has fundamentally changed the opportunities available to young people in Louisiana.

However, it remains the case that too often those credentials are not translating into full-time employment after high school. It remains the case that youth unemployment remains high, and that many high school graduates do not have concrete plans for their futures following graduation.

We must do more, and the time is now. A [recent report](#) by a noted labor economist highlighted a profound misalignment between the credentials offered in Louisiana schools and the jobs available in Louisiana communities. Simultaneously, Congress has updated the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Act to require such alignment between credentials and jobs. We have a great opportunity to take a look at Jump Start, and to figure out how we can better serve students who as adults will need a toehold in the economy.

The Department is embarking on a comprehensive, seven-month review of Jump Start to develop a new Blueprint – Jump Start 2.0 – that will set the state's vision for the next five years. Since September, Department staff have been meeting with educators, CTE leaders, counselors, school leaders, post-secondary training providers, employers, and economic development agencies. Our team is seeking to understand strengths of the current system, barriers to greater opportunity, and to identify opportunities to improve Jump Start.

We need to hear your voice on this issue, and there are three easy ways for you to get involved:

- **Take ten minutes to share your thoughts in our [Jump Start 2.0 Survey](#) by this Friday;**
- Attend the Jump Start 2.0 session during the [2019 Jump Start Convention](#); or
- Share your thoughts via email to jumpstart@la.gov with the subject line 'Jump Start 2.0'

After the 2019 Jump Start convention, the Department will release a draft Blueprint for public comment, with a plan to finalize the Blueprint later this year.

As always, thank you for all you do for our children,

John

In This Issue

- [School System Support](#)
- [Family Engagement](#)
- [Assessment & Accountability](#)
- [High School Pathways](#)
- [Educator Preparation](#)
- [Data](#)
- [Policy](#)
- [Grants Management](#)
- [Program Monitoring](#)
- [Safe and Healthy Schools](#)

Important Dates for School Systems

Upcoming Events

- [Webinar on RFA for Mentor Teacher and Content Leader Trainings](#): January 16 at 10:00 a.m.
- [Healthier Generation's Program Manager Webinar](#): January 16 at 12:00 p.m.
- [ACT Test Administration Q & A](#): January 16 at 1:00 p.m.
- [Healthier Generation's Program Manager Webinar](#): January 16 at 3:30 p.m.
- [Super App Weekly Office Hours](#): January 22 at 11:00 a.m.
- [Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call](#): January 22 at 1:00 p.m.
- [2019 Individual Graduation Plan Webinar](#): January 23 at 3:30 p.m.
- [Healthier Generation's Program Manager Webinar](#): January 24 at 7:30 a.m.
- [2019 Individual Graduation Plan Webinar](#): January 24 at 9:00 a.m.
- [Final Practice Test Webinar for DTCs, STCs, and Supervisors](#): January 24 at 10:00 a.m.

Important Deadlines

- [Jump Start Survey](#) deadline: January 18
- [School Health Survey](#) final deadline: January 18
- [State-level Teacher and Principal of the Year Application](#) deadline: January 23
- [Super App for School Systems](#) deadline: February 1

School System Support

New: January School System Planning Call Presentation

Due to a national issues with Zoom last week, the Department was unable to host the January School System Planning Call. This call will not be rescheduled, however a copy of the [presentation](#) has been posted to the [School Improvement Library](#). The next call will be held on February 6 at 1:00 p.m.

Email districtsupport@la.gov with questions.

New: Super App Support

New Resource: A new resource—[Super App Submission Checklist](#)—is now available to support completion of the Super App.

Additional Resources: The following materials have been presented during weekly Super App office hours to further support the completion and submission of applications.

