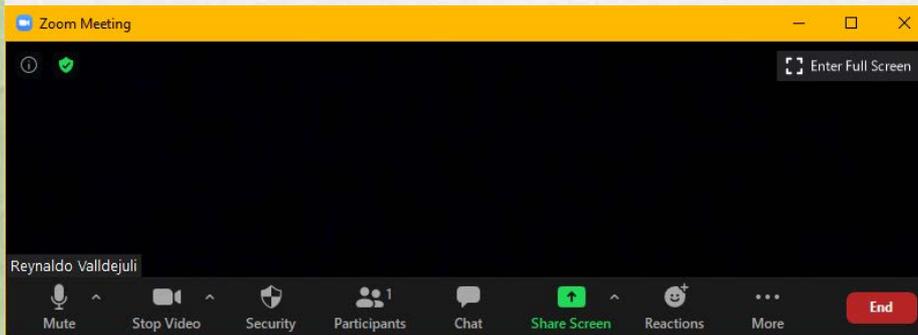


# Zoom Meeting Preparation

- 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](mailto:Idoecommunications@la.gov).**

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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## Special Education Leader Monthly Call

April 8, 2021

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# Agenda and Logistics

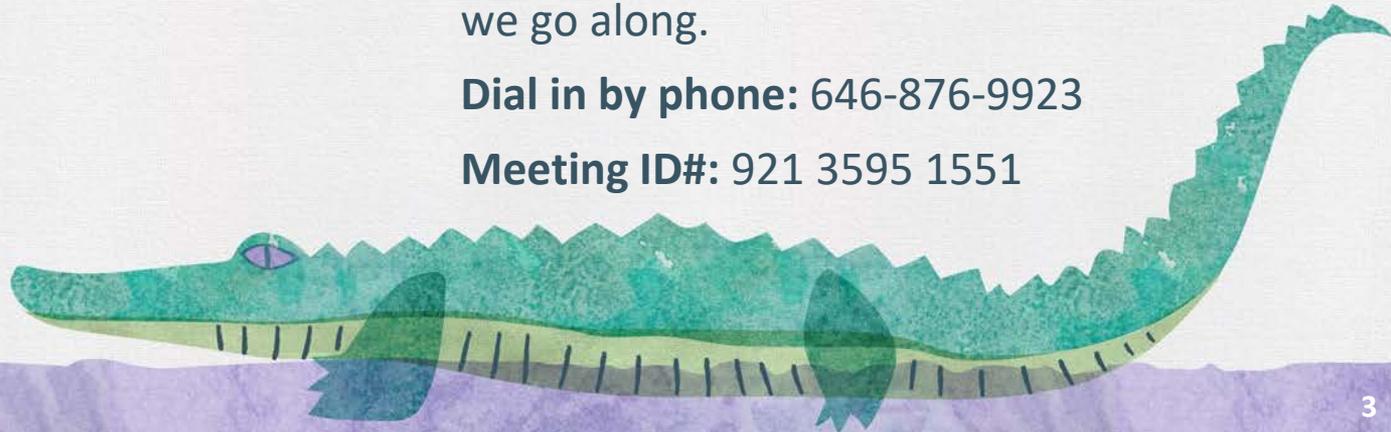
- I. School System Planning
- II. Graduation Pathways
- III. Teaching and Learning
- IV. Data Systems / SER Updates
- V. Measuring Results
- VI. Closeout

If you are experiencing audio difficulties, please make sure that your speakers are on and that your volume is at a suitable level.

