



LDOE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

May 17, 2022

In This Issue

- [Important Dates for School Systems](#)
- [Operations](#)
- [Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics](#)
- [Career and College Readiness](#)
- [School System Financial Services](#)
- [Teaching and Learning](#)
 - [Academic Content](#)
 - [Educator Development](#)
 - [School Improvement](#)
- [Reminders](#)

Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours	
Office Hours Title	Zoom Link
K-2 CLASS® Pilot Office Hours	May 18 at 12 p.m.
Data Coordinator Office Hours	May 19 at 1 p.m.
P-EBT Data Managers Office Hours	May 24 at 10 a.m.
Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours	May 24 at 3 p.m.
Assessment and Accountability Office Hours	May 24 at 3:45 p.m.
Monthly Calls*	
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Student Well-Being Monthly Call	May 18 at 9:30 a.m.
Nonpublic Monthly Call	May 18 at 3 p.m.
Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Cal	May 19 at 10 a.m.
Career and College Readiness Monthly Call	May 19 at 3 p.m.
Education Technology Monthly Call	May 26 at 9 a.m.
Nutrition Support Monthly Call	June 7 at 1 p.m.
Charter Authorizers Monthly Call	June 8 at 11 a.m.
BESE Authorized Charter School Monthly Call	June 8 at 3 p.m.
Data Coordinator Monthly Call	June 9 at 1 p.m.
Legislative and Policy Support Monthly Call	June 20 at 10 a.m.
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	June 21 at 3:45 p.m.
<p>*Monthly call presentations are available in the School Improvement Library. View the School System Support Calendar to access a complete schedule of events.</p>	

Operations

2021 – 22 High Cost Services Round 1 Grant Allocations Visible in eGMS

Please share with IDEA Directors, Federal Program Directors and Business Managers.

High Cost Services (HCS) Round 1 allocations are now visible in eGMS. School systems with an approved application can now create a budget by creating an amendment in the HCS Round 1 application in eGMS. School systems must create this amendment to include all students for whom an allocation was received. Budget amendments will be reviewed for eligibility and allowability as they are submitted.

Please note that MFP/state funds included in this allocation will expire and no longer be available as of June 30. Additionally, all claims are due and must be submitted in eGMS by July 15.

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

Assessments, Accountability and Analytics

LEAP 2025

Please share this information with district test coordinators and school leaders.

- May 13: End of high school testing window; all scores released in DRC INSIGHT. Please make sure that accountability codes have been applied to initial testers and students on third year assessment cohort if there is appropriate documentation to support the code.
- May 25: Last day to test grades 3-8; all irregularities and voids due to assessment@la.gov, Please make sure that all students who did not test have an accountability code applied to all subjects missed if there is appropriate documentation to support the code.
- Accountability Coding:
 - Code 97 may only be used to excuse testing if the code was also used to exit the student in EdLink. This code is routinely audited.
 - There is no code for parental opt-out. Please do not apply any code on the list.
- June 9: Last day to request rescoring for LEAP 2025 high school assessments
 - See Test Coordinator Manual pages 19-20 for eligible students and form.
 - All students tested as grade 12 have been automatically rescored.
- Late July: LEAP 2025 grades 3-8 released.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions related to LEAP 2025.

ELPT

Please share this information with district test coordinators and system leaders.

- May 16: ELPT scores were released in the TIDE portal.
- Students are identified as proficient if they score 4 or 5 on all domains.
- No student should be exited from EL status unless they score proficient. This includes students with disabilities. In 2022-2023, some students will be eligible for ELPT Connect, an assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities, so there is no longer justification for exiting students early.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Louisiana Assessment Literacy Initiative

Please share this announcement with school system leaders and school leaders.

The LDOE, in partnership with the Center for Assessment, launched the Assessment Literacy Initiative in the 2021–2022 school year. The goal of the Initiative is to cultivate assessment literacy among Louisiana educators in order to improve student learning.

The LDOE is expanding the Initiative for the 2022–2023 school year and will partner with up to 20 teams of educators from across the state. Each team will include one school system leader, one school leader, and two teachers (one ELA and one social studies). Teams will participate in a series of professional learning modules throughout the year that will consist of six three-hour virtual sessions, with independent practice activities between sessions. To apply, school leaders should complete the [interest survey](#) by **June 30, 2022**.

