



LDOE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

May 24, 2022

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Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours	
Office Hours Title	Zoom Link
Data Coordinator Office Hours	May 26 at 1 p.m.
P-EBT Data Managers Office Hours	June 7 at 10 a.m.
Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours	June 7 at 3 p.m.
Assessment and Accountability Office Hours	June 7 at 3:45 p.m.
K-2 Learning Year: Phase 1 Office Hours	June 15 at 12 p.m.
Monthly Calls*	
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
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.
Student Well-Being Monthly Call	June 15 at 9:30 a.m.
Nonpublic Monthly Call	June 15 at 3 p.m.
Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Cal	June 16 at 10 a.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><i>*Monthly call presentations are available in the School Improvement Library. View the School System Support Calendar to access a complete schedule of events.</i></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 will no longer be available as of June 30. Additionally, all claims are due and must be submitted in eGMS by July 15.

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

System Open for Education Excellence Fund (EEF) 6/30 Periodic Expense Report (PER) Submissions

Please share with EEF contacts.

The eGMS system is open to begin submitting EEF 6/30 PERs. If your school or agency received a payment from the 2021-2022 Education Excellence Fund (EEF) this year, please be advised of the following important dates: **June 30** is the deadline for EEF recipients to obligate EEF funds and **July 15** is the deadline for EEF recipients to submit Final 6/30 PERs.

Please note that Final PERs are used to calculate EEF allocations for the following year. If the Final PER is not submitted **by July 15**, EEF recipients may experience delays in accessing their EEF funds for 2022-2023.

Reminder: In PER, on the first tab (labeled Expenditure Obligation Summary), please check Final Expenditure checkbox at the bottom when final. Check that. Otherwise the PER will not be reported as final and will have to be corrected and resubmitted.

For assistance in preparing your Final 6/30 PER for EEF, please refer to the training section of the [eGMS Logon page](#), under the Tips & Reminders header: Preparing the Periodic Expense Report (PER).

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

Assessments, Accountability and Analytics

LEAP 2025

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

- LEAP Conversion Tables: Policy requires that the LEAP 2025 high school assessment be used as 15-30% of a student's final grade in the corresponding course for regular education students and as 5% for students with disabilities. The conversion tables provided by the department in 2021 have not been changed and should be used in 2022.
- 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.
- June 13-20: DRC INSIGHT Impending Zero Online Cleanup
- June 20-24: LEAP 2025 High School Summer Administration
 - Test schedules due to assessment@la.gov by June 9
- Office Hours canceled May 31 and July 5

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

GOLD (Birth-Age 5)

Please share with school and system leaders and early childhood educators.

Mya 31: Last day to assess all children, ages birth-5, enrolled in public and nonpublic pre-K, Head Start, and child care centers that receive public funding and all children, ages 3-5, with an Individual Education Program (IEP), including children who receive speech services only, with [TeachingStrategies GOLD®](#).

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Interests and Opportunities

Please share with accountability contacts and school leaders.

The Interests and Opportunities menu for 2022-2023 is now posted in the accountability library. Please see below the most current timeline of events for Interests and Opportunities.

- April: Interests and Opportunities Course Codes list posted in [Accountability Library](#)
- June: Updated FAQ and guidance posted to [Accountability Library](#)
- August 15: Jotform survey opens for indicator selection
- November 4: Jotform survey closes for principals and school leaders
- November 21: Indicator validation due from superintendents or their designee
- March 1: Interests and Opportunities Data Review opens for documentation submission
- June 30: Interests and Opportunities Data Review closes for documentation submission

School System Financial Services

Maintenance of Effort (MOE) Fiscal Requirements

Please share with business managers and finance Officials.

Meeting yearly Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements is part of the business process to confirm compliance and determine eligibility of federal grant funds for ESSA and IDEA grants. The USDOE requires an annual review that determines if each LEA: 1) has not decreased spending of general fund dollars, and 2) is budgeting expenditures to meet the MOE standards. There are three MOE measurements submitted in the eGMS system:

- 2021 IDEA MOE Confirmation (Compliance) deadline for submission is **June 1, 2022**.
- 2023 ESSA MOE Verification deadline for submission is **July 15, 2022**.
- 2023 IDEA MOE Verification (Eligibility) deadline for submission is **July 15, 2022**.

COVID Relief Funds and MOE

Although school systems have received relief funds as a result of COVID-19, these funds do not affect the Maintenance of Effort requirements at the LEA level. LEAs are required to continue spending at levels to continue to meet all MOE requirements in accordance with previous federal regulations. Federal requirements have changed at the state level only.

MOE Resources

The [MOE Quick Reference Guide](#) is available to assist with those new to the MOE submission process. A [Local Only Funds Calculator](#) is available to assist in completing the Local Only Funds section of the IDEA MOEs.

For questions regarding the MOE review process, contact nakia.jason@la.gov. For technical inquiries or support, contact jason.berard@la.gov.

FY 2021-2022 Final MFP-Career Development Fund (CDF) Payments

Please share with business managers and finance officials.

Final MFP-CDF payments for FY 2021-2022 will be released on or before the end of May 2022. Details regarding the payment amounts are available in the [MFP Library](#).