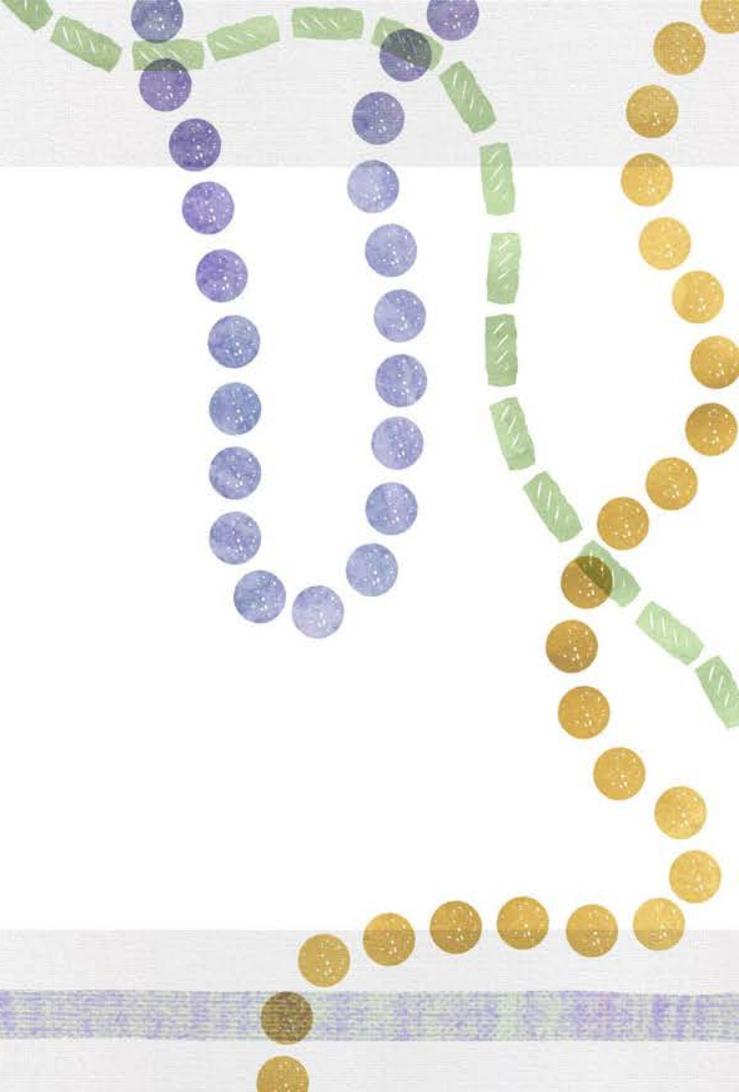
The call will be in the listen only mode to ensure we get through the information. Please type questions into the chat box as we go along.

**Dial in by phone:** 646-876-9923

**Meeting ID#:** 921 3595 1551



# School System Planning



# 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.

# Super App Update

Date	Action
Mid-March	School systems revise Super App
Late March	Competitive allocations final determinations
April 9	School system plans receive approval and funding notifications
April 15	Super App funding webinar
April 20	BESE considers proposed allocations

# IDEA Grant Application Timeline

Timeline	Activity
February 2, 2021	Public <a href="#">survey</a> open on SY21-22 IDEA funding priorities
January - March 2021	Development of application
February - April 2021	Stakeholder discussions
March 2021	Draft application posted
March 24, 2021	SEAP meeting and 30-day public comment period opens
April - May 2021	Final revisions to application
May 7, 2021	Grant application finalized and submitted to OSEP

\*Draft application and public comment forms will be available on the [special education funding page](#).

# High Cost Services (HCS) Grant Update

Level 1 and Level 2 reviews of the High Cost Services Grant Update will be completed by the end of April. In May, final reviews and applications will be sent to the budget office. By the beginning of June, allocations will be loaded into the application, and school systems will be able to create their budget amendments by mid-June.

Please reach out to [ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov) with any questions.

# SPED Fellow Academy Information Sessions



[SPED Fellow Academy](#) is a year-long, comprehensive development program for novice special education leaders (administrators) across the state. SPED Fellow will instill the knowledge and skills the next generation of special education leaders need to lead and sustain change to improve outcomes for students with disabilities. The second cohort of SPED Fellow will run in 2021-2022. This program is free for accepted participants.

The Department held informational sessions in March, and the application will open on **April 12**. More information can be found on the [SPED Fellow Academy web page](#).

Please contact [rachel.brown@la.gov](mailto:rachel.brown@la.gov) with questions.

# Staffing and Scheduling

The [Staffing and Scheduling Best Practices Guidance](#) and kick-off webinar were released last month. This guidance provides systems and school leaders:

- best practices,
- staffing and scheduling models,
- cautions and tips for implementation,
- and information on ongoing implementation support available.

# Staffing and Scheduling

As part of the release of the [Staffing and Scheduling Best Practices](#) initiative, school systems will be offered a variety of implementation supports this spring, summer, and fall at no cost. A detailed list of supports is located in the guidance [document](#). System leaders and school leaders that oversee academics, human resources, diverse learners, principal support, and counseling should attend these upcoming trainings.

Date and Time	Session and Registration Link
May 5 