To learn more, attend the session Assessment Literacy: Transforming Assessment Conversations at the Teacher Leader Summit, where participants from the first year of the Louisiana's Assessment Literacy Initiative will share what they learned and how it affected assessment practices.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

2022-2023 Pupil Progression Plan Webinar

Please share with school system administrators.

The Pupil Progression Plan (PPP) is the comprehensive plan developed and adopted by each school system, based on student performance. The plan also addresses student placement, promotion, retention, and specific policy decisions of the school system.

The Department will hold this webinar to address the submission of the 2022-2023 PPP. Prior to the meeting, all PPP templates and guidance will be posted in the School Policy library.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** May 24 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92424782178>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID:** 924 2478 2178

Please contact ppp@la.gov with questions.

School System Financial Services

FY 2021-2022 Nonpublic Textbooks Allocation

Please share with Business Managers and Finance Officials.

DEADLINE REMINDER: Public school systems should support nonpublic schools in their area via the Nonpublic Textbooks Allocation made available to purchase books and educational materials on behalf of the nonpublic schools. The FY 2021-2022 Nonpublic Textbooks Allocation is available to each school system in the Department's electronic grants management system (eGMS). Orders for textbooks, etc. must be delivered to (and received by) the eligible nonpublic school during the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022, in order to be eligible for reimbursement. Reimbursement requests must be submitted to [Textbook Allocation Guidelines](#).

The LDOE no later than July 15, 2022.

Additional information is available in the [FY 2021-2022 Nonpublic Textbook Administration Program Reimbursements](#).

Please contact nonpublicfinancehelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

Instructional Support: Instructional Material Reviews

Please share with content supervisors and administrators.

The Department conducts ongoing reviews of instructional materials to support school systems in adopting curricula in all core subjects. Newly rated Tier 1 materials are listed below. All tiered reviews can be found on the [Annotated Reviews](#) webpage. The status of all instructional materials submissions can be found in the [Weekly Report](#).

Publisher	Title and Grade Levels	Core Subject	Tiered Rating
Achievement First	Achievement First Math, Grades K-4	Math	Tier 1

Please contact louisianacurriculumreview@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

Principal's Newsletter Appreciation

Please share with principals and principal supervisors.

The Department's monthly [Principal's Newsletter](#) is designed to celebrate and inform building-level leaders around pertinent topics in school leadership. This month's Principal's Newsletter will be released on **May 26**. If you have a building-level leader who you would like to recognize, take a minute to send a shout-out of appreciation using this [survey link](#) by **May 20**. This note of appreciation will be included in our May Principal Newsletter.

Please contact brandy.branigan@la.gov for more information.

Recruitment, Recovery, and Retention Teacher Survey

Please share with school system leaders, principals, and teachers.

The Department in conjunction with the Region 14 Comprehensive Center, an outside organization that is a partner with the LDOE in improving education in our state, is providing the opportunity for teachers to describe their experiences and perceptions as well as offer suggestions on issues related to teacher recruitment, recovery, and retention.

Teachers are asked to complete this short [survey](#) by **June 10**.

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.

Recruitment and Retention Funding Strategies

Please share with school system leaders.

As school systems continue to use ESSER funds to address recruitment and retention issues, the [Achieve! Planning Guide for School Systems](#) shares several links to reference guidance on spending. As systems are planning for summer learning activities, please note that planning and implementing activities related to summer learning is an allowable expense using ESSER funds.

Listed below are links school systems can reference for guidance on spending.

- [Achieve Compensation Guidance](#)
- [Achieve Allowable Uses](#)
- [Achieve ESSER II & III Funding Allowability and Cost Guidance Crosswalk](#)
- [Additional Staff](#)

Please contact brandy.branigan@la.gov with recruitment and retention questions, and LDOE.GrantsHelpdesk@la.gov with funding questions.

Pre-Educator Pathway Distinction

Please share with Pre-educator pathway teachers and CTTIE directors.

