



Important News for **NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS**



March 4, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

Last week our state recognized Louisiana Early Ed Week. It was an opportunity to raise awareness of issues impacting early childhood education. Outside of the present pandemic, birth to four is the greatest educational challenge we face as a nation. A child's brain develops at a stunning pace during the first three years of life. In fact, 90 percent of brain growth happens before age five. Access to high-quality early childhood education is vital as we work to remove barriers and create equitable, inclusive learning experiences for all children. Whether they serve children in an elementary school or a center, I'm grateful for the continued efforts of our early childhood educators, staff and leadership.

Research tells us that children who participate in high-quality early learning are more likely to do well in school and as adults. High-quality early care and education leads to academic success, fewer grade retentions and special education placements, higher levels of college graduation and employment and healthier outcomes as adults.

But early childhood is not only important for children. It's also critically important for working families and the state's economy as a whole. As our state gets back to work and recovers from the pandemic, the Louisiana Department of Education is committed to supporting more families to access affordable and high-quality child care.

With the [recent changes in the Child Care Assistance Program \(CCAP\)](#), quality child care is more affordable for Louisiana's families. CCAP reimbursement rates were increased to a higher level than ever before, a rate that will cover the cost of an estimated 75 percent of child care providers across Louisiana, significantly reducing out-of-pocket cost for working families and increasing a family's ability to choose a high-quality provider.

We want to thank early childhood teachers, leaders and advocates who work tirelessly to ensure as many Louisiana families as possible have access to high-quality early care and education for their children.

Dr. Cade Brumley
State Superintendent of Education

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Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours	
Office Hours Title	Zoom Link
Career and College Readiness Office Hours	March 4 at 3 p.m.
K-2 CLASS® Pilot Office Hours	March 9 at 12 p.m.
Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours	March 9 at 3 p.m.
Assessment and Accountability Office Hours	March 9 at 3:45 p.m.
Education Technology Office Hours	March 11 at 9 a.m.
Data Coordinator Office Hours	March 11 at 1 p.m.
Educator Development Office Hours	March 16 at 12 p.m.
Monthly Calls*	
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Literacy Monthly Call	March 4 at 10 a.m.
Data Coordinator Monthly Call	March 4 at 1 p.m.
Nutrition Support Monthly Call	March 4 at 1 p.m.
System Leaders Monthly Call	March 5 at 9 a.m.

Charter Authorizers Monthly Call	March 10 at 11 a.m.
BESE Authorized Charter School Monthly Call	March 10 at 3 p.m.
SPED Leader Monthly Call	March 11 at 2 p.m.
Legislative and Policy Support Monthly Call	March 15 at 10 a.m.
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	March 16 at 3:45 p.m.
Nonpublic Monthly Call	March 17 at 2 p.m.
Student Well-Being Monthly Call	March 17 at 3:30 p.m.
Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call	March 18 at 10 a.m.
Career and College Readiness Monthly Call	March 18 at 3 p.m.
AE Leadership Community of Practice	March 24 at 10 a.m.
Academic Content and Educator Development Monthly Call	March 24 at 1 p.m.
Education Technology Monthly Call	March 25 at 9 a.m.
System Leaders Roundtable	March 26 at 9 a.m.
<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>	
Upcoming Events	
Event Title	Zoom Link
AP Exam Update Webinar	March 3 at 11 a.m.
EANS Program Informational Webinar	March 8 at 10 a.m.
Louisiana Aspiring Principal Fellowship Informational Webinar	March 8 at 3:30 p.m.
2021 Spring Homeless Liaison Training	March 9 at 9 a.m.
LOSFA Professional School Counselor Webinar: TOPS Processing (Part 1)	March 16 at 9 a.m.
LOSFA Professional School Counselor Webinar: TOPS Processing (Part 2)	March 16 at 12:30 p.m.
LOSFA Professional School Counselor Webinar: TOPS Processing (Part 2)	March 17 at 9 a.m.
LOSFA Professional School Counselor Webinar: TOPS Processing (Part 1)	March 17 at 12:30 p.m.
Important Deadlines	
Jump Start Summers Application	March 5 at 5 p.m.
Spring 2021 Accelerate Math Content Developer Application	March 12 at 5 p.m.

Aspiring Principal Fellowship Application	March 31
Jump Start Construction Scholars Program Applications	April 12
Submit Reimbursement Request for Nonpublic Textbooks, Nonpublic Admin	June 30

Operations

Federal Support and Grantee Relations

Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) Program

The Emergency Assistance for Non-Public School Fund (EANS) is a \$55 million grant that was awarded to Louisiana through the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSA) signed into law on December 27, 2020.