- [Title I Schoolwide Planning Presentation](#), [Title I Planning Guidance](#), and the [Title I Schoolwide Plan Verification Worksheet](#) from the January 14 office hours
- [Coordinated Early Intervention Services](#) presentation from the December 17 office hours
- [Nonpublic Equitable Share](#) presentation from the December 10 office hours
- [2019-2020 Equitable Services timeline](#) sent to nonpublic schools
- [Allowability of Federal Funds](#) presentation from the December 3 office hours
- Collaboration event resources are located in the [School System Support Library](#)

Office Hours: The Department has been offering weekly office hours for Super App Support. Starting **Tuesday, January 22, these office hours will be held daily from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** Schools that have questions outside of office hours are encouraged to send their questions to Department representatives at ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** Daily beginning Tuesday, January 22
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/594569803>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 669-900-6833
- **Meeting ID#:** 594569803

Contact Us: If additional support or assistance is needed with the Super App, please contact ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov.

Reminder: 2019 Teacher Leader Summit Early Bird Registration

Early bird registration is now open for the [2019 Teacher Leader Summit](#), which will take place June 26-28 at the Morial Convention Center in New Orleans.

Month	Action
January - March	Early Bird Registration (<i>\$35 per day, \$80 for three days</i>)
April - June 14	Regular Registration (<i>\$45 per day, \$100 for three days</i>)
Late April	Session List and Mobile App Available
June 26 - 28	On-site Registration (<i>\$60 per day</i>)

Please note: All registration fees must be paid by credit card at the time of registration. Seats will not be held for pending payments.

Contact ldoe.registration@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: New Department Event Registration Platform

As of December 31, the Department will no longer use WisdomWhere for event registration. All Department-led events requiring registration will now be on EventBrite. A list of current events is also [available](#) at any time. EventBrite is simple to use and all registrations can be completed via mobile phone.

- [iPhone](#) instructions
- [Android](#) instructions

Email ldoe.registration@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Updates to School System Planning Calendar

The [2018-2019 School System Planning Calendar](#) has been updated and changes are highlighted in yellow. Changes include the addition of 2019 BESE, Accountability Commission, and Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council meetings.

Reminder: 2019 Louisiana Regional Science Bowl Registration

The U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) created the National Science Bowl® in 1991 to encourage students to excel in math and science and to pursue careers in these fields. More than 275,000 students have participated in the National Science Bowl® throughout its 28-year history, and it is one of the nation's largest science competitions.

The USDOE is currently looking for school teams to join the National Science Bowl being held at the University of New Orleans on March 16 from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. [Registration](#) is now open.

- There is no registration fee for the event, but teams will be selected on a first come, first served basis.
- The top four teams will receive cash prizes.
- First place winners will be invited on an all-expenses paid trip to compete for the national title in Washington D.C.

Please view the Science Bowl Guide on the [USDOE's website](#) for more information or contact michael.anderson@spr.doe.gov with questions.

Family Engagement

New: Recording of Curriculum Tool for Families Webinar

Please share with curriculum and elementary supervisors.

Last Friday, Family Engagement Lab hosted an informational webinar on [FASTalk](#), a curriculum tool for families that sends text messages to parents with literacy activities aligned to the ELA Guidebooks. A [recording](#) of the webinar is now available.

FASTalk was [piloted](#) in six schools systems this year, in partnership with the Department in grades 3-5, and will be expanded to support K-2 Tier 1 curricula next year.

Please contact vidya@familyengagementlab.org with questions about FASTalk.

Assessment and Accountability

New: Upcoming Accountability Commission Meetings

The Accountability Commission will meet at 1:00 p.m. at the Claiborne building (Thomas Jefferson A&B room) in Baton Rouge on the following dates:

- February 4
- March 18
- May 13

Agenda and live stream link will be available prior to the meeting on [BESE's website](#).

New: For District Testing Coordinators

General:

- The [2018-2019 Assessment Month-by-Month Checklist](#) is located in the Assessment Library. The checklist identifies key dates and deadlines for statewide assessment programs and accountability processes for next school year, provides action steps to ensure readiness for administering statewide assessments, and recommends resources for school systems and school staff.
- All changes to district test coordinators (DTCs) or accountability contacts must be submitted to the Department using the DTC and Accountability Contact Update form found in the Assessment Library.

