



News for Louisiana



CHARTER SCHOOLS

May 5, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

It's National Teacher Appreciation Week. After everything Louisiana educators have endured this year, I think an argument should be made for National Teacher Appreciation Year. Our teachers have done hero's work serving students and families through the pandemic. There was no blueprint for what school should look like. Our teachers showed up, adapted and found a way to be there for kids.

I don't think it's a stretch to say that Louisiana educators are writing history with their actions during this pandemic. Studies will be written on how every state's education system responded to COVID-19 and recovered from its academic and emotional impact on children. I've seen amazing work in our classrooms and learned from the experiences of transformational educators. I'm proud to help write our story alongside Louisiana teachers.

Take time this week to let the educators in your life know they matter. Whether it's words of encouragement, a hand-written note or a teachers' lounge full of sweets, our teachers are valued professionals who deserve our appreciation every day of the year.

Dr. Cade Brumley
State Superintendent of Education

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Important Dates for School Systems

| Office Hours | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Office Hours Title | Zoom Link |
| CLSD CIR/UIR-A TA Office Hours | May 5 at 11 a.m. |
| Career and College Readiness Office Hours | May 6 at 3 p.m. |
| <i>Achieve!</i> Office Hours | May 7 at 10 a.m. |
| CLSD UIN TA Office Hours | May 7 at 11 a.m. |
| SRCL TA Office Hours | May 10 at 1 p.m. |
| Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours | May 11 at 3 p.m. |
| Assessment and Accountability Office Hours | May 11 at 3:45 p.m. |
| Education Technology Office Hours | May 13 at 9 a.m. |
| Data Coordinator Office Hours | May 13 at 1 p.m. |
| K-2 CLASS® Pilot Office Hours | May 18 at 12 p.m. |
| Monthly Calls* | |
| Monthly Call Title | Zoom Link |
| Literacy Monthly Call | May 6 at 10 a.m. |
| Nutrition Support Monthly Call | May 6 at 1 p.m. |
| Data Coordinator Monthly Call | May 6 at 1 p.m. |
| System Leaders Monthly Call | May 7 at 9 a.m. |

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| Charter Authorizers Monthly Call | May 12 at 11 a.m. |
| BESE Authorized Charter School Monthly Call | May 12 at 3 p.m. |
| SPED Leader Monthly Call | May 13 at 2 p.m. |
| Legislative and Policy Support Monthly Call | May 17 at 10 a.m. |
| Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call | May 18 at 3:45 p.m. |
| Nonpublic Monthly Call | May 19 at 2 p.m. |
| Student Well-Being Monthly Call | May 19 at 3:30 p.m. |
| Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call | May 20 at 10 a.m. |
| Career and College Readiness Monthly Call | May 20 at 3 p.m. |
| System Leaders Roundtable | May 21 at 9 a.m. |
| AE Leadership Community of Practice | May 26 at 10 a.m. |
| Education Technology Monthly Call | May 27 at 9 a.m. |
| Academic Content and Educator Development Monthly Call | August 25 at 1 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> | |
| Upcoming Events | |
| Event Title | Zoom Link |
| Staffing and Scheduling Best Practices Webinar | May 5 at 1 p.m. |
| Verizon Hotspot Recall Informational Webinar | May 5 at 1 p.m. |
| Dual Enrollment Policy Update Webinar | May 6 at 9 a.m. |
| Real-time Early Access to Literacy (REAL) Informational Webinar | May 6 at 2 p.m. |
| NCCER Online Testing Webinar | May 10 at 3 p.m. |

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| Job Alike Session: District Academic Leadership | May 11 at 11 a.m. |
| Job Alike Session: Diverse Learners Leadership | May 11 at 1 p.m. |
| Job Alike Session: Counselors and Counselor Leadership | May 12 at 11 a.m. |
| Spring Job Alike Session: School Leadership | May 12 at 1 p.m. |
| Louisiana Attendance Alliance Webinar | May 12 at 1 p.m. |
| Important Deadlines | |
| LDOE/DMGroup Regional Technical Support Series | May 4 |
| Child Welfare and Attendance Office Contact | May 7 |
| Assessment Development Educator Review Committees | May 9 |
| Teacher Leader Summit Registration | May 10 |
| 2020 IDEA MOE Confirmation (Compliance) | May 14 |
| SPED Fellow Academy Application | May 14 |
| Strategic Budget Planning Support Form | May 14 |
| FY2020-21 Projected Local Revenue Data | May 21 |
| 2021-2022 Super App Application | June 1 |

Operations

Federal Support and Grantee Relations

2021-2022 Super App

Competitive funding for the 2021-2022 Super App is now available in eGMS. School systems will need to create an amendment and budget the additional funding. In addition, the 2021-2022 Indirect Cost rates have been loaded in eGMS. This may require some adjustment to the amounts currently budgeted to indirect cost. To receive approval for all allocations in Super App by July 1, LEAs should submit the 2021-2022 Super App application by **June 1**.