A school is eligible to participate in this program if it is Academically Approved by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) for school year 2019-2020 and has a *Brumfield v. Dodd* approval. [A list of eligible schools](#) is available and can be found in the Department's [Nonpublic Schools Library](#).

The EANS application will be available on **Friday, March 5**. An informational webinar will take place on [March 8 at 10 a.m.](#) All eligible schools are encouraged to attend and learn about the application process and requirements.

Please contact info@LDOE-EANS.com with questions.

Consolidated Monitoring Schedule for 2020-2021 SY (3rd Quarter)

The Department conducts annual monitoring of school systems to ensure compliance with federal and state requirements. To assist school systems in thoughtful planning and preparation for a scheduled monitoring event, the Department is releasing the [consolidated monitoring schedule for the 2020-2021 school year](#)*. This schedule is tentative and the agency reserves the right to make adjustments as necessary.

Quarterly updates will follow this newsletter announcement. Additionally, the assigned program monitoring team leader will send a more detailed monitoring notification reminder, along with any necessary planning documents or instructions, directly to superintendents and federal program directors of each school system appearing on the monitoring schedule. The [third quarter monitoring schedule](#) is now available. Statewide monitoring schedules can be found in the [Federal Support and Grantee Relations Library](#).

Please contact tasha.anthony@la.gov with questions about the monitoring schedule or program monitoring related to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). For questions related to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), please contact cindy.hilton@la.gov.

**School systems that have been severely impacted by a disaster and are currently listed on the schedule are encouraged to contact tasha.anthony@la.gov.*

Nutrition Support

Seeds to Success Program Gardening Materials for Teachers

The **Louisiana Farm to School Program** recently launched **Seeds to Success**, which offers classroom growing materials, as well as engaging educational materials linked to Louisiana School Science Standards that can be used in both classroom and virtual learning. Lessons, activities, and practical growing information for school gardens are conveniently located on the [Seeds to Success](#) website. The Louisiana Farm to School Program is a partnership between the Louisiana Department of Education and LSU AgCenter.

Last month, Seeds to Success distributed seed packets to over 1,500 schools across the state. Louisiana **teachers may request additional seed packets and other free gardening materials** by creating an account on the [Seeds to Success](#) website.

Please contact melissa.campbell@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

Postponed: 2021 Individual Graduation Planning Seminar

The 2021 Individual Graduation Planning (IGP) Webinar has been postponed. Details about the new webinar are forthcoming. The rescheduled webinar will cover the same topics: provide an overview of Louisiana IGP policies, legislative updates, and information on resources from the Louisiana Workforce Commission.

Please contact leslie.gilliland@la.gov with questions.

Jump Start Construction Scholars Program Applications Deadline Extended

Please share with counselors.

The Louisiana Construction Education Foundation (LCEF) Jump Start Construction Connect Scholars Program is accepting [applications](#) for up to forty \$1,000 scholarships. The scholarship is geared toward students who have earned the Jump Start Diploma, earned a National Center for Construction Education and Research credential, and plan to enroll in an LCTCS campus on a construction pathway or in an Associated Builders and Contractors training program. Applications are due **April 12**.

This is the state's first and only scholarship dedicated exclusively to Jump Start graduates. This effort is a collaboration of LCEF, LCTCS, and LDOE.

Please contact megan.thompson2@la.gov with questions.

Achieve to Believe: Louisiana ACT® NOW

Please share with school system leaders, high school administrators, district test coordinators, and high school counselors.

The [Louisiana ACT® NOW program](#) provides vouchers for eligible students in grades 10 and 12 to take an upcoming ACT®. Louisiana ACT® NOW will give students an additional opportunity to be placed in appropriate entry-level college courses, earn TOPS, qualify for scholarships, and gain admission to the college of their choice. It can also help students become eligible for a dual enrollment program or other academic programs that require an ACT® score. Vouchers can be used for the April 17, June 12, or July 17 administrations this school year.

Students in grade 12 are eligible for an ACT® voucher if all of these apply:

- The student has not earned an ACT® score that qualifies them for college admissions or TOPS, or who are seeking an opportunity to enhance their current level of TOPS Tech, TOPS Opportunity, TOPS Performance, TOPS Honors, or to seek other merit-based scholarship opportunities.
- The student is on target to complete all coursework necessary to graduate no later than August 31.
- The student is on target to meet all state assessment graduation requirements no later than August 31.

