



LDOE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

February 22, 2022

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Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours	
Office Hours Title	Zoom Link
Data Coordinator Office Hours	February 24 at 1 p.m.
P-EBT Data Managers Office Hours	March 1 at 10 a.m.
Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours	March 1 at 3 p.m.
Assessment and Accountability Office Hours	March 1 at 3:45 p.m.
Career and College Readiness Office Hours	March 3 at 3 p.m.
Science of Reading Implementation Office Hours	March 7 at 4 p.m.
Monthly Calls*	
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Teaching and Learning Monthly Call	February 23 at 1 p.m.
Education Technology Monthly Call	February 24 at 9 a.m.
Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call**	February 24 at 10 a.m.
Data Coordinator Monthly Call	March 3 at 1 p.m.
System Leaders Monthly Call	March 4 at 9 a.m.
Nutrition Support Monthly Call	March 8 at 1 p.m.
Charter Authorizers Monthly Call	March 9 at 11 a.m.
BESE Authorized Charter School Monthly Call	March 9 at 3 p.m.
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	March 15 at 3:45 p.m.
Student Well-Being Monthly Call	March 16 at 9:30 a.m.
Nonpublic Monthly Call	March 16 at 3 p.m.
Career and College Readiness Monthly Call	March 17 at 3 p.m.
Legislative and Policy Support Monthly Call	March 21 at 10 a.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

Outstanding Black Educators and Counselors of Excellence Award Nominations Due	February 22
Super App returned for revisions to school systems have not met all CIR/UIR-A criteria	February 25
Revised Super App re-submitted to LDOE (as applicable)	March 4

Operations

Federal Support and Grantee Relations

ARP Maintenance of Equity Application – Due February 22

Please share with federal program directors.

The ARP Maintenance of Equity application is due February 22. If you have not submitted your application, it can be accessed by selecting the FY 2022 in the eGMS drop down menu. Scroll down to the Maintenance of Effort section and select the ““ARP Maintenance of Equity” application and click the “Create” button.

Please contact Dr. Chauncey McElwee at chauncey.carr-mcelwee@la.gov with any questions.

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

LEAP 2025 Testing Flexibilities

Please share with test coordinators, special education directors, and school leaders..

The department is extending flexibilities created in response to COVID-19 for testing in 2021-2022.

- Schools may schedule testing on weekends or after school. Since the testing vendor must be notified at least 24 hours in advance, please send details to assessment@la.gov as soon as they are finalized.
- Students can be considered for individual testing without an IEP or IAP if justification is approved by the department. Prior to administration, systems should send the [Permission to Test in Alternate Environment Form](#) to assessment@la.gov.

ACT

Please share with test coordinators.

- The telephone number provided in the Louisiana Questions document was incorrect. The correct direct line for Louisiana is 319.337.1579.
- The [ACT Technical Guide for Online Testing](#) provides information for preparing for the ACT online test including minimal hardware requirements for TestNav.
- Now-February 25: Order non-college reportable materials for use in the ACT test window March 8-11.

Career and College Readiness

Child Welfare and Attendance

Please share with all child welfare and attendance (CWA) directors, supervisors, and all attendance stakeholders.

Child welfare and attendance directors, supervisors, and attendance stakeholders meet every first Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is March 2 at 8 a.m. These meetings provide professional development, resources, and tools to support CWAs in the field.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** Wednesday, March 2 at 8 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97724519523>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID:** 977 2451 9523

Please contact shelneka.adams@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Diverse Learners Supports

2021-2022 Special Education Parent Involvement Survey

Please share with special education supervisors

Each year, the Department surveys parents on their perception of the quality of their child's education and the quality of their relationship with their child's school. The Department selects a sample of school systems to participate in the survey. School systems included in this year's parent survey will be notified by email by **February 25**.

Educator Development

Mentors for First Year Teachers on a Practitioner License

Please share with school and system leaders.

Policy requires that alternate certification candidates in their first year on a Practitioner's License (PL) need to 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**. 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 [third session](#) of a new professional development series focused on middle and high school literacy was released today! This session builds on morphology instruction with specific techniques and activities to support reading and comprehension development in the middle and high school grades. 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 3: Morphology \(Part 2\) MS/HS Literacy Teacher PD Series](#)

[Slide deck: Session 3: Morphology \(Part 2\) MS/HS Literacy Teacher PD Series](#)

Please contact natalie.klibert@la.gov with questions.

Reminders

- **Operations**
 - ***Communications***
 - ***Federal Support and Grantee Relations***
- **Teaching and Learning**
 - ***Academic Content***
 - ***Assessment Content***
 - ***Diverse Learners Supports***
 - ***Educator Development***
 - ***Literacy***

Operations

Communications

41st Governor's Conference on Juvenile Justice

Please share with Juvenile Justice Professionals, Counselors, Welfare and Attendance Officers, Computer Proctors, Principals, Directors of Truancy and Engagement, Social Workers, Directors of Secondary Education.