LEAP 360

- All Interim 2 and 3 assessments are available beginning January 10. Reports will be refreshed every 24 hours after the initial post date as outlined below:
 - Student Response Map, Test Session Response Map, District Data File: Initial Post- January 11; Additional Posts- within 24 hours of test completion or educator scoring
 - Student Summary Report: Initial Post- January 11; Additional Posts- within 24 hours of educator scoring
 - Test Session Summary Report, School Summary Report: Initial Post- Week of February 25; Additional Posts- within 24 hours of educator scoring
 - Test Session Roster Report: Initial Post- Week of February 25; Additional Posts- within 24 hours of test completion or educator scoring
 - School List Report, Test Session List Report: Initial Post- Week of March 4; Additional Posts- within 24 hours of educator scoring

LEAP 2025

- Practice tests for grades 3-8 are now available for student access. Accommodated materials are posted in [eDIRECT](#).
- The grades 3-8 LEAP 2025 paper-based and computer-based Test Coordinator Manuals and Test Administration Manuals will be posted in [eDIRECT](#) next week.
- The Final Practice Test Webinar for DTCs, STCs, and Supervisors has been rescheduled. This webinar includes general information about reference materials, test set-up, administration, scoring, and reporting.

Date and Time: January 24 at 10:00 a.m.

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/483914610>

Webinar Phone Number: 646-876-9923

Meeting ID#: 483914610

LEAP Connect

- DTCs should begin delivering test security, preparation, and administration training for LEAP Connect/LAA1 to STCs and other applicable school and school system personnel, available in the Assessment Library.
- Testing personnel and students should continue to access the LEAP Connect OTTs in INSIGHT or via [website](#) in Google Chrome. OTT DTAs are posted in [eDIRECT](#).

ELPT

- DTCs should begin delivering test security, preparation, and administration training for ELPT to STCs and other applicable school and school system personnel, available in the Assessment Library.
- Testing personnel and students should continue to access the ELPT OTTs through the [ELPT Portal](#).

ACT and WorkKeys

- January 16: ACT will host an ACT Test Administration Q & A at 1:00 p.m. [Registration](#) is required.
- An update to the [ACT Schedule of Events](#) on the [ACT State Testing](#) site in the "Prepare for Makeup Testing" section on page 4 was posted on December 3. All DTCs and STCs should download the updated schedule.
- January 25 is the deadline to:

- Complete the ACT Mock Administration for any schools considering testing ACT online.
- Install ProctorCache software and setup proctor caching in [PANext](#) (ACT online testing only).
- Verify the 11th grade students and initial testing 12th grade students in [PANext](#). Use the enroll/unenroll function to add newly enrolled students eligible for testing or remove students no longer enrolled.
- Upload repeat 12th grade testers in [PANext](#) for ACT using the SDU upload.
- Only students in [PANext](#) by the end of the day on January 25 will have bar-code labeled tests.

ACT Match/No Match Lists

The ACT Match/No Match Lists include important information for schools systems as they plan for ACT testing in March. The lists are posted to the FTP. Please note important accountability policy below.

- All grade 12 students must have an ACT score on file by the end of the 2018-2019 school year, regardless of graduation cohort assignment, unless the student's score was used in a prior ACT index.
- The only grade 12 students who are not required to have an ACT score are students who participated in LEAP Connect testing prior to ACT testing this spring. Students who participate in LEAP Connect will need to have accountability codes applied during the testing window. Please do not wait to do this during data certification.
- WorkKeys scores will only be used for accountability purposes if the student also has an ACT score on file with the Department.
- Students in grade 12 who are listed on the Match list have scores on file with the Department and can only be retested at the expense of the school system.
- Students in grade 12 who are listed on the ACT No Match list must participate in ACT testing unless the school system has a prior year score on file.
- The students on the ACT No Match list will be loaded to PANext.

Assessment Administration Support and Training

The next Assessment and Accountability **Monthly** Call will be January 22 at 1:00 p.m.

- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 669-900-6833
- **Meeting ID#:** 393463942

The [Office Hours Questions and Answers](#) document is posted in the [Assessment Library](#). Email assessment@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Updates to 2018 Growth to Mastery Student Rosters

The Department provided growth to mastery student-level rosters to school systems last summer via eDirect for grades 4-8 and FTP for high schools. The rosters provided annual growth targets for students who may be included in the progress index component of the school performance score.

