



LDOE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

October 26, 2021

In This Issue

- Important Dates for School Systems
- Operations
 - Federal Support and Grantee Relations
 - Nutrition Support
- Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics
- Career and College Readiness
- School System Financial Services
- Teaching and Learning
 - Academic Content
 - Diverse Learners
 - Educator Development
 - Literacy
- Reminders

Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours	
Office Hours Title	Zoom Link
AE Leadership Community of Practice	October 27 at 10 a.m.
Data Coordinator Office Hours	October 28 at 1 p.m.
Science of Reading Implementation Office Hours	November 1 at 3:30 p.m.
P-EBT Data Managers Office Hours	November 2 at 10 a.m.
Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours	November 2 at 3 p.m.
Assessment and Accountability Office Hours	November 2 at 3:45
Career and College Readiness Office Hours	November 4 at 3 p.m.
K-2 CLASS® Pilot Office Hours	November 9 at 12 p.m.
Monthly Calls*	
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
AE Leaders Community of Practice	October 27 at 10 a.m.
Preparation Providers Monthly Call	October 27 at 10 a.m.
Academic Content and Educator Development Monthly Call	October 27 at 1 p.m.
Education Technology Monthly Call	October 28 at 9 a.m.
Nutrition Support Monthly Call	November 2 at 1 p.m.
Literacy Monthly Call	November 4 at 10 a.m.
Data Coordinator Monthly Call	November 4 at 1 p.m.
System Leaders Monthly Call	November 5 at 9 a.m.
Charter Authorizers Monthly Call	November 10 at 11 a.m.
BESE Authorized Charter School Monthly Call	November 10 at 3 p.m.
CLSD UIN Communities of Practice	November 12 at 11 a.m.
Teaching and Learning Roundtable	November 12 at 11 a.m.

Legislative and Policy Support Monthly Call	November 15 at 10 a.m.
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	November 16 at 3:45 p.m.
Nonpublic Monthly Call	November 17 at 2 p.m.
Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call	November 18 at 10 a.m.
SPED Leader Monthly Call	November 18 at 2 p.m.
Career and College Readiness Monthly Call	November 18 at 3 p.m.
System Leaders Roundtable	November 19 at 9 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.	
Upcoming Events	
Event Title	Zoom Link
Interests and Opportunities Principals and School System Leaders Webinar	October 27 at 2 p.m.
High Cost Services Application Due	October 29
Mentor and Resident Funding Data Template Due	October 29
Act 419 Dyslexia Report Due	October 31
School System Planning November Launch	November 1 at 9 a.m.
2021 Governor's Outstanding Leadership in Disabilities (GOLD) Awards & Inclusive Art Contest Nominations Due	November 1
Teacher Preparation Program for Paraprofessionals Information Call	November 1 at 10 a.m.
School Plan Family Engagement Survey	December 1

Operations

Federal Support and Grantee Relations

School System Planning November Launch

Please share with school system planning leads and federal program directors.

In September LDOE released the [2022-2023 School System Planning Guide and associated planning materials](#) to support initial school system planning and submission of the Achieve! Incentive Planning Round 1 application. On Monday, November 1 at 9 a.m., LDOE will host a School System Planning November Launch event ([link](#), access code: 97837446595#, no password required) to release updated versions of the school system planning materials to support the completion of the Achieve! Incentive Planning Round 2 application and Super App. The launch presentation deck and recording, as well as updated 2022-2023 planning resources, will be posted to the Department's [School Improvement Library](#) on November 1. During November, December, and January, regularly scheduled team monthly calls will provide opportunities for school system leaders to learn more about specific sections, ask questions, and receive guidance.

Please contact ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov with questions, and put School System Planning in the subject line.

ARP Homeless II Follow Up Webinar

Please share with homeless coordinators and federal program directors.

All LEAs that accepted ARP Homeless II Funding are asked to join the follow up webinar on November 4 at 10 a.m. to discuss allowable uses of funds. Funds will be released in the Achieve application on November 11.

Join Zoom Meeting Information:

Zoom Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97207468104?pwd=alA5amIFWGJHK0U4YksxRVA2ZTkYdz09>

Meeting ID: 972 0746 8104

Passcode: 009963

Phone numbers: 312 - 626 – 6799 OR 720 - 746 - 8104

For additional information please contact antiqua.hunter@la.gov.