Students in grade 10 are eligible for an ACT® voucher if:

- The student requires an ACT® score to qualify for enrollment in a [Dual Enrollment program](#) or other academic program(s) that require an ACT® score.

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

LOSFA Professional School Counselor Webinar: TOPS Processing

Please share with school counselors.

Offered by Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance (LOSFA), the 2021 TOPS Processing Webinars for Professional School Counselors are interactive, virtual events to help schools minimize TOPS processing errors for their graduating seniors.

Part 1: Comprehensive Review of TOPS Processing. This webinar provides an overview of the TOPS processing cycle and reviews solutions to common errors that prevent or delay TOPS processing.

Dates and times available for Part 1:

- [March 16 at 9 a.m.](#)
- [March 17 at 12:30 p.m.](#)

Part 2: Preparing Your Seniors for TOPS Processing. This webinar focuses on the steps required to ensure seniors process error-free and includes best practices for submitting documents to LOSFA.

Dates and times available for Part 2:

- [March 16 at 12:30 p.m.](#)
- [March 17 at 9 a.m.](#)

Please use the links above to register for the webinar(s) of your choice.

Please contact rhonda.bridevaux@la.gov at LOSFA with questions.

Legislative Affairs, Policy, and Workforce Support

Healthy Communities

Kids Marathon Race and Virtual Challenge

The Department is partnering with Blue Cross and Blue Shields (BCBS) and Louisiana Kids Marathon to promote the [Kids Marathon Race and Virtual Challenge](#).

Teachers, students, and families may use this platform to use the challenge for free. While there is no t-shirt or medal, there are digital badges and certificates teachers, students, and families may print when they complete the challenge. They have the opportunity to receive the t-shirt or medal, for an extra fee. The overall goal is to just get as many kids moving.

The Kids Marathon Challenge will extend the date for completion through the 2021 school year.

Please contact stephen.guccione@la.gov with questions

School System Financial Services

FY 2020-2021 Final MFP-Career Development Fund (CDF) Payments

Final MFP-CDF payments for FY 2020-2021 will be released by the Department on **March 4**. Funds should appear in school systems' bank accounts within one to three business days depending on the banking institution with which a school system or school conducts business. Additional details regarding these payments are available for reference in the [MFP Library](#).

Please contact LDOEMFPhelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Accelerate

[Accelerate](#), Louisiana's pre-K-12 tutoring strategy, is designed for school systems to implement equal-access tutoring at scale in order to achieve significant results for all students. Grounded in the most impactful research-based practices, Accelerate is a just-in-time tutoring model that addresses unfinished learning by building knowledge and connecting it to skills in current lessons.

February 26: Phase 3 release of ELA and math resources released

- ELA: Additional [knowledge pack](#) for grades 3-8
- Math: The last five sets of [lessons](#) for K-8 posted

The Department has opened [applications](#) for expert pre-kindergarten through high-school math educators interested in building out additional [Accelerate math](#) resources. [Applications](#) must be submitted by **5 p.m. on March 12**. Work will begin this spring and continue through the 2021-2022 school year. Compensation will be provided. Please contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

For more support on unfinished learning, leaders and teachers can use the School Support Institutes: Addressing Unfinished Learning Series Day 1 [ELA](#) and [Math](#) Community of Practice presentations on the [Accelerate website](#).

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

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

FTP File: January 2021 Quarterly Home Study Report

The Quarterly Home Study Report for January 2021 is available via the Data Management FTP (with user names ending in @datamgmt) in zipped files named "LEACode_LEAName_Jan2021HomeStudy" and will remain on the FTP through April 2021.

Within the zipped file, there will be the following:

- Statewide enrollment numbers of SBESE-Approved Home Study students
- Statewide enrollment numbers of Registered Nonpublic Schools, not Seeking State Approval
- Detailed list of students from your LEA enrolled in Home Study program
- Detailed list of students from your LEA enrolled in Registered Nonpublic Schools, not Seeking State Approval
- Each student's home study approval notification letter

Please contact sue.millican@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development

CIS End of Year Closeout

The Department has issued a [CIS Timelines one-pager](#) to guide school systems through the evaluation process deadlines for the 2020-2021 school year. These deadlines apply to all public and charter schools within the state and are a requirement even if an alternate rubric waiver has been approved.