Each year the Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Advisory Board hosts a conference that delivers information regarding the current state of juvenile justice and delinquency prevention in Louisiana. National and state experts will once again present powerful and timely messages about the current state of the system and offer innovative solutions to problems facing our juvenile justice professionals. The 41st Governor's Conference on Juvenile Justice will be held in New Orleans on March 23-25, 2022. Registration is \$90. See the [agenda](#). Please click on the website below to register and get additional information about the conference.

SAVE THE DATE

March 23-25, 2022

41st Governor's Conference on Juvenile Justice
New Orleans, Louisiana

[Event Details and Registration Site](#)

Please contact gc_dana@earthlink.net with questions.

Federal Support and Grantee Relations

Super App Revisions

Please share with Super App Planning Leads and Secondary Super App contacts.

LDOE is in the process of reviewing all Super App submissions for alignment to CIR/URI-Academic criteria ([page 25](#)). **By Friday, February 25** any school system with CIR/UIR-A sites who has not met all CIR/UIR-A approval criteria will have their Super App returned for revisions and will also receive an email with a document explaining the instances where criteria have not been met. All Super App revisions must be made in eGMS and re-submitted to LDOE no later than **Friday, March 4**.

Please contact the Grants Management Helpdesk at LDOE.GrantsHelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

Social Studies Standards Review Update

Please share with social studies supervisors, administrators, and K-12 social studies teachers.

On December 14, 2021, BESE charged the Department with reviewing public comment in order to submit a refined set of standards to BESE in March. All stakeholders have the opportunity to comment on the refined standards using an [online form](#) in the [Standards Review Committee Library](#) from **February 8 to February 22**. The refined draft and public comment received will be presented to BESE at the Academic Goals and Instructional Improvement Committee on March 8.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

Summer Learning Partnership with Zearn

Please share with math supervisors, administrators, and K-10 math teachers.

All CIR and UIR-Academics schools must provide summer learning programs per the CIR/UIR-A requirements found on page 25 of the [School System Planning Guide](#). Programs must provide high-dosage ELA and math tutoring using high-quality instructional materials. To support systems in fulfilling this requirement for math, the Department has partnered with Zearn to offer custom professional learning for Louisiana to support implementation of [Zearn Math's Summer Intensive Series](#) for CIR/UIR-A schools. We strongly encourage all schools to provide this same learning opportunity for their students.

There are two important action steps:

1. **Register math instructional leaders and/or teachers to participate in training by March 9.** The cost of registration is \$200 per participant for [one 3-hour session](#).
2. **Set up your accounts.** Check your school's existing Zearn account and/or set up an account to ensure sites are ready to provide access to the summer content, as well as reporting, rostering support, and more. If you are unsure if your school(s) have a School Account set up, please contact Zearn at info@zearn.org.

Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) The Writing Revolution Webinar Registration

Please share with ELA supervisors, administrators, instructional leaders, and grades 3-5 ELA teachers.

The Department has partnered with [The Writing Revolution](#) on the ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) revisions to incorporate an explicit writing progression utilizing The Hochman Method®. The Writing Revolution's sequential progression of strategies is integrated throughout the content in the updated ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) units. [The Writing Revolution](#) is hosting a webinar to support school systems in implementing these writing strategies and integrated activities.

Interested teachers and instructional leaders should [register](#) for the webinar to be hosted on **March 3rd** at **9 a.m.** A Zoom link to join the webinar will be sent after registration.

Please contact guidebooks@thewritingrevolution.org with any questions

ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) Reference Guides Webinar

Please share with ELA supervisors, administrators, and grades 3-5 ELA teachers.

The Department is hosting webinars to support school systems with incorporating reference guides within the updated ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) lessons to support student learning.

Join the [ELA Guidebooks Reference Guides \(2022\) Webinar](#) to learn about the use of reference guides in ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022) and how to incorporate reference guide materials to support student learning.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** March 11 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:**
<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/99029131103?pwd=OGZMS0dBSldtNUI2UjRKRys5SEdWdz09>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 470-381-2552
- **Meeting ID #:** 990 2913 1103
- **Passcode:** 879825

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

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 18th.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Diverse Learners Supports

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Funding Priorities Survey

Please share with administrators, educators, parents and community members.

Each year, the Department submits a grant application on the use of state-level IDEA funds to the U.S. Department of Education. As part of this year's grant application development process, the Department is seeking feedback from special educators and members of the special education community on how to prioritize funding for allowable special education activities. Any interested stakeholders, including school system representatives, parents, and other members of the public should complete this [survey](#) by March 11.