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

Strategic Budget Planning Support

LEAs will be provided three opportunities to attend strategic budget planning support sessions:

1. Workshop
 - a. One-time engagement for school systems leaders led by national experts
2. Comprehensive strategic budgeting support
 - a. Partner with experts in a multi-session cohort over the summer
3. Targeted budget planning support
 - a. School systems participate in a cohort opportunity to receive professional development from experts on fiscal management. Members of the cohort will receive a one-of-a-kind Certificate in Education Finance (CEF) which equips participants with the practical skills they need in strategic fiscal management, finance policy analysis, and financial leadership to deploy resources in ways that do the most for students. Cohort participants will commit to two days of in-person professional development as well as additional coaching consultation sessions.

Interested LEAs are encouraged to complete the [Strategic Budget Planning Support form](#) by **May 14**.

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

Career and College Readiness

Advanced Placement Summer Institute Virtual Guide

Please share with curriculum coordinators, high school counselors, AP coordinators, and administrators.

The Department has released a guide to [Advanced Placement Virtual Summer Institutes for 2021](#). This guide includes details on dates, partner institutions, and registration links for school systems to use to plan for professional development for Advanced Placement teachers.

Please meredith.mcgovern@la.gov with questions.

Updated Graduation Ceremony Guidance

Please share with superintendents and high school administrators.

The Office of State Fire Marshal released [guidance for graduation ceremonies](#) on April 27. This guidance includes the following general revisions.

The capacity for any graduation ceremony shall be subject to the following per [79-JBE-2021](#):

- 75% capacity of the fixed spectator seating as well as 75% of the net occupiable floor areas of the venue as defined by one person per every 20 square feet when all attendees and participants are NOT required to wear face coverings for the entirety of the ceremony.
OR
- 100% capacity, with no social distancing, when all attendees and participants are required to wear face coverings for the entirety of the ceremony.

Please contact LDOECOVID19support@la.gov with questions.

Louisiana Attendance Alliance Webinar

Please share with school system leaders and child welfare and attendance officers.

The Office of Career and College Readiness will host an informational webinar on the Louisiana Attendance Alliance. The Attendance Alliance will promote good attendance practices and address attendance concerns, and share best practices for school system child welfare and attendance staff. This webinar will provide an overview of the Louisiana Attendance Alliance, resources available to school systems, and the attendance specialist contact information.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** May 12 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93380092122>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 933 8009 2122

Please contact jerrick.hornbeak@la.gov with questions.

Equity, Inclusion, and Opportunities

Diverse Learner Supports

2021 Partnerships for Success School System Evaluation

In order to continually improve the Partnerships for Success Guide to drive outcomes for students with disabilities and ensure alignment of services, the Department will conduct annual evaluations of its vendors. The annual evaluation is conducted by a cross-disciplinary team against a rigorous set of criteria. School systems play a critical role in this evaluation process by providing essential information regarding the implementation of vendor services in schools. School systems that have contracted with vendors in the Partnerships for Success Guide are encouraged to complete a [2021 Partnerships for Success School System Evaluation](#). School systems should have personnel most familiar with the vendor partnership, complete the evaluation by **June 18**.

Please contact specialeducation@la.gov with questions.

2021-2022 SPED Fellow Academy

[SPED Fellow Academy](#) is a year-long, comprehensive development program for novice special education leaders (administrators) across Louisiana. The program will provide in-person training, coaching, and a community of practice that will instill the knowledge and skills the next generation of leaders needs to lead and sustain change to improve outcomes for students with disabilities. Learning will cover topics such as strategic budgeting, stakeholder engagement, laws and policies, leveraging data, leadership development including managing teams and sustaining change. In addition to a robust curriculum, the program will support fellows in examining a systems-level problem of practice, developing a theory of action to address the problem of practice, and developing an action plan to lead systems-level change. The Department encourages full-time administrators who are managing across these areas to [apply](#) by **May 14**.

