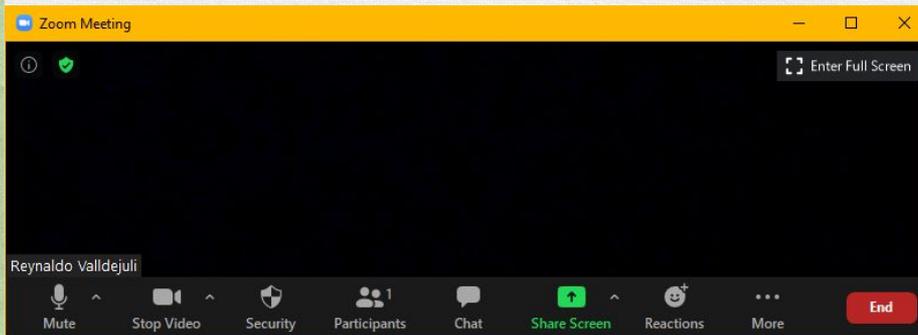


Zoom Meeting Preparation

- Please make sure your phone or computer is muted to minimize background noise.
 - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Mute.”
- Please make sure you have turned off your camera to save bandwidth and prevent any connectivity issues.
 - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Stop Video.”
- Please submit questions during the presentation in the “Chat” function located on the bottom of your screen.



NOTICE: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance at this meeting please contact Idoecommunications@la.gov.

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



**Office of Career and College
Readiness Office Hours
March 25, 2021**

Office Hours Norms

Participants may submit questions **via the online chat feature**.

Submitting questions via the chat allows CCR the opportunity to not only answer your question while on the call but to also add your question and the answer to our publicly disseminated FAQ document(s).

This will be time for participants to ask questions about any program in the 4 work streams of the Office of Career and College Readiness. Those items are listed in the agenda.

Career and College Readiness

PATHWAY INITIATIVES AND READINESS SUPPORT

- School Reopening Updates, Advanced Coursework: AP, Dual Enrollment, IB and CLEP Testing

FOUNDATIONAL SKILLS

- Freshmen Academies, Transitional 9th Grade, Counselor Institutes, Professional School Counselor liaison, Individual Graduation Plan, High School Planning Guides, Counselor Newsletter, Pupil Progression Plans, Direct Student Services

QUALITY DIPLOMAS

- Jump Start, Jump Start Convention, Jump Start Summers, Super Summer Institute, CTTIE, Career Development Fund, Quest for Success, Supplemental Course Academy, U.S. Presidential Scholar

POST-SECONDARY READINESS

- Fast Forward, Extension Academy, Diploma Orders, Community Service Diploma Endorsement, April Dunn Jump Start Pathways, Financial Aid Planning, Gifted and Talented Programming, Student of the Year, U.S. Senate Youth Program, Credit Recovery, Course Codes, Proficiency Exams, Transcripts

Pathway Initiatives and Readiness Support



Updated LDH Guidance: Physical Distancing in Schools

Based upon the Center for Disease Control's (CDC) updated [K-12 school guidance](#), which reflects the [latest science](#) on physical distance between students in classrooms, Louisiana Department of Health now recommends that, **with universal masking**, students should maintain a distance of at least 3 feet in classroom settings. Setting specific guidance includes the following:

- In elementary schools, CDC recommends all students remain at least 3 feet apart in classrooms where mask use is universal — regardless of whether community transmission is low, moderate, substantial, or high.
- In middle and high schools, CDC also recommends students should be at least 3 feet apart in classrooms where mask use is universal and in communities where transmission is low, moderate, or substantial.
- Middle school students and high school students should be at least 6 feet apart in communities where transmission is high, if cohorting is not possible.

Updated LDH Guidance: Physical Distancing in Schools

- CDC continues to recommend at least 6 feet of distance:
 - Between adults in the school building and between adults and students.
 - In common areas, such as school lobbies and auditoriums.
 - When masks can't be worn, such as when eating.
 - During activities when increased exhalation occurs, such as singing, shouting, band practice, sports, or exercise. These activities should be moved outdoors or to large, well-ventilated spaces whenever possible.
 - In community settings outside of the classroom.
- For schools that use less than 6 feet between students in classrooms, [the definition of close contacts](#) should not change. Students sitting less than 6 feet next to another student or person diagnosed with COVID-19 for a total of 15 minutes or more should quarantine at home and be referred for testing.
- The Louisiana Department of Education has issued [guidance for school systems](#) to reference when making these changes.