The **rosters have been updated** based on more current enrollment data and **are now available on the FTP** with file name *LEA Code_Updated High School (or K8) Growth to Mastery Student Rosters*.

Please email assessment@la.gov with questions.

High School Pathways

New: 2019 Department Counselor Collaborations

Please share with middle and high school counselors.

Save the dates for the Spring Counselor Collaborations. Topics to be discussed include Jump Start 2.0, Super Summer Institute, Quest for Success, financial aid planning, and Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG). **Registration is open on [Eventbrite](#) and all events will take place from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

- February 19 at Monroe City School Board
- February 20 at Bossier Instructional Center
- February 21 at Avoyelles Parish Media Center
- February 25 at Acadia Parish Educational Center
- February 26 at St. Charles Professional Learning Center
- February 27 at University View Academy

Please email leslie.gilliland@la.gov with questions about these events.

New: College Level Examination Exams (CLEP) Webinar Series

Please share with professional school counselors, test coordinators and administrators.

The College Board has released a series of spring College Level Examination Program (CLEP) webinars. Webinar dates, titles, and registration links are now [available](#). The series will focus on themes and topics related to academic advising, military related students, and best practices for implementing CLEP programs in high schools.

For more information, please contact raphael.curtis@la.gov.

Reminder: Join the 2019 Individual Graduation Plan Webinar

Please share with middle and high school counselors.

The Department is hosting a webinar to support professional school counselors with the Individual Graduation Plan (IGP) and diploma pathway selection process. Participants will review the IGP [guidance document](#) and the newest version of the [IGP fillable form](#). This 30-minute long webinar is being offered twice: January 23 at 3:30 p.m. and January 24 at 9:00 a.m.

- **Webinar Dates and Times:** January 23 at 3:30 p.m. and January 24 at 9:00 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/150940171>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
- **Meeting ID#:** 150940171

Note: This is a repeat of the September 2018 webinar.

Please email leslie.gilliland@la.gov for assistance.

Reminder: AP Summer Institute Scholarships

Please share with AP teachers, administrators, and AP coordinators.

The College Board has released its [2019 AP Fellow Scholarship](#) applications. The AP Fellows Program awards teachers, serving minority or low income students, \$1,000 grants at schools without funding for professional development. These grants are paid directly to endorsed AP Summer Institutes to cover the cost of tuition, and the remaining funds will be sent to teachers directly to be applied to travel costs. Although these grants are competitive, they are typically awarded on a first come, first served basis.

Please contact APScholarships@Collegeboard.org with questions.

Educator Preparation

Reminder: Louisiana Principal Fellowship Nominations Now Open

The Louisiana Principal Fellowship Program partners with the National Institute for School Leaders (NISL) to offer a yearlong executive development program for school and school system leaders in all stages of their careers.

The [enrollment portal](#) for Cohort 5 (2019-2020) of the Louisiana Principal Fellowship is now open and available on our [Louisiana Principal Fellowship website](#). This newly developed website will contain important information about the Principal Fellowship, including: unit overviews, agendas, sign-in sheets, newsletters, and payment information.

Nominations are available on a first come, first served basis and are due no later than **March 15**.

Please email teri.roberts@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: State-Approved Mentor Teacher and Content Leader Trainings

Beginning in fall 2017, the Department has offered Mentor Teacher and Content Leader trainings and will continue to offer these trainings through 2019-2020.

After 2019-2020, the Department will approve programs at universities, school systems, and other organizations to offer Content Leader and Mentor Teacher trainings.

To transition from state-provided training to state-approved trainings, **the Department is releasing an RFA in mid-January** to support new providers' development of these programs. The RFA will be posted on the [Mentor Teacher](#) and [Content Leader](#) webpages.

The Department will hold a webinar on **January 16 at 10:00 a.m.** for further details about the RFA. Pre-registration is not required.

- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/618191832>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
(for dial-in only)
- **Meeting ID#:** 618191832

Please email nicole.bono@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: Teacher and Principal of the Year Applications Due

State-level Teacher and Principal of the Year applications are due by **January 23**. Application materials and the timeline may be accessed through the [resources library](#).