Nutrition Support

FY 2022 Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program Application

Please share with child nutrition directors.

Applications for the 2021-2022 Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program are available for returning sponsors via the [Child Nutrition Program \(CNP\) website](#). Applications must be completed and submitted by November 12, 2021.

Please contact childnutritionprograms@la.gov with questions.

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

ACT and WorkKeys

- The department produced ACT summary files and posted them to the ftp last week. The averages for ACT in this file are based on a student's highest score, which differs from methodology that ACT uses for averages in the Class Profile report, which are based on a student's most recent score.
- Graduation Class Profile Reports for Class of 2021 for districts and schools are available through ACT. Please contact renee.hartley@act.org to request a copy.
- The 2021-2022 ACT MOU is now past due. The documents are posted in the [Assessment Library](#). Please submit to patricia.newman@la.gov as soon as possible.
- ACT has provided a [What's New for the ACT Spring 2022](#) document on the [ACT State Testing](#) website. This general overview document covers any major changes that would impact states participating in the ACT.
- Graduation Class Profile Reports for Class of 2021 for districts and schools are available through ACT. Please contact renee.hartley@act.org to request a copy.
- September 13, 2021- January 7, 2022: Submit initial requests for ACT approved accommodations in TAA
- October 6, 2021- April 29, 2022: Register students in Validus for the WorkKeys assessment during the online window.
- See the Preparing for [State Testing FAQs](#)
- ACT Customer Care
Phone – 800.553.6244 ext. 2800 for standard time and ext.1788 for accommodations and supports

LEAP 2025

- October 31: Deadline for school systems to verify enrollment and indicate their selection of paper-based or computer-based testing for grade 3 in the Enrollment function of DRC INSIGHT. There is no paper-based testing option for grade 4 in spring 2022. Paper tests will remain available in grades other than 3 as a unique accommodation that will require department approval.
 - All grade 3 subject tests taken with paper will have accommodated forms this year. It is very important that students who have TRA, TTS, braille, communication assistance scripts, transferred answers, and large print use only the appropriate accommodated forms.
- October 25: Window A (November 30-December 17) high school testing schedules due to assessment@la.gov.
- October 25: Manuals posted and DRC test setup opens for high schools testing in Window A
- October 31: All testing accommodations are recorded on IEP, IAP or EL checklist for Window A (November 30-December 17)
- November 8: Materials delivered to school systems testing in Window A
- November 9: Window A additional materials request available in DRC INSIGHT
 - school staff

- The next Assessment and Accountability Office Hours will be Tuesday, November 2, 2021 at 3:45 p.m. See information below to join:
 - **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/202189164>
 - **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
 - **Meeting ID#:** 202 189 164

Please contact jennifer.baird@la.gov with questions.

Principal & Superintendent Secure Portal Transition

In an effort to provide more impactful and integrated data analytics, the Principal & Superintendent Secure Portal will be transitioning into EdLink 360 later this school year. Secure accountability data currently available at louisianaschools.info will be integrated into the EdLink 360 system, providing accessible data and visualizations for school and district leaders.

- Users should set up their login credentials in EdLink no later than **December 1, 2021**.
- District data coordinators can assist users in setting up accounts within EdLink. Use [this guide](#) to assist in logging in to EdLink so you are ready to access secure accountability data when the transition occurs.
- Superintendents and district-level administrators should request District Administrator role, and Principals should request Principal role.
- Secure accountability data will populate in EdLink 360 by January, 2022.
- The Principal & Superintendent Secure Portal (louisianaschools.info) will remain available until accountability data transitions to EdLink. After the transition is completed, all data will be located in EdLink 360 and the Secure Portal will be discontinued.

For questions and troubleshooting issues related to EdLink, contact edlink360@la.gov.

Career and College Readiness

2022 Jump Start Convention

Please share with CTE personnel, counselors, and school administrators.

The 2022 Jump Start Convention will be held on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at the Raising Cane's River Center in Baton Rouge. [Registration is currently open](#), and will close on Friday, December 3 or when capacity is reached.

Please contact erica.spencer@la.gov with questions.

Fall NCCER ICTP/Core and Welding Instructor Training Opportunities

Please share with school counselors, principals, and CTE supervisors.