2020-2021 Significant Disproportionality Results Available

Each year, federal regulations require the Department to analyze the likelihood that students with disabilities from one race or ethnicity will be subject to a certain outcome (over identification, restrictive placement, or exclusionary discipline), relative to students with disabilities from all other races and ethnicities, in each school system across the state.

The [2020-2021 significant disproportionality results](#) are now available for school systems. If a school system is identified as significantly disproportionate, they must set aside 15 percent of their IDEA Part B funding for coordinated early intervening services (CEIS) in Super App for the 2022-2023 school year. Additional information about [CEIS](#) and [allowable costs](#) is available.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

Guidance for Leading Inclusive Special Education Programs

Please share with school system leaders.

This month, the Department released its second issue of Guidance for Leading Inclusive Special Education Programs: [Creating Complaint Systems for Student Success](#). School system leaders are encouraged to review this document alongside their special education supervisor and attend the hour long implementation webinar. The webinar this month was held on [February 22 at 1 p.m.](#)

Please contact rachel.brown@la.gov with more questions.

Educator Development

Summer Learning Programs

Please share with summer learning program coordinators.

Summer learning programs require year-round planning. During the months of January through April, school systems can utilize the checklist located in the [Summer Learning Program Guidance](#) to continue planning for their 2022 program.

Last month, the Department hosted a webinar to provide systems with updated guidance on planning and implementing summer learning programs. A copy of the [Summer Learning Program Overview](#) webinar presentation is available in the [School System Support Toolbox](#).

Beginning summer 2022, all CIR and UIR-A schools must provide a summer learning program that includes tutoring for all students.

Please contact Markecia.Barthelemy@la.gov with any questions.

School Improvement Best Practices

Please share with system leaders.

The [School Improvement Best Practices](#) strategy is designed to support schools in adopting the essential components that drive professional and student growth and will continue during the 2022-2023 school year.

Educators may use this [link](#) to learn more about the [School Improvement Best Practices](#) strategy training sessions, what's new for Summer 2022, and the requirements for CIR and UIR-A schools.

School systems should complete this [form](#) to indicate the training in which they anticipate their schools will participate. Upon receipt of the form, NIET will connect with the school system contact to begin planning. Completing the form does not commit systems to selecting these trainings, but it helps to inform the planning with NIET.

Please contact Markecia.Barthelemy@la.gov with questions.

Real-time Early Access to Literacy

Please share with school system REAL coordinators.

[Real-time Early Access to Literacy](#) (REAL) provides individualized support for students in pre-K through grade 3 to make progress in their literacy development. REAL provides tutoring services to eligible students in pre-K through grade 3 attending a CIR/UIR-A school.

The Department hosted a webinar last month to kick off the spring cycle of the REAL tutoring program. The [Real-time Early Access to Literacy School Systems webinar](#) provided eligible systems with an [overview](#) of the REAL program, student registration information, and guidance on how to access funding in eGMS. All school systems must spend their REAL allocations no later than July 31.

Please contact markecia.barthelemy@la.gov with questions.

Accelerate Professional Development

Please share with school and system leaders.

The final session in the [Louisiana Acceleration Series](#) is Strengthening Content-Specific Strategies for Learning Recovery in ELA. During this session, participants will identify skills critical to student mastery of ELA standards and will deconstruct those in order to scaffold and segment accelerated learning.

Participants will develop thinking strategies that support student mastery of these critical skills and define ways to incorporate techniques for increasing student engagement and student ownership of learning. The target audience for this session is ELA teachers and school and district leadership teams.

The Strengthening Content-Specific Strategies for Learning Recovery in ELA session will be held February 16 - March 22. Educators interested in attending the free training sessions may use this [link](#) to register.

Please contact markecia.barthelemy@la.gov with any questions.

Staffing and Scheduling Initiative

Please share with system leaders.

School systems may use the [staffing and scheduling best practices](#) guidance in making staffing and scheduling decisions in preparation for the 2022-2023 school year.

The Staffing and Scheduling initiative launched last spring provides system and school leaders robust [guidance](#) and implementation support on developing strong staffing and scheduling models aligned to the best practices below.

1. High-quality core instruction is the foundation.
2. Effective literacy instruction is central to student success.
3. Students with unfinished learning and diverse learners need extra instructional time to catch up.
4. Both core instruction and acceleration must be provided by content strong staff.
5. Meeting the social, emotional, and behavioral needs of students supports academic achievement.
6. Equity should be at the forefront of all these strategies

Additional staffing and scheduling best practices resources can be found in the [School System Support Library](#).

Please contact markecia.barthelemy@la.gov with questions.

Literacy

Middle and High School Professional Development Series

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Please contact natalie.klibert@la.gov with questions.