All school systems are encouraged to select up to three teachers and three principals, one per division (elementary, middle, and high) as their local-level honorees and submit these selections to the state-level process. Information regarding the local-level honorees should be entered in the [Coordinator's online portal](#) by **January 23**.

Teacher and Principal of the Year candidates must also submit their applications via the [Teacher and Principal of the Year online application portal](#) by **January 23**.

Candidates and/or school systems needing assistance with the state-level Teacher and Principal of the Year application process should join an [informational webinar](#).

Please email excellenteducators@la.gov with questions.

Data

New: Spring Data Collections

The February 1 MFP collection is now open for submitting data to the Student Information System (SIS), School Calendar System (SPC), and Special Education Reporting System (SER). This data is used for MFP funding, federal reporting, Economically Disadvantaged calculations, assessments and precoding of student labels for ACT. The reporting deadline for the systems is **February 15**.

The TSDL Spring collection is now open for submitting data to the Teacher Student Data Link System (TSDL). This data is used for precoding of student labels for EOC/LEAP 2025 testing. The reporting deadline is **February 15**.

To assist school systems with verifying data submissions and correcting their data, validation reports and rosters will be dropped to the [Data Management FTP](#) beginning January 21. Please refer to the [2018-2019 Benchmark Calendar](#) for other important information regarding data submission deadlines.

Please email sherry.randall@la.gov with questions.

Policy

New: Homeschool Guidance

Please share with child welfare and attendance personnel, principals, school counselors, and clerical staff responsible for student records.

The Department has recently received questions from school systems and parents regarding approved home study and enrollment in non-public schools not seeking state approval.

Please review this [guidance](#) and contact erin.bendily@la.gov with any questions.

Grants Management

New: Title I, Part A and Title I, Part D Counts Due in LEADS Portal by February 8

Please [submit](#) 2017-2018 student and staff data for Title I, Part A (TIA) and Title I, Part D (TID) by February 8. October 2017 official data that can be used for part of your TIA submission has been dropped on your district's data managements FTP site under file is name *LEACode_LEAName_CSPR Part II Data Collection*.

Contact your district security coordinator who can assist with the download of this file. The source of this data is your school system's official October 2017 data submission to the state's Student Information System (SIS). **Please note:** All TIA and TID counts must be entered by February 8.

Please contact ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

Reminder: High Cost Services and State Plan

The 2018-2019 High Costs Services Grant Round 2 was released today, January 15. The application will close on February 20.

The HCS Round 2 applications should only contain new students. Students that received an allocation in Round 1 cannot be included in the Round 2 application process.

Please contact ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

Program Monitoring

Reminder: Consolidated Monitoring Schedule for 2018-2019SY

The Department conducts annual monitoring of school systems to ensure compliance with federal and state requirements. To assist school systems in thoughtful planning and preparation for a scheduled monitoring event, the Department is releasing the [consolidated monitoring schedule for the 2018-2019 school year](#). This schedule is tentative and the Department may make adjustments as necessary.

Quarterly updates will be provided to school systems via the newsletter, and assigned Department staff will send detailed monitoring notification reminders, along with any necessary planning documents or instructions, directly to Superintendents and Federal Program Directors of each school system appearing on the monitoring schedule. The [second quarter monitoring schedule](#) is also available.

Please contact tasha.anthony@la.gov with questions about the monitoring schedule or program monitoring related to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). For questions related to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), please contact chauncey.mcelwee@la.gov.

Safe and Healthy Schools

Reminder: Webinar on Creating and Maintaining School Wellness Committees **Please share with principals, wellness coordinators, and health and physical education teachers.**

The Department will host webinar opportunities, in coordination with The Alliance for a Healthier Generation, to explore the benefits and strategies of an effective and successful School Wellness Committee. Webinar participants will find ways to lead teams to improved health and wellness for students and the entire school community.

Participants must [create an account](#) before joining the webinar.

Webinar dates and times:

- [January 16](#) at 12:00 p.m.
- [January 16](#) at 3:30 p.m.
- [January 24](#) at 7:30 a.m.

For more information, please email stephen.guccione@la.gov.