NCCER ICTP/Core and Welding teacher certification will be held either in-person or virtually. Fall Training dates for ICTP/Core and Welding include:

- ICTP/Core - November 1 - 5
- Welding Level 1 - November 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 10, 12
- ICTP/Core - December 13 - 17

The cost of the certification classes is \$650.00 for ICTP/Core, and \$675 for Welding. Registration costs will be paid directly to the trainer. Perkins and/or CDF funds can pay for training costs. Prior to registering for the training all potential craft instructors are required to submit documentation of skill. Upon verification, instructors will be provided a registration link.

For more information, please contact troy.borne@la.gov.

School System Financial Services

New: FY 2019-2020 Fiscal Risk Assessment

Please forward to business managers.

By law, each city, parish, or other local public school board shall be notified on a regular basis of its financial status per the annual Fiscal Risk Assessment. The FY 2019-2020 Fiscal Risk Assessment has been completed and populated for each school system or school to include the latest available data. Final data is now available on each LEA's "edfin" FTP site.

Please contact SchoolFinanceHelpDesk@la.gov with any questions.

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

Social Studies Standards Review Update

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

Louisiana's social studies standards are currently under review. The Social Studies Standards Review Steering Committee endorsed a [draft of the Social Studies Standards](#) in a public meeting that was held on September 25. The Department has extended the time frame for public comment. All stakeholders now have the opportunity to comment on individual standards using an online [Public Comment Form](#) throughout the months of October and November.

Materials from steering committee meetings, including videos of past meetings, and updates given to BESE and to the House Education Committee can be found in the [Standards Review Committee Library](#).

Please contact classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov with questions

ELA Guidebooks Materials Review for Grades 3-5 Pilot

Please share with ELA supervisors and ELA Curriculum Specialists

The ELA Guidebooks units for grades 3-5 are being updated to include additional supports for diverse learners, writing strategies from [The Writing Revolution](#)[®], and unit texts that meet the needs of all students. The Department is providing early access to three updated 3-5 units to gather feedback on the content through the Materials Review cohort. This cohort will have the opportunity to review and provide feedback to one or more of the three units prior to their Spring 2022 release.

The opportunity to join the Materials Review cohort for the ELA Guidebooks Grades 3-5 Pilot has been extended and interested school systems should review the [Guidebooks Materials Review](#) document then submit the [survey](#) by November 12 to commit to participating in the cohort.

Please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov with questions.

BESE Tuition Program for Teachers-Applications for Spring 2022 Open Now!

Please share with all classroom teachers

The BESE Tuition Program for Teachers provides tuition funding for selected classroom teachers to enroll in courses at regionally accredited colleges or universities in Louisiana. Online applications for coursework funding for the summer and fall 2021 semesters are open now through November 12.

Program details, as well as a link to the application, can be found on the [Continuing Opportunities for Educators page](#).

Please contact stem@la.gov with questions.

Diverse Learners

Notice of Intent: Waiver Extension for Alternate Assessment Participation

Under the requirements of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Louisiana must limit the total number of students who are assessed statewide on alternate assessments to 1.0 percent of the total number of students in the State who are required to participate in statewide assessments. The Department [intends to seek a waiver extension](#) for the 2021-2022 school year of this federal requirement that would limit the number of students in the State who participate in alternate assessments. Comments may be submitted via email at specialeducation@la.gov by October 29, 2021. If you wish to provide comment, please include your full name, organization (if applicable), and contact information.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

Teacher Leader Lagniappe Podcast: Episode 14 Released

[Teacher Leader Lagniappe](#) offers a little something extra for Louisiana educators. As educators, we are leaders - leaders of our families, classrooms, schools, teams, and systems. Host Em Cooper shares inspiring stories from leaders in Louisiana and across the country. You'll hear from innovators, change agents, and experts that will empower you to grow in your profession. Educators can subscribe to the [podcast](#) and listen to the latest episode.

Episode 14 Summary - Louisiana's Broadband Strategy with Veneeth Iyengar: Veneeth Iyengar shares the access, affordability, and literacy strategies being implemented by the Louisiana Office of Broadband Development and Connectivity to eliminate the digital divide in Louisiana.

Share Your Stories: Educators can submit [pictures](#) of the great things happening in your school and system for our What's Making Me Smile segment.

Please contact em.cooper@la.gov with questions.