At this time, all sites should have completed the following tasks in [CIS](#), the system of record for professional practice evaluation data. If these tasks have not yet been completed, they should now be a priority:

- Updated rosters to reflect only 2020-2021 educators
- Assigned evaluators to each educator
- Assigned SLTs to each educator

CIS will shut down for the 2020-2021 school year on September 1. This means that ideally by end of school year and at the latest by the end of August, the following tasks must be completed in [CIS](#). After September 1, no data for 2020-2021 school year will be able to be amended or added.

- Enter both SLTs for leaders and teachers
- Enter both professional practice scores

For the 2020-2021 school year only, the employees earning “Highly Effective” or “Effective: Proficient” on the first observation do not require a second observation, therefore the final evaluation score will be entered into CIS twice.

Example:

Ms. Smith earns a 3.85 on her first observation, which correlates to “Highly Effective.” Her 3.85 score will then be entered into CIS twice. This will ensure an average score of 3.85.

Please contact compass@la.gov with questions.

Louisiana Scholarship Program News

For District Testing Coordinators and Accountability Contacts

LEAP 2025 Grades 3-8

- March 29: Manuals delivered to school systems
- April 7: CBT and PBT materials delivered to school systems
 - Sites should contact customer service to reschedule deliveries that are planned during spring break.
 - Deliveries cannot be scheduled ahead of the planned dates.

ACT Match/No Match Rosters

- **New:** ACT Match/No Match rosters have been updated and are available in the secure FTP.
- School systems should review the new list of students on the ACT match list.
 - The cost of testing in March for students on the ACT Match list will be the responsibility of the school system.
 - Students on the ACT No Match list must participate in March testing unless there is an appropriate accountability code for them.
- **Important Update:** Access MyACT to enter student codes using the [Information for Examinees webpage](#).
- Please check the [ACT State Testing](#) site for an updated [Schedule of Events](#).
- **January 18-March 5:** Request late consideration for ACT-authorized accommodations and/or supports for eligible examinees through the [Test Accessibility and Accommodations System \(TAA\)](#).
- **February 1-March 18:** Create and assign students to test sessions for March 9-11, 16-18 online ACT testing.
 - Additional standard time materials for use on March 23, 2021
 - Non-college reportable materials for use on March 23-26, 29-31, and April 1, 2021
 - Accommodation and/or supports materials by calling ACT Accommodations at 800-553-6244, ext. 1788.
- **Now-March 23:** Verify and, as needed, correct each examinee's grade level and other identifying information in [PANext](#) for Test Window 2.
- **Resources**
 - [Non-Test Instructions for Test Coordinators](#)
 - [Non-Test Instructions for Students](#)
 - [Taking the ACT PDF](#)

NAEP 2021

- **New: 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 administration window is the last full week of each month through June (March 22-26, April 19-23, May 24-28, and June 21-25).
 - 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.

- **Student and Teacher Questionnaire**

- The NAEP 2021 School and Teacher Questionnaire will be open in MyNAEP for principals and teachers from selected schools beginning soon; the date has not yet been announced. A principal may assign the questionnaire to another school administrator. Questionnaires must be completed by **March 26**.
- All states are awaiting official approval from the OMB to start this questionnaire.
- Results will be released in the fall of 2021 and include state and national-level data dependent on participation.
- For questions or additional information, please contact Rebecca Frederick at 225-963-8197 or email rebecca.frederick@la.gov.

Assessment Administration Support and Training Office Hours

The next Assessment and Accountability office hours will be on **March 9 at 3:45 p.m.** A password will now be required for office hours. Webinar details are listed below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** March 9 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!

Tuition Donation Credit Program News

Frequently Asked Questions and Contact Information

Information about the Tuition Donation Credit Program can be found in the [Frequently Asked Questions and Scholarship Programs Comparison Chart](#). Currently, Louisiana has four School Tuition Organizations participating in the Tuition Donation Credit Program: ACE Scholarships Louisiana, Arete Scholars Louisiana, Aspiring Scholars, and Son of a Saint. Schools interested in participating in the TDC program should communicate directly with one or more School Tuition Organizations.

<u>School Tuition Organization</u>	<u>Regional Focus</u>	<u>STO Website</u>	<u>Email</u>	<u>Phone</u>
<u>ACE Scholarships Louisiana</u>	<u>Statewide</u>	www.acescholarships.org	TDR@acescholarships.org	<u>504-491-1813</u>
<u>Arete Scholars Louisiana</u>	<u>Statewide</u>	www.aretescholars.org	maryhw@aretescholars.org	<u>225-245-3610</u>
<u>Aspiring Scholars</u>	<u>New Orleans Archdiocese</u>	https://aspiringscholarsla.org/	info@aspiringscholarsla.org	<u>504-513-4140</u>
<u>Son of a Saint</u>	<u>Orleans</u>	www.sonofasaint.org	hello@sonofasaint.org	<u>504-561-7508</u>

School Choice Program for Students with Exceptionalities News

SCP Transfer Window Open

Students wishing to transfer SCP awards from one school to another participating school for the 2020 school year can complete the [SCP transfer form](#). The form must also be signed by a representative of the receiving school. Applications are now available for the 2021-2022 school year. **The deadline for all applications is March 15.**

Please send the completed form to nonpublicschools@la.gov.