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

School System Financial Services

FY2020-21 Projected Local Revenue Data

Please forward to business managers and superintendents of city/parish school systems.

In order to complete the FY2021-22 MFP calculations for charter schools, projected FY2020-21 local revenue data (and expenditures related to the collection of the revenue) must be submitted to the Department by each city/parish school district. The projected FY2020-21 local revenue data is being collected through the LEADS portal using the same process as was used in prior years. A list of the required [keypunch codes](#) and step-by-step [instructions](#) for submitting data through LEADS are provided. Submit this data no later than **May 21**. The LEADS portal will be opened by May 10 and will remain open through May 21.

Please contact LDOEMFPHelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Pandemic EBT Program Kick-off/Data Submission

The Louisiana Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), in collaboration with the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE), has received approval to operate the Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) program in response to the COVID-19 related school closures. P-EBT provides food support to help families with children who are learning in a hybrid or virtual mode and were receiving free and reduced-price school meals. To carry out this program, DCFS and the Office of Technology Services (OTS) will be working with school system data managers who must submit the necessary information to qualify both public and private students for the P-EBT benefit. Additional details regarding data sharing agreements, the submission process, deadlines, etc. will be provided on the May Data Managers Monthly Webinar and May System Leaders Webinar.

What's different for this P-EBT?

- P-EBT this year will use direct certification. With direct certification, there is no application process and it does not require any action by the family. DCFS will use the student data provided by the school districts to issue P-EBT benefits.
- Students will receive their P-EBT benefits on a new P-EBT card. A separate P-EBT card will be issued for each eligible student in the household. This means each eligible student in the household will receive a card in the student's name. Previously, one card was issued in the Parent/Guardian's name for all eligible students.
- Benefits are being issued retroactively in installments back to August 2020.

Please contact carol.mosley@la.gov with questions.

Academic Content

Learning Management System (LMS) Vendor Guide

Please share with school system leadership, curriculum, and technology teams.

Many school systems are choosing to enhance their students' learning experience through the use of a Learning Management System (LMS). The Office of Teaching and Learning has published an [LMS Vendor Guide](#) to assist school systems that are considering purchasing an LMS. The [LMS Vendor Guide](#) provides a summary of the major features of some of the most popular LMSs along with the PD and tech support options available.

Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions

Verizon Hotspot Recall

Please share with school system leadership, and technology teams.

On April 27, the Department notified school systems of a [recall on Verizon hotspot devices](#). To help school systems navigate the recall and replacement process, the Department and Verizon will host a webinar on **May 5**. In order to prioritize device replacement for students with the greatest need, school systems should complete the [Verizon Mifi Replacement Needs Survey](#) prior to the webinar.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** May 5 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/94837206327>
- **Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 948 3720 6327
- **Password:** 331074

Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions.

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

For District Testing Coordinators and Accountability Contacts

LEAP 2025

- Paper-based consumable test booklets must all be shipped to DRC no later than May 10, including all make-ups done on paper.
- **May 7:** All voids for grades 3 and 4 paper-based test administration due.
- District test coordinators should work with their district technology coordinators to ensure that all testing content is downloaded to the Central Office Server prior to testing. Please contact assessment@la.gov for assistance.
 - Please be sure that screen resolution is correct on all computers that are used for testing. Using an alternate resolution could create problems with the display of test items.
- District test coordinators can order additional test materials for high school assessments.
- District test coordinators can order additional test materials for 3-8 assessments.

Third Year Assessment Cohort Roster

- Third-year assessment cohort rosters have been posted to school system FTPs. These students must participate in English I and Algebra I testing, regardless of course enrollment, unless there is an appropriate accountability code to apply to their record.
- These students have been preloaded to DRC INSIGHT. They should not be removed. The students should either be tested or coded out.

Assessment Development Educator Review Committees

- The Division of Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics will convene LEAP 2025 and LEAP Connect assessments committees in June and July via teleconference.
- LEAP 2025 Science and Math Content, Bias, and Sensitivity committees will review newly developed assessment items and provide feedback and recommendations on the items.
- LEAP Connect Standards Validation and Standards Setting committees will work on cut scores and achievement levels for ELA, math, and science assessments.
- **May 9 Deadline to Apply:** Interested educators should access the [Assessment Development Educator Review Committees document](#) for information on exact dates, meetings details, and links to apply to participate on specific committees. Selected participants who are on summer break are eligible to receive a daily stipend. Please share this announcement with general education teachers, special education teachers, teachers of English Learners, school and school system supervisors, and school administrators – all are encouraged to apply.