Teacher Preparation Program for Paraprofessionals

Do you have paraprofessionals or other school employees who would make excellent teachers? Do they need support earning a Bachelor's degree? There is an opportunity for these employees to become teachers without having to leave their current position and at a cost of only \$75 per month. The Department will be hosting a webinar to share additional details about this opportunity through [Reach University](#).

- **Webinar Date and Time:** November 1 at 10 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:**
<https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97765668972?pwd=aDVFazREVnRMNU9Cd2h1MEF6UzBEdz09>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 977 6566 8972
- **Passcode:** 453108

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Teacher Preparation Provider Program Approvals

In October, the providers below received BESE approval to offer teacher development trainings.

Program	Provider	Content or Certification Area
Mentor Teacher	St. Charles Parish	Mentor Teacher (Elementary, ELA, Math, and Universal)
Initial Teacher Preparation	Louisiana Tech University	6-12 Mathematics
		6-12 Science (Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, General Science, Physics, Earth Science)
Content Leader	A+PEL	K-2 Literacy Content Leader
	Keys to Literacy	

Please contact lydia.hill@la.gov with questions.

Literacy

CLSD CIR/UIR-A Quarter 1 Reporting

Quarter 1 reporting for the Comprehensive Literacy State Development (CLSD) CIR/UIR- A grant is due October 29, 2021. All submissions should be made through the [Quarter 1 Reporting form](#). [Guidance](#) for completing the form is available for schools.

Please contact shanna.beber@la.gov with questions.

Reminders

- *Assessment, Accountability, and Analytics*
- *Career and College Readiness*
- *Teaching and Learning*
 - *Educator Development*
 - *Diverse Learners*

Assessment, Accountability, and Analytics

Interests and Opportunities

- Resources for 2021-2022 I&O are now available on the website in the [Accountability Library](#).
 - [2021-2022 Interests and Opportunities Accountability and Reporting FAQ](#)
 - [2021-2022 Interests and Opportunities Principal Survey Fillable PDF Template](#)
- Interests and Opportunities Principals and School System Leaders Webinar: October 27 at 2 p.m.
 - LDOE is hosting a webinar about Interests and Opportunities for Principals and School System Leaders. Join us to hear more about the Menu Based Approach and the policy implications for 2022-2023 and beyond. This webinar will be recorded and posted to the Accountability Library.
 - Zoom Meeting Link
 - <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96062275388?pwd=RXNVbFNlZCtEYW1UbVEvelp2OFBUdz0>

Birth-Grade 3 Assessment Guidance

- The Birth-Grade 3 Assessments has a [suite of resources](#) available to help school systems (and early learning centers) with assessment administration for the 2021-2022 school year. School systems who were severely impacted by Hurricane Ida and will not be able to submit data on time should email assessment@la.gov.
- Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA)
 - OCTOBER 29 (NEW DATE): Reporting due from one of two approved [Kindergarten Entry Assessment \(KEA\)](#) options: [DRDP-K](#) and [TeachingStrategies GOLD KEA](#)
 - Administer within the first 30 operational school days (exclude days closed for hurricane from the count)
- K-3 Literacy Screener
 - OCTOBER 29 (NEW DATE): Reporting due from one of four approved [K-3 Literacy Screener](#) options: [Acadience Reading](#) (formerly DIBELS Next), [DIBELS 8th Edition](#), [STEEP](#), and [STEP](#).
 - Administer within the first 30 operational school days.(exclude days closed for hurricane from the count)
- GOLD (Birth-Age 5)
 - OCTOBER 31: Reporting due from administration of TeachingStrategiesGOLD®. This administration should include 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.

NAEP

- The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) will proceed with administration of the mandated mathematics and reading assessments. For 2022, at the state level, the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) will be administered in mathematics and reading at grades 4 and 8. The NAEP 2022 school sample will represent the 2022 student population while also maximizing overlap with the NAEP 2021 school sample. Maximizing the overlapping school samples between NAEP 2022 and 2021 opens up the possibility of studying student performance, as measured by NAEP, within the unique context provided by the two NAEP studies that were administered in the 2020–2021 school year.
- The NAEP 2022 administration will include three assessment programs:
 - **January 10 to March 18, 2022:** National long-term trend mathematics and reading assessments: age 9
 - **January 24 to March 4, 2022:**
 - State-level mathematics and reading assessments: grades 4 and 8
 - National civics and U.S. history assessments: grade 8
- Superintendents of selected school systems will receive a letter through email in September.
 - School systems will play an important role by supporting participation.
 - NAEP will continue to adapt to new processes and procedures as the situation with COVID-19 continues to evolve.
 - As in previous years, NAEP representatives will provide significant support to schools by administering the assessment and bringing all necessary materials and equipment, including sanitized tablets, on which students take the assessment.
 - NAEP representatives' top priority is to protect the health and safety of students and school staff.