Updated School Reopening Resources

[School Reopening Guidelines](#) have been updated with current CDC links to resources for school systems.

The [School Reopening FAQ document](#) has been updated to include information about vaccination availability and updated Phase 3 guidance surrounding events held on a K12 campus after the instructional day.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal has provided guidance for [in-person graduation ceremonies](#).

Graduation Ceremony Guidance



The Office of State Fire Marshal released [guidance for graduation ceremonies](#) on March 7. This guidance includes the following general revisions:

- Graduation events must be controlled by invitations, ticket sales, or by reservations.
- Seating areas shall be provided for all proposed attendees in an arrangement that provides for social distancing as outlined on the following slides. Patrons shall remain masked, seated and socially distanced and shall not congregate in groups outside of immediate household members.

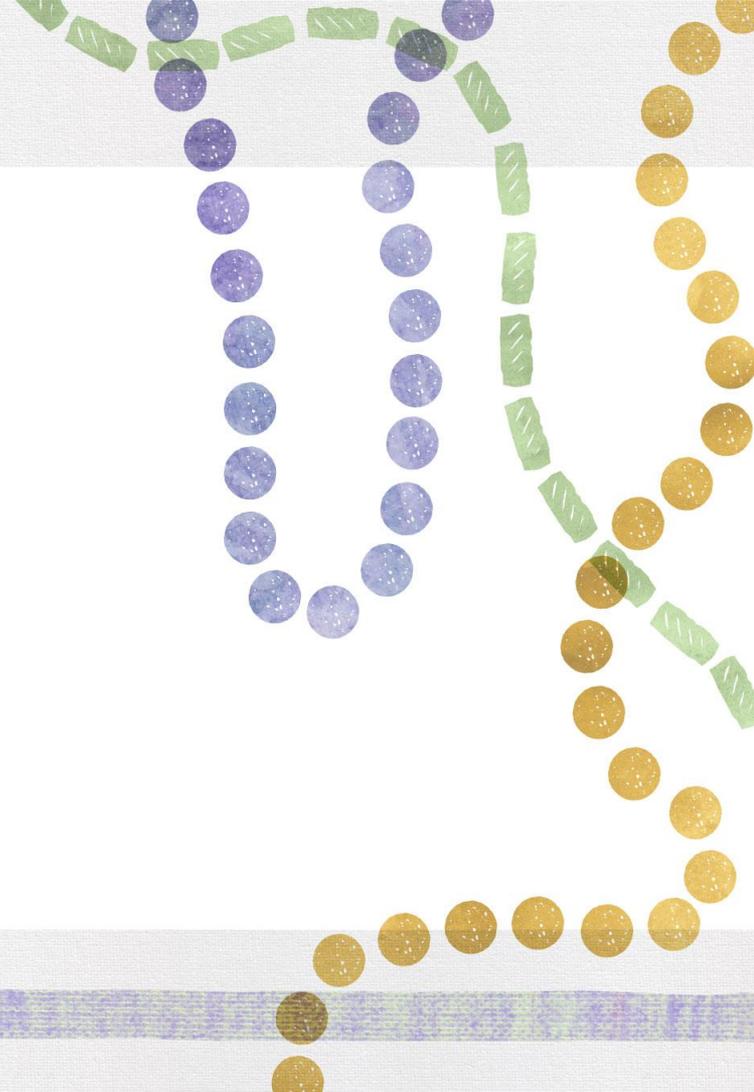
Believe to Achieve: Louisiana ACT[®] NOW

The [Louisiana ACT[®] NOW](#) program provides funding to purchase pre-billed ACT test vouchers for eligible students in grades 12 and 10. To receive reimbursement for vouchers, school systems shall submit a [completed application](#) that includes specific programmatic, physical and accountability assurances no later than **April 17**. Vouchers purchased from ACT must be used for one of three administrations as outlined below.

Test Date	Registration Deadline
April 17	March 12
June 12	May 7
July 17	June 18

The cost of vouchers for ACT without writing is \$55 per student, and there will be no refund for unused vouchers. Please contact meredith.mcGovern@la.gov with questions.

Postsecondary Readiness



Financial Aid Planning

The FAFSA is the form for state and federal financial aid for postsecondary endeavors. As a requirement of the IGP planning process throughout high school, every senior, as a requirement for graduation, must complete a FAFSA or have a waiver in place. We are currently ranked eighth nationally. If you would like your school's rate you can visit the LOSFA [Compete to Complete](#) site, contact us or ask your System Relations staff.