The LDOE serves as the certifying agency for the [Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway](#). Schools should complete the [Pre-Educator Pathway Distinction Form](#) to recognize that a student has completed all pathway requirements and earned the Louisiana Pre-Educator credential. Schools should complete the form for Jumpstart students graduating in Spring 2022 by **May 18**.

[Pre-Educator Pathway Distinction Form](#)

- Parental PII Permission Form
- Course completion verification
- Assessment verification

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

New Teacher Experience: Summer Kick Off

Please share with system leaders.

The Louisiana Department of Education will host a Summer Kick-off for the New Teacher Experience on **July 25, 2022** from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. in Baton Rouge, LA for 300 first year teachers. The goals of the event are to:

- Welcome new teachers to the profession.
- Understand the components of Louisiana's New Teacher Experience.
- Engage in professional learning around topics relevant to new teachers.
- Provide statewide networking opportunities for new teachers.

Registration for this event will be first come, first served. The registration will open on **Tuesday, June 7** and close **Friday, July 8** or once capacity is reached, whichever comes first.

School systems must have the name and email address of new teachers in order to register for this event. The link for registering will be included in the June 7 weekly newsletter.

Please contact laurie.carlton@la.gov with questions.

Real-time Early Access to Literacy (REAL)

Please share with school and system leaders.

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 summer REAL School System webinar on **May 10** to provide school systems with updated information on the REAL tutoring program. This presentation will be posted on the [REAL website](#).

Please contact holly.manson@la.gov with questions.

Real-time Early Access to Literacy Tutoring Service Providers Webinar

Please share with system leaders.

The Department hosted a REAL webinar for Tutoring Service Providers on **May 12**. This webinar provided updates to Tutoring Services Providers on the processes that should be completed to close out the spring REAL tutoring cycle and to begin the summer REAL tutoring cycle.

The presentation can be found on the [REAL website](#).

Please contact holly.manson@la.gov with questions.

Summer Learning Programs

Please share with summer learning program coordinators.

School systems should be in the final stages of planning their summer learning programs using the planning checklist located in the [Summer Learning Program Guidance](#). Beginning this summer, all CIR/UIR-A schools are required to implement summer learning programs.

Similar to data collected from Summer 2021, systems should expect to share information about student outcomes. These indicators include:

Category	Examples
Curriculum-Embedded Assessments for Math*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number of math lessons completed
Curriculum-Embedded Assessments for ELA*	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number of ELA lessons completed• Unit Assessments in ELA Guidebooks
Literacy Screeners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Screeners approved by the Department (Acadience Reading, DIBELS 8th, STEEP, STEP).
Early Childhood Assessments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• TS Gold®
Other Indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Writing samples• Social-Emotional Program Data

* Required

Please contact keisha.thomas2@la.gov with questions.

Teacher Leader Summit

Please share with teachers, principals, counselors, librarians, school and system leaders.

In less than 20 days, Louisiana’s educators will come together at Teacher Leader Summit in New Orleans. Registered attendees will have the opportunity to hear from our [keynote speakers](#) Stephen M.R. Covey and Juliana Urtubey.

All registered participants must reserve a seat to attend [sessions](#) during Teacher Leader Summit. Session capacity is limited and available on a first come, first serve basis. For details on how to reserve a seat, as well as prepare for arrival, attendees can use [these recommendations](#).

Please contact ldoeevents@la.gov with questions.

CIS Teacher and Staff Evaluations

Please share with systems leaders, school leaders, human resource directors, and data directors.

The teacher evaluation upload window is open. Systems are encouraged to begin finalizing teacher and staff evaluations. The Compass Information System (CIS) will shut down for the 2021-2022 school year on September 1, 2022. Following this date, no teacher evaluation data for the 2021-2022 school year will be able to be amended or added. Please prepare to complete the following no later than August 26, 2022, in [CIS](#):

- Enter and rate both SLTs for teachers and staff.
- Enter professional practice scores (for 2021-2022 only, if the evaluated person scored “Effective: Proficient” or “Highly Effective” (2.5 and above), enter the single score twice).
- Finalize evaluations for VAM and non-VAM teachers; final evaluation scores will recalculate after VAM is complete.