Please contact LDOEMFPhelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

FY 2021-2022 Nonpublic Textbook Allocation

Please share with business managers and finance officials.

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 the LDOE no later than July 15, 2022. Additional information is available in the [FY 2021-2022 Nonpublic Textbook Administration Program Reimbursements](#) guidelines.

Please contact nonpublicfinancehelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Diverse Learners

Foundational Literacy Modules for Grades 4-8 Educators Registration Open

Please share with system leaders, special education leaders, special educators, interventionists, EL educators

The Department has partnered with Public Consulting Group (PCG) to offer five free asynchronous science of reading modules for grades 4 - 8 educators. The Professional Development Modules are focused on content that is teacher-friendly and provides the knowledge and skills necessary for intermediate and middle school classrooms instruction by applying age-appropriate science of reading strategies. The five topics include understanding the science of reading, exploring phonics and advanced word study, creating fluent readers, developing vocabulary and increasing reading comprehension. Modules will open monthly beginning at the end of May and remain available throughout the 2022 - 2023 school year. [Registration](#) is open and will remain open throughout the release.

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.

Guidance for Leading Inclusive Special Education Programs

Please share with school system leaders and special education directors/supervisors.

This week, the Department released the fifth issue of Guidance for Leading Inclusive Special Education Programs: [Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports](#). School system leaders are encouraged to review the guidance document with special education supervisors and attend the hour-long webinar to support implementation on [June 7 at 1 p.m.](#)

Please contact diverselearnersupport@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

2021-2022 Mentor Waiver Application

Please share with school and system leaders.

The [2021-2022 Mentor Waiver Application](#) will remain open until **11:59 p.m. on June 3**. An application should be submitted for any Mentor that must hold the waiver for the 2021-2022 school year before this time.

The 2022-2023 Mentor Credential Waiver Application will open during the summer for Mentors that need the waiver for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year.

The Department encourages Mentors requesting the waiver for multiple years to consider completing the requirements to hold the [Mentor Certification](#).

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Workforce Reporting Update

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

The Educator Workforce Dashboard will be released May 30. Please check with your data security coordinator if you have not yet been granted access. System and site leaders should make plans to attend the following trainings at Teacher Leader Summit:

- May 31 - Workforce Reporting: Dashboard Best Practices
- June 1 - Workforce Reporting: Welcome to EdLink 360

Additional trainings will be held this summer:

Workforce Reporting: Welcome to EdLink 360 (accessing the dashboard)

- **Meeting Date and Time:** June 14 at 10 a.m.
- **Meeting Link:** <https://zoom.us/j/8322783910?pwd=OGNjTTNXQTg4bUVqVHVVaZHVET1gydz09>
- **Meeting ID#:** 832 278 3910
- **Meeting Passcode:** i3PfJs

Workforce Reporting: Dashboard Best Practices (using the dashboard in your workflow)

- **Meeting Date and Time:** July 12 at 10 a.m.
- **Meeting Link:** <https://zoom.us/j/8322783910?pwd=OGNjTTNXQTg4bUVqVHVVaZHVET1gydz09>
- **Meeting ID#:** 832 278 3910
- **Meeting Passcode:** i3PfJs

Combination Training: If you are unable to attend in June or July

- **Meeting Date and Time:** August 9 at 10 a.m.
- **Meeting Link:** <https://zoom.us/j/8322783910?pwd=OGNjTTNXQTg4bUVqVHVVaZHVET1gydz09>
- **Meeting ID#:** 832 278 3910
- **Meeting Passcode:** i3PfJs

Please contact emily.smiley@la.gov with questions.

K-2 Learning Year: Phase 1 Office Hours

Please share with systems leaders and school leaders.

K-2 Learning Year: Phase 1 Office Hours provide additional support for systems implementing CLASS® or (TAP/Best Practices) observation rubrics. Upcoming topics follow.

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=b0VGdTIvcThYWEIZT3VnWWQzYU1kZz09>
- **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=b0VGdTIvcThYWEIZT3VnWWQzYU1kZz09>
- **Meeting ID#:** 985 6985 1139
- **Meeting Passcode:** 578203

ULL Picard overview of Third-Party Observations

- **Meeting Date and Time:** July 13 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.

Teacher Leader Summit

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

In less than seven days, Louisiana's educators will come together at the 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 seats to attend [sessions](#) during Summit. Session capacity is limited and available on a first come, first served basis. For details on how to reserve a seat and prepare for arrival, attendees should refer to the recommendations in the [Prepare for Arrival](#) document.

Please contact ldoevents@la.gov with questions.

Reminders

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

Assessment, Accountability and Analytics

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 3-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.

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.

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.

Partnerships for Success Guide Request for Applications

Please share with school system leaders, special education directors and interested vendors.

The [Partnerships for Success Guide](#) is a vetted list of organizations who provide school systems support in meeting the specialized support and related service needs of students with disabilities. Annually, the department releases a request for applications for local and national organizations to apply as potential providers in the guide. The [application](#) is now open and closes on July 1, 2022.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions

Educator Development

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

School systems may provide REAL tutoring to eligible students this summer. The Department hosted a summer REAL School System webinar to provide school systems with updated information on the REAL tutoring program for summer. This presentation is 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 earlier this month. 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.

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 6th, 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.