Any waivers issued for the Financial Aid Planning graduation requirement will be reviewed during the graduation cohort verification process and must be present for students to count in the cohort graduation rate.

For assistance with financial aid planning, please contact ldefinancialaid@la.gov.

2020-2021 High School Diplomas

2020-2021 High School Diploma orders will start arriving within the coming weeks.

Please be aware of the following:

- Once an order has been shipped, the diploma contact will receive an email from FedEx that includes a tracking number.
- Efforts have been made to ensure deliveries are not made during Spring Break.
- The Community Service, STEM and Biliteracy Seals have already been shipped.

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

Jump Start Construction Scholars Program

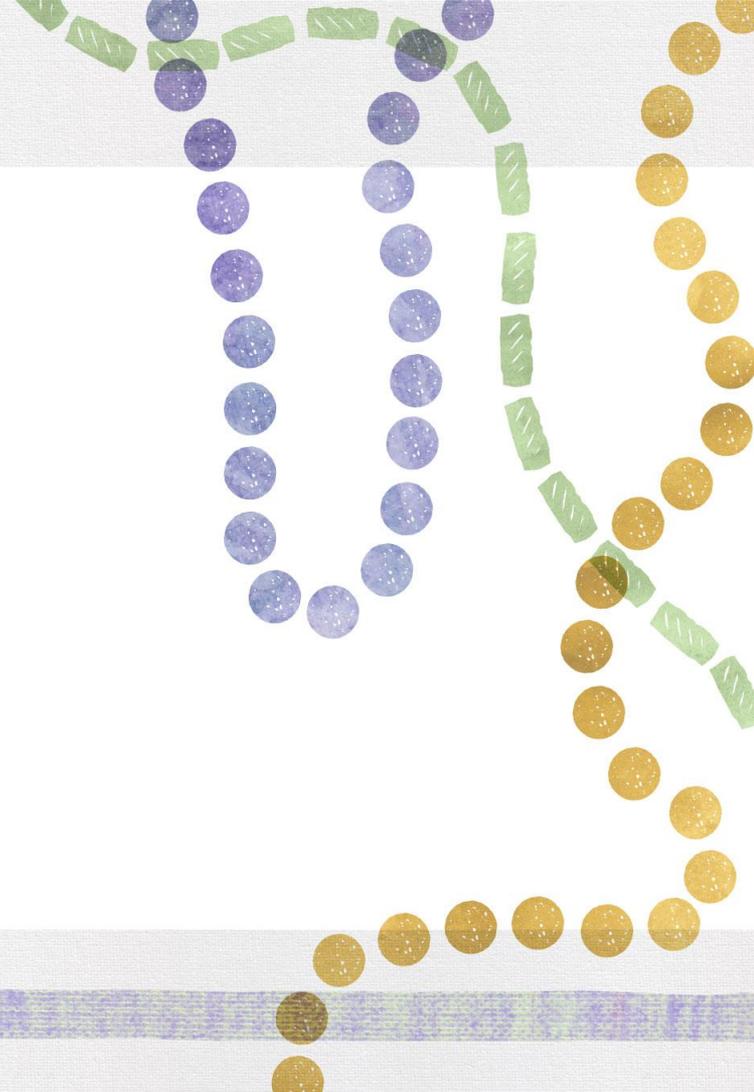
The Louisiana Construction Education Foundation, Louisiana's Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) and the Louisiana Department of Education are collecting [2020-2021 Jump Start Construction Connect Scholars Program Applications](#).

Scholarship Award

The Jump Start Construction Scholars program will provide up to 40 one-time scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each to students graduating from high school with a Jump Start Diploma and NCCER Credential planning to enroll in an LCTCS program or an Associated Builders and Contractors training program. The application deadline has been extended to April 12.

For more information, please contact megan.thompson2@la.gov.

Foundational Skills



Pupil Progression Plan Webinar

The 2021-2022 Pupil Progression Plan Webinar will address student placement, promotion, retention and specific policy decisions of the school system.

Webinar Date and Time	April 6 at 9 a.m.	April 13 at 9 a.m.
Webinar Link	https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93454423348	https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97684188992
Webinar Phone Number	470-381-2552	470-250-9358
Meeting ID	934 5442 3348	976 8418 8992

For more information, please contact ppp@la.gov.