Data Certification

- Data certification is now closed for new submissions. All current submissions will continue to be reviewed and accepted, rejected, or under review for additional information.
- Additional information may be needed for data certification submissions. Accountability contacts should check regularly for messages from Department reviewers.
- Audits will be conducted on students who exited as out-of-state transfers, nonpublic school transfers, and BESE-approved home study transfers. FAFSA parental opt-outs will also be audited. Failure to provide documentation for all students audited will result in a change to non-graduate.

ACT

- All school systems that participated in ACT NOW voucher program should have their planning template submitted.

Birth-Pre-K Assessment Guidance

- **Due May 31:** TS GOLD Spring Checkpoint for all publicly-funded children attending public and nonpublic pre-K, Head Start, and child care centers. Visit the [GOLD Overview](#) and [Early Childhood \(pre-K\) Assessment Guidance for Various Learning Environments](#) and for additional information.

NAEP 2021

- **Additional Monthly Survey**

- By Executive Order, a NAEP 2021 Monthly School Survey will be collected from approximately 90 schools in Louisiana to understand the impact of COVID-19, including the status of in-person learning.
- Nationally, the survey will collect data from approximately 3,500 schools that enroll fourth-graders and an equal number of schools that enroll eighth-graders.
- The submission windows have been extended again to add days to each window (April 14-27, May 19-June 2, and June 16-29).
- The status of in-person learning will be disaggregated by student demographics, including race/ethnicity, disability, English Learner status, and an economic disadvantage indicator.
- The public will have access to data about school reopenings for in-person instruction and how students are learning.
- For questions or additional information, please email jennifer.baird@la.gov or rebecca.frederick@la.gov.

Assessment Administration Support and Training Office Hours

The next Assessment and Accountability office hours will be on **May 11 at 3:45 p.m.** A password will now be required for office hours. Webinar details are listed below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** May 11 at 3:45 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/202189164>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
- **Meeting ID#:** 202 189 164
- **Passcode:** 2020202!

Literacy

Literacy Monthly Call Feature: Family Literacy Engagement

On the May 6 Literacy Monthly Call, special guest speaker Dr. Shana Rochester, Research Associate for the Sherman Center for Early Learning in Urban Communities in Baltimore, Maryland, will share insight and expertise on engaging diverse families in the literacy development of their children. School and district leaders and teachers can join the monthly call to hear more about topics including implementing the recently-released [Family Literacy Engagement Strategic Plan for Schools and School Systems](#), family inclusiveness, fostering partnerships, and school system planning.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** May 6 at 10 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97454245168>
- **Phone Number:** 470-31-2552
- **Meeting ID#:** 974 5424 5168

Please contact louisianaliteracy@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

Teacher Leader Summit Deadline to Register: May 10

The 2021 Teacher Leader Summit is now open to the general public. All educators and administrators across the state are invited and encouraged to join! [Registration](#) must be completed by **May 10** to secure a spot. There will be no on-site registration this year due to COVID-19. The 2021 Teacher Leader Summit will take place May 25–27 at the Morial Convention Center in New Orleans. Both the Department and the Convention Center are taking measures to promote the health and safety of all participants throughout the week.

Please contact LDOEvents@la.gov with questions.

Reminders

- **Operations Reminders**
 - **Federal Support and Grantee Relations Reminders**
 - **Nutrition Support Reminders**
- **Career and College Readiness Reminders**
- **Equity, Inclusion, and Opportunities Reminders**
 - **Student Well-Being Reminders**
- **School System Financial Services Reminders**
- **Teaching and Learning Reminders**
 - **Literacy Reminders**

Operations Reminders

Federal Support and Grantee Relations Reminders

GEER I Funding: Reimbursement Extension

The GEER I Funding Availability is April 24, 2020 through May 24, 2021. The Reimbursement Claims deadline has been **extended to June 30**.

Please find the required documentation for reimbursement claims below.

Staff Training and Development: *(Required documentation)*

- List of employees that attended the training
- Sign-in sheet and Training agenda/program
- Copies of paid invoices for training and course materials, building rentals, etc., along with proof of payment

Computer Equipment and Software: (Required documentation)

- Purchase order or agreement
- Copies of paid invoices, along with proof of payment
- Signed Delivery and Acceptance Certificate

Note: If a single invoice is submitted that needs to be divided among multiple funding sources (ie ESSER I Formula, GEER I, Title I, etc.), please provide a breakdown of the line items on the invoice by fund source.