Career and College Readiness

NCCER Submission Extension

Please share with school counselors, principals, and CTE supervisors.

Due to outstanding submissions from craft instructors, NCCER has granted an extension to LDOE to process and approve submissions. The extension dates are October 27, 28, 29. Form submission will begin (midnight) on the 26.

Late submissions after the deadline will not be accepted or approved.

Submissions will be accepted October 27 and 28 and will be processed on October 29. Please make every attempt not to autofill dates. Modules should only be submitted for training that took place before 8/1/2021. Notify sponsor representative after a submission to the registry has been made. After sponsor rep approval, the forms will go to the registry for final approval. If your training facility/school needs to be added to the submission extension list, please email Troy.Borne@la.gov.

EdLink 360 Career and Technical Education Dashboard Training

Please share with CTE Supervisors and Perkins Coordinators

Career and Technical Education 2020-2021 data reports will be available in the EdLink 360 Career and Technical Education Dashboard. A webinar has been scheduled to provide training on accessing the data.

Webinar Date and Time: November 5 at 12 p.m.

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95325986900>

Webinar Phone Number: 470-250-9358

Meeting ID: 953 2598 6900

Passcode: 742836

Please contact jessica.vallelungo@la.gov with questions.

U.S. Presidential Scholar Program

Please share with counselors, administrators and CTE leaders of school systems

The Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) and the United States Department of Education (USDOE) are pleased to announce the opening of [the nomination process](#) for the [U.S. Presidential Scholars Program](#) to honor our nation's most distinguished graduating high school seniors graduating between January and August, 2022.

Nomination letters are due to LDOE by **4 p.m. November 19**. School systems should submit nominations to jumpstart@la.gov using the subject line: **US Presidential Scholar Program**. Submissions that do not include the completed [parental release form](#) will not be accepted. It is recommended that school systems review the [LDOE evaluation rubric](#) prior to nominating students.

Please contact jumpstart@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Educator Development

Professional Practice Scores 2020-2021

BESE approved a proposal moving through the formal rulemaking process this October **for the 2021-2022 academic year only** regarding the number of required observations. Only one formal observation for the 2021-2022 academic year is required for those who earn a rating of Highly Effective or Effective:Proficient (score of 2.5 or higher) on the first observation. Individuals earning Highly Effective or Effective:Proficient on the first observation shall receive a second observation upon request.

Any teacher or administrator who earns an observation rating of Ineffective or Effective: Emerging (2.4 or lower) will require two observations.

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.

Mentor and Resident Funding Data Collection Deadline: October 29

The Department continues to provide funding for the Mentors who support year-long undergraduate residents and the yearlong undergraduate residents who hold a resident certificate and are completing their residency in a public school.

The data collection process which is needed to accurately allocate these funds is currently underway. School systems received a list of residents via the FTP on **October 11**. The Mentor and resident data template is due from school systems on **October 29**.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

Diverse Learners

Seclusion and Restraint

The Department is required to collect and annually report the use of seclusion and restraint for students with disabilities. **The 2020-2021 Seclusion and Restraint draft report is now available** for systems to verify their data before the final report is published. The report will be available via FTP with the file name: *LEACode_LEAName_2020-21_Seclusion and Restraint Report_DRAFT*.

School systems must make all updates in SER, if needed, and submit new or revised seclusion and restraint policies to specialeducation@la.gov by **October 29** to be reflected in the final report.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

Dyslexia Reporting and Office Hours

LEAs should submit, by 5 p.m. October 31, the joform available at this [link](#) to report the occurrence of dyslexia per Act 419. Refer to the [Marino Dyslexia Bill Reporting Guidance](#) for support reporting the data. The Department will host office hours on October 28 at 2:30 p.m. to support school systems with Act 419 dyslexia reporting requirements.