Reminders

- [Operations Reminders](#)
- [Career and College Readiness Reminders](#)
 - [Nutrition Support Reminders](#)
- [Legislative Affairs, Policy, and Workforce Support Reminders](#)
 - [Healthy Communities Reminders](#)
- [Teaching and Learning Reminders](#)
 - [Educator Development Reminders](#)

Operations Reminders

Virtual Instruction Lessons Learned Report

The LDOE recently partnered with Westat to conduct focus groups with stakeholders across the state about lessons learned from virtual instruction. This feedback from students, educators, and family can help inform future decisions.

Access the Department's [Virtual Instruction Lessons Learned Report](#).

Please contact LDOEcommunications@la.gov with questions.

ESSER II Funding Guidance FAQ

LDOE created an [ESSER II Funding Guidance FAQ](#) that contains the most frequently asked questions and answers related to ESSER II funds. School systems should continue to submit specific questions to LDOE.grantshelpdesk@la.gov.

More information about these funds can be found in the [Fact Sheet](#) released by ED.

Next Steps

The Department will host a launch for school systems and release guidance when ESSER II funds are loaded into eGMS, providing school systems with pertinent information for creating their budgets in alignment with the priorities and focus areas outlined in [Believe to Achieve: Louisiana's Educational Priorities](#). The launch will take place on **March 30**. Save the date!

More information about connecting expenses to these priorities will be provided in the coming weeks.

LDOE will continue to provide updates to our school systems as new information becomes available. Please look for this information in the [weekly newsletter](#), [Monthly System Leader Call](#), and [Monthly Federal Support and Grantee Relations Call](#).

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

High Cost Services Round 1 Allocations

Allocations for Round 1 of the High Cost Services (HCS) grant are now visible in eGMS. School systems that have been approved through the application process should now create budgets 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. The Department will review budget amendments for eligibility and allowability as they are submitted.

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

2021 Spring Homeless Liaison Training

The Spring Homeless Liaison Webinar will be held on **March 9 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** During this webinar, information will be provided to acclimate new homeless liaisons to their positions, address unaccompanied youth and FAFSA concerns, share COVID-related challenges/strategies, and share updates on the statewide parent and family engagement initiative as well as EDLink. Webinar details and an agenda outline are listed below.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** March 9 at 9 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/94614138222>
- **Meeting ID#:** 946 1413 8222
- **Dial-In Number:** 312-626-6799

Time	Topic
9-10 a.m.	McKinney Vento 101 (<i>new liaisons only</i>)
10-10:10 a.m.	Break
10:10-11 a.m.	Unaccompanied Youth and FAFSA
11-11:10 a.m.	Break
11:10 a.m.-12 p.m.	COVID Panel Discussion
12-12:30 p.m.	Lunch
12:30-1:15 p.m.	Introduction to LDOE Statewide Parent and Family Engagement Initiative
1:15-2 p.m.	EDLink Implementation

Please contact antiqua.hunter@la.gov with questions.

Nutrition Support Reminders

Outstanding School Support Employee (OSSE) Awards Program

The Outstanding School Support Employee (OSSE) Awards Program is accepting [applications](#) through April 9. For more information on the OSSE Awards Program, please visit the [OSSE Webpage Submission](#) document.

Please contact childnutritionprograms@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness Reminders

AP Exam Update Webinar

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

The Department is hosting a webinar on [Advanced Placement Exam Updates](#) on **March 3 at 11 a.m.** This webinar will discuss the new administration dates for AP Exams, along with the technical requirements for offering the digital version of AP exams.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** March 3 at 11 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97379365051>
- **Meeting ID#:** 973 7936 5051
- **Passcode:** 164438
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 470-381-2552

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

Legislative Affairs, Policy, and Workforce Support Reminders

Healthy Communities Reminders

Simple Strategies to Support Whole Child Health Training

The Department, in partnership with LDH-Well Ahead and Alliance for Healthier Generation, is hosting a Simple Strategies to Support Whole Child Health Training on February 25 from 12-1 p.m. This virtual training will teach attendees simple strategies to support children's social-emotional and physical health in out-of-school time (i.e. afterschool programs and summer camps). The training will also explore resources to engage staff, students, and families, whether in-person or virtually. [Register](#) to attend.