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

Nutrition Support Reminders

2021-2022 Child Nutrition Program Waivers

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently announced the availability of a series of child nutrition program waivers and flexibilities for the 2021-2022 school year. The waivers, effective through June 30, are designed to streamline meal access, enhance program flexibility, and reduce administrative burden. The waivers allow schools to provide meals to all students at no charge for the entire 2021-2022 school year, receive a higher level of federal meal reimbursement, and continue to provide meals to virtual learners. [USDA Child Nutrition COVID-19 Waivers](#) contains a complete list of available waivers.

Please contact childnutritionprograms@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness Reminders

Child Welfare and Attendance Office Contact

Please share with school system leaders.

School systems are encouraged to please update the [Louisiana School Contact Form](#) with the name and contact information for their Child Welfare and Attendance Officers. The deadline to submit this information is **May 7**.

Please contact jerrick.hornbeak@la.gov with questions.

AP Digital Exam Updates

Please share with AP coordinators, technology coordinators, and counselors.

The [AP Digital Testing Guide](#), version 2.0 includes updates from April 8. The guide has been updated with expanded information about required pre-exam steps, new dashboards to help educators track student readiness for digital exams, exam day instructions for proctors, and more.

Information is also provided for technology coordinators regarding installation of the digital testing app on managed devices.

All students taking digital AP Exams need to complete [four steps](#) to get ready for the exams. This month, students should take two key steps to get ready for digital AP Exams:

- Step 1: Download and install the 2021 AP digital testing application and log in.
- Step 2: Practice with example questions in the app.

Please contact meredith.mcgovern@la.gov with questions.

Dual Enrollment Policy Update Webinar

Please share with counselors, secondary curriculum supervisors, and administrators.

The Board of Regents (BoR) and LDOE will host a webinar for updates related to dual enrollment. The webinar will include information on the academic dual enrollment eligibility policy for the upcoming academic year, general updates related to the statewide Dual Enrollment Task Force, and an opportunity to ask questions of BoR and LDOE.

The webinar will take place on **May 6 at 9 a.m.** Please [register](#) for the webinar. Registrants will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Please contact dualenrollment@laregents.edu with questions.

NCCER Online Testing Webinar

Share with CTE supervisors, principals, counselors, secondary supervisors, and testing coordinators.

NCCER will move to online-only testing beginning August 1.

The Office of Career and College Readiness will host an informational NCCER Online Testing Webinar. This webinar will include information on the testing system requirements, reporting features, NCCER testing support, curriculum proctor, and purchasing tests.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** May 10 at 3 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95318436804>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 953 1843 6804
- **Meeting Passcode:** 039654

Please contact troy.borne@la.gov with questions.

Equity, Inclusion, and Opportunities Reminders

Student Well-Being Reminders

Free Virtual Teletherapy Services for Birth-12 Public School Educators & Support Staff

The Department has partnered with Ochsner Health to launch a virtual therapy program to provide access to free mental health visits for Louisiana's public school educators and support staff. The Department has committed \$1M to this project to ensure that we can take care of those that are taking care of our students. Educators and support staff will have access to four, completely free and 100 percent confidential counseling sessions with licensed mental health professionals.

Public school educators and support staff interested in participating should follow these steps:

1. Enroll in Ochsner Anywhere Care easily with the online form at ldoe.ochsneranywherecare.com.
2. Schedule an appointment through the website or download the Ochsner Anywhere Care app from the Google or Apple app store to start from a cell phone.
3. Enter Service Key "LDOE" when prompted. Use the coupon code "TEACH" when prompted.
4. Review available providers and appointment times and choose the most convenient option. Appointments are available M-F through 8 p.m. with additional appointments available on Saturday.

School systems are encouraged to review this [flyer](#) and [FAQ](#) for more information.

Please contact studentwellbeing@la.gov with questions.

School System Financial Services Reminders

FY 2020-2021 General Fund Budget Approval List

Please share with business managers and financial officials of city/parish school systems.

The FY2020-2021 General Fund Budget Approval (R.S. 17:88) List for city/parish school systems will be available for reference in the Louisiana Believes [Budgets Library](#) by Friday, April 30.