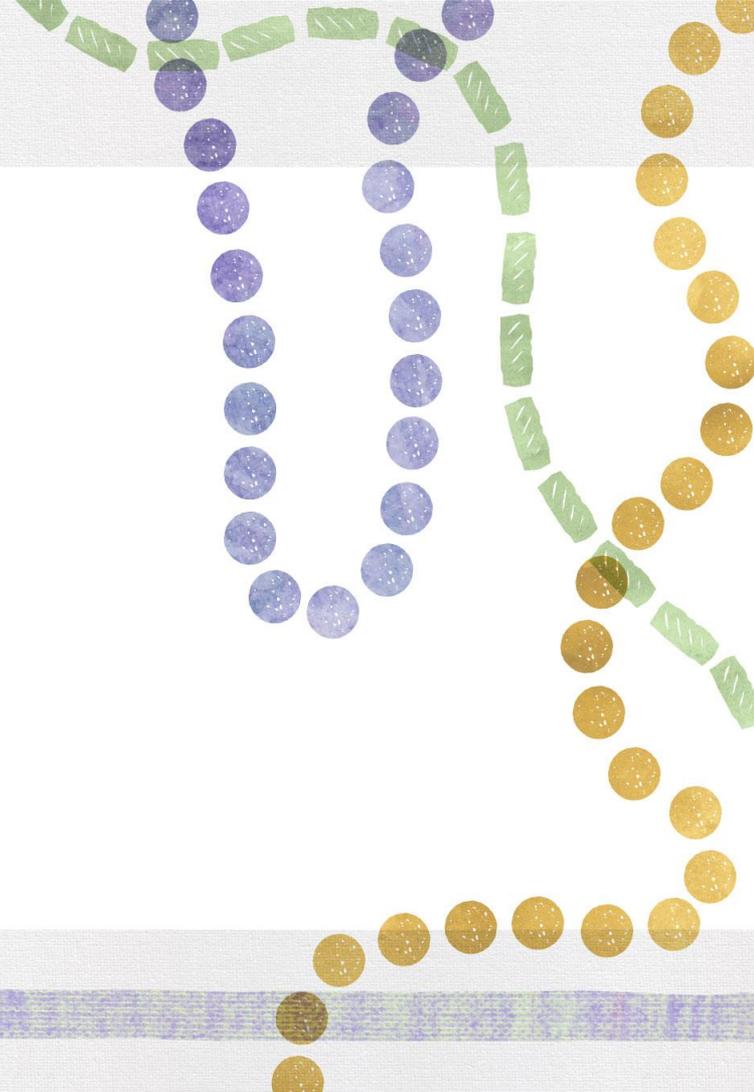
Individual Graduation Planning (IGP) Webinar

The 2021 IGP Webinar will provide school counselors with an overview of the IGP process and new Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC) resources.

Webinar Date and Time	March 31 at 9 a.m.	April 7 at 9 a.m.
Webinar Link	https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95873761113	https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98761399712
Webinar Phone Number	312-626-6799	312-626-6799
Meeting ID#	958 7376 1113	987 6139 9712

Please email leslie.gilliland@la.gov for support.

Quality Diplomas



Super Summer Institute

The dynamic [2021 Jump Start Super Summer Institute Catalogue](#) provides a list of professional development and training opportunities available this summer. This list will be released in next week's newsletter. It is not comprehensive and will continue to be updated as additional training options are confirmed. Schools systems can submit training opportunities and/or training requests to jumpstart@la.gov for review.

Registration costs are paid directly to the provider. Carl Perkins and Career Development Funds are eligible funding sources for registration.

Please email jumpstart@la.gov for more information.

Office Hours Schedule Update

There will be *no* Career and College Readiness Office hours next week.

We will return to office hours on Thursday, April 8.

Moderated Question and Answer

Please submit any questions related to the following in the chat box:

PATHWAY INITIATIVES AND READINESS SUPPORT

- School Reopening Updates, Advanced Coursework: AP, Dual Enrollment, IB and CLEP Testing

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Helpful Information

Schedules, access links and information for the Department's webinars can be found in the [LDOE Weekly Newsletter](#) and [2020-2021 School System Support Calendar](#).

Please reach out to the following contacts with questions:



highschoolacademics@la.gov	General questions about the office and about graduation requirements
ldefinancialaid@la.gov	Questions related to the financial aid policy or for assistance with FAFSA completion
SCA@la.gov	Questions related to Supplemental Course Academy/Course Choice
jumpstart@la.gov	Questions related to Jump Start
PPP@la.gov	Questions related to pupil progression
collegereadiness@la.gov	Questions related to dual enrollment or Advanced Placement