Please contact stephen.guccione@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning Reminders

Educator Development Reminders

Louisiana Aspiring Principal Fellowship

In an effort to support the development of school leaders across the state, the Department will be launching a pilot cohort for aspiring principals. The Aspiring Principal Fellowship will prepare individuals that already possess their EDL1 certification with the critical knowledge and skills needed to serve in the principal role. This selective statewide fellowship is rooted in Louisiana's five priorities:

1. Ensure every student is on track to a professional career, college degree, or service
2. Remove barriers and create equitable, inclusive learning experiences for all children
3. Provide the highest quality teaching and learning environment
4. Develop and retain a diverse, highly effective educator workforce
5. Cultivate high-impact systems, structures, and partnerships

APF cohort participants will meet monthly (Orientation at Teacher Leader Summit, commencing monthly in October) and explore best practices with regional experts, school visits, theory, and reflection. Participants will exit this 12-day fellowship with a robust leadership portfolio, the guidance of Louisiana's most successful principals, individualized coaching, and a strong network of lifelong colleagues.

The 2021-2022 pilot cohort will be selected accordingly and represent a cross-section of aspiring leaders throughout the state. Applicants must hold a current EDL1 certification in Louisiana. School systems need to cover the costs of the \$2500 tuition for presenters and materials, as well as travel costs. Interested candidates should complete the [Aspiring Principal Fellowship Application](#) no later than **March 31**.

For more information, please attend or invite potential candidates to attend the following informational webinar:

- **Webinar Date and Time:** March 8 at 3:30 pm
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98559739337>
- **Meeting ID#:** 985 5973 9337
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 470-250-9358

Please contact louisianaleaders@la.gov with questions.

Educator Development Office Hours

As a reminder, the office of Educator Development offers monthly office hour calls. This month's call on February 23 will be an opportunity for school systems to bring any questions they may have around programs and initiatives supported by the Educator Development team such as:

- Aspiring Principal Cohort
- Pre-Educator Pathway
- Teacher Leader Summit
- Mentor and Content Leaders

School systems can utilize this [survey](#) to submit specific topics to examine more closely during upcoming monthly calls.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Teacher Leader Summit (In-person)

[Registration](#) for the in-person Teacher Leader Summit is underway. The early bird ticket window closed on March 1.

- Purchasing an early bird ticket offered reduced pricing and first access to session scheduling.
- The session schedule and app will be released to early bird ticket holders on April 7.

The regular registration window will run from March 2-April 12.

- Purchasing an early bird ticket offers reduced pricing and first access to session scheduling.
- All access codes turn off on April 13 preventing further registration.
- The session schedule and app will be released to regular ticket holders on April 9.

New this year, upon successful registration, educators have the opportunity to download graphics to share across their social media platforms to celebrate attending the 2021 Teacher Leader Summit. The graphics can be found in the “*I’m Going Passes*” section of the [Summit Materials page](#). Be sure to use the #LATeacherLeaders in social posts.

More information regarding the in-person Teacher Leader Summit can be found in the [Overview](#).

Please contact LDOEvents@la.gov with questions.

Teacher Leader Summit: The Virtual Series

To maximize the delivery of content and educator development, The Teacher Leader Summit: The Virtual Series will take place from June 1-11, and sessions will be accessed remotely. The format will be similar to the Virtual Series offered during spring 2020.

- There will be a max overall registration limit of 8,000.
- The Department is not allocating seats. Registration will be on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Paid ticket holders of the Teacher Leader Summit in-person event will receive an access code allowing them to register for and participate in the Virtual Series at no additional cost.
 - Each code will be one-time use and must be used only by the original ticket holder. Codes are not transferable.

Registration for the Teacher Leader Summit: The Virtual Series will open in April. Tickets are inclusive of all days of the event. The [Content Delivery Plan](#) outlines which content will be presented virtually in comparison to the content being delivered in-person.

Ticket Type	Purchasing Window	Ticket Price
Early Bird Registration	April 1-25	\$50.00
Regular Registration	April 26-sell out	\$65.00

The session schedule and app for the Virtual Series will be released to early bird ticket holders on May 10 and May 12 for regular registrants.

Please contact LDOEvents@la.gov with questions.