School systems and schools not included in the approved list should have received communication regarding budget status.

Please contact schoolfinancehelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning Reminders

Update: Staffing and Scheduling Initiative

- The [Staffing and Scheduling Kick-off Webinar](#) has now been posted to the LDOE YouTube channel. The [presentation](#) is also available in the [School System Support Toolbox](#).
- To support systems in this work, a variety of implementation supports will be available at no cost this spring, summer, and fall. System leaders and school leaders that oversee academics, human resources, diverse learners, principal support, and counseling should attend these upcoming trainings. The spring webinars and support sessions are below. Participants must register using the link provided.

| Date and Time | Session and Registration Link |
|-------------------|--|
| May 5 at 1 p.m. | Staffing and Scheduling Best Practices Webinar |
| May 11 at 11 a.m. | Job Alike Session: District Academic Leadership |
| May 11 at 1 p.m. | Job Alike Session: Diverse Learners Leadership |
| May 12 at 11 a.m. | Job Alike Session: Counselors and Counselor Leadership |
| May 12 at 1 p.m. | Spring Job Alike Session: School Leadership |

- School systems may choose to purchase more strategic implementation support for \$2500. This support includes participation for up to 8 individuals to attend three regional technical support sessions and receive three individual coaching calls. **Systems interested should [register](#) by today, May 4.**

| Session 1 | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| May 17 from 1-4 p.m. | Spring Regional Technical Support Series: New Orleans (Virtual) |
| May 18 from 1-4 p.m. | Spring Regional Technical Support Series: Baton Rouge (Virtual) |
| May 19 from 1-4 p.m. | Spring Regional Technical Support Series: Northern LA (Virtual) |
| Session 2 | |
| July 26 from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. | Summer Regional Technical Support Series: New Orleans (in person) |
| July 27 from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. | Summer Regional Technical Support Series: Baton Rouge (in person) |

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| July 28 from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. | Summer Regional Technical Support Series: Northern LA (in person) |
| Session 3 | |
| September 20 from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. | Fall Regional Technical Support Series: New Orleans (in person) |
| September 21 from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. | Fall Regional Technical Support Series: Baton Rouge (in person) |
| September 22 from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. | Fall Regional Technical Support Series: Northern LA (in person) |

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

Update: School Improvement Best Practices

School systems should register for the [School Improvement Best Practices](#) trainings this summer using the steps below. There are now in-person options available for select trainings on a first-come, first-served basis.

1. Contact dlancelin@niet.org or ppujol@niet.org as soon as possible. A NIET staff member will answer questions and discuss possible proposal options.
2. Then, districts will work with NIET on a Statement of Work (SOW), which will determine which schools will participate in which Best Practice opportunities.
3. Once an SOW is signed, district and school leaders will receive an email from NIET with a link to register their school teams and instructions on doing so. Multiple sessions will be available every week during June and July and will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, visit NIET.org.

Systems can use ESSER funding to send school leadership teams to these trainings.

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

Literacy Reminders

CLSD Technical Assistance

Beginning the first week of May, technical assistance (TA) will be provided for Comprehensive Literacy State Development (CLSD) grant recipients. There will be separate office hours for CLSD CIR/UIR-A grant recipients and CLSD UIN grant recipients. Important information and deadlines will be shared, and there will be time for questions and discussions around project implementation. Any school system that received CLSD CIR/UIR-A or CLSD UIN funds should plan to attend these office hours. The first office hours are mandatory for all recipients.

CLSD CIR/UIR-A

- **Webinar Date and Time:** May 5 at 11 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95424895904>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1-470-250-9358
- **Meeting ID#:** 954 2489 5904

CLSD UIN

- **Webinar Date and Time:** May 7 at 11 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97832169271>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 470-381-2552
- **Meeting ID#:** 978 3216 9271

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

Real-time Early Access to Literacy

[Real-time Early Access to Literacy](#) (REAL) provides early literacy support for students in pre-K through grade 3. Funding allocations for the summer cycle were provided to school systems to support eligible students enrolled in CIR and UIR-A schools with tutoring from an approved [LDOE Tutoring Service Provider](#). The summer tutoring cycle is set for May 24 through July 23.

On May 6, the Department will host a REAL informational webinar which will include important updates related to the summer cycle, student registration, and program requirements.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** May 6 at 2 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92258381682>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID#:** 922 5838 1682
- **Passcode:** 196716

Please contact catasha.edwards@la.gov with questions.