It is also encouraged to enter professional practice scores for leaders and ensure that SLTs are set.

Resources for [evaluation uploads](#) are located in the [Compass Library](#).

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.

School Improvement

School Support Institutes 2022 - 2023

Please share with school and system leaders.

The [Division of School Improvement](#) is pleased to announce the return of School Support Institutes for 2022 - 2023. In collaboration with our vendor, TNTP, School Support Institutes have been redesigned to provide the most relevant and high-quality learning to support Louisiana schools in their improvement efforts.

All school systems may register and send leadership team members to the School Support Institutes for the 2022-2023 school year. School systems with identified CIR or UIR-A schools and those with UIN schools participating in the CLSD grant are required to participate in the School Support Institutes during the 2022-2023 school year. Registration will begin June 6, 2022.

All current information about SSI, including the learning pathways offered and training dates, can be found in the [School Support Institutes Overview](#) document.

Please contact schoolimprovementdivision@la.gov with questions.

Reminders

- [Assessment, Accountability and Analytics](#)
- [School System Relations](#)
- [Teaching and Learning](#)
 - [Academic Content](#)
 - [Diverse Learners](#)
 - [Educator Development](#)

Assessment, Accountability and Analytics

EdLink Accountability Dashboard Launch

Please share this information with school and system leaders.

In an effort to provide more impactful and integrated data analytics, the Accountability Dashboard has now launched in EdLink 360. This Accountability Dashboard replaces the Principal & Superintendent Secure Portal, which is no longer available. The Accountability Dashboard provides secure accountability data and insights for school and system leaders. In addition, the Accountability Dashboard houses a number of professional development videos focused on how school and district leaders can interpret and utilize their accountability-related data.

District security coordinators can assist users in setting up accounts within EdLink. School system and district users should request access through [EdLink Security](#). Superintendents and district-level administrators should request the District Administrator role, and Principals should request the Principal role.

For EdLink system access issues, contact your local security coordinator. For questions and troubleshooting issues related to EdLink, contact edlink360@la.gov. For general questions about the data in the Accountability Dashboard, please contact analytics@la.gov.

School System Relations

2022 Louisiana Exemplary Educators

Please share this information with teachers, school and school system leaders.

The Louisiana Department of Education recognizes that great teachers and school leaders are critical to student success. Therefore, the [Louisiana Exemplary Educator Recognition Program](#) serves to acknowledge, honor, and spotlight exceptional teachers, teacher specialists, and school leaders who exemplify Louisiana's education profession.

This year, school systems from all across the state submitted recommendations for the 2022 Louisiana Exemplary Educator Recognition Program through a confidential process where the candidates were unaware of their recommendation. From this impressive group, the Department is proud to announce the [2022 Louisiana Exemplary Educators](#).

In acknowledgement of being named an Exemplary Educator, these individuals will receive a certificate of recognition and may be invited to participate on Louisiana Department of Education advisory boards and task forces, as well as be considered for other recognition programs.

To learn more about the [Louisiana Exemplary Educator Recognition Program](#), visit the [Award Programs](#) page.

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

Now Accepting 2022-2023 Teacher Leader Advisor Applications

Please share with teachers, system leaders, and site leaders.

The Department is seeking exceptional educators from across Louisiana to play an influential role in raising expectations for students and supporting the success of teachers. The 2022–2023 Teacher Leader Advisors (TLAs) will use their robust knowledge of teaching and learning to review and create the next wave of high-quality instructional materials and training tools that will be used by thousands of teachers across the state. Interested teachers from all content areas and grade bands should review [this informational flier](#) for more information and the application link.

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions.

Diverse Learners

Special Education Advisory Panel Application Open

Please share with special education leaders, educators, parents and community stakeholders.

The [Special Education Advisory Panel](#) (SEAP) [application](#) is now open. SEAP advises and assists the Louisiana Department of Education with the provision of free and appropriate public education for individuals with disabilities. It exists by authority of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to provide guidance on special education programs and services. Interested applicants can find the vacant roles and more information in the [vacancy announcement and application](#), and interested applicants should apply during the month of May 2022.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

K-2 Learning Year: Phase I Office Hours

Please share with systems leaders and school leaders.

K-2 Learning Year: Phase I Office Hours provide additional support for systems implementing CLASS® or (TAP/Best Practices) observation rubrics. Meetings are bi-monthly at noon. Upcoming topics include:

NIET overview of NIET (TAP/Best Practices) observation rubric

- **Meeting Date and Time:** May 18 at 12 p.m.
- **Meeting Link:**
<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98569851139?pwd=b0VGdTIvcThYWEIZT3VnWWQzYU1kZz09>
- **Meeting ID#:** 985 6985 1139
- **Meeting Passcode:** 578203

Teachstone overview of myTeachstone data and reporting platform

- **Meeting Date and Time:** June 15 at 12 p.m.
- **Meeting Link:**
<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98569851139?pwd=b0VGdTlvcThYWEIZT3VnWWQzYU1kZz09>
- **Meeting ID#:** 985 6985 1139
- **Meeting Passcode:** 578203

NIET overview of EE PASS data and reporting platform

- **Meeting Date and Time:** June 29 at 12 p.m.
- **Meeting Link:**
<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98569851139?pwd=b0VGdTlvcThYWEIZT3VnWWQzYU1kZz09>
- **Meeting ID#:** 985 6985 1139
- **Meeting Passcode:** 578203

Please contact lori.pennison@la.gov with questions.

Continuous Learning

Please share with system leaders.

The Department will provide school systems with guidance on how to develop a continuous learning plan for modified operations. The guidance will include a framework for systems that includes what triggers (e.g., percent of students impacted, impact on operations or facilities) a system to initiate a continuous learning plan and the scale of activating continuous learning.

The Department will host two webinars this summer on Continuous Learning Planning. The first one will be held on June 15 at 2:30 p.m. and the second one will be held on July 14 at 9 a.m. System leaders should plan to attend one of the webinars.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** June 15 at 2:30 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:**
<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98516651581?pwd=RGRGTHZHQ1YwSnBKT0RRU2toSFRsdz09>
- **Meeting ID:** 985 1665 1581
- **Passcode:** 565717
- **Phone:** 1-346-248-7799

- **Webinar Date and Time:** July 14 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:**
<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/99824313990?pwd=eXFfOXMxb0svWmhscWcwNFJBOWtiUT09>
- **Meeting ID:** 998 2431 3990
- **Passcode:** 901854
- **Phone:** 1-346-248-7799

Please contact keisha.thomas2@la.gov with questions.

School Improvement Best Practices

Please share with system leaders.

The 2022 Louisiana Best Practices [registration](#) for all general [training dates](#) is now available. LDOE has partnered with the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching (NIET) to develop, implement, and support five [School Improvement Best Practices](#). Most Best Practices [trainings](#) are two days, which must be taken consecutively, and the Teaching and Learning Standards training is four days in length. Each school can send up to five participants. Sessions will be capped for capacity to allow for facilitators to better engage with individual educators.

All CIR and UIR-A schools will be required to participate in the Instructional Leadership Team (ILT) Support and Teacher Collaboration Support training sessions, as well as the accompanying online portal and two days of on-site and/or virtual coaching as follow-up support to the training.

- If a CIR or UIR-A school participated in ILT support or Teacher Collaboration support trainings in Summer 2021, then it is required that they complete the “next level” training in that area in Summer 2022.
- If a CIR or UIR-A school did not participate in ILT support and Teacher Collaboration support trainings in Summer 2021, then it is required that they complete the “foundational” training in those areas in Summer 2022.

While all CIR and UIR-A schools are required to participate in the Instructional Leadership Team Support and Teacher Collaboration Support training sessions, all schools in Louisiana can participate in this opportunity to support implementation of these essential practices this summer.

As an additional resource, school systems may utilize [Maximizing the Impact of Best Practices Trainings Guidelines for Successful Participation](#) for next steps and key actions.

Please refer to your statement of work with NIET for the specific trainings your schools will attend in 2022. All trainings are delivered virtually unless otherwise noted by your school system.

Please contact keisha.thomas2@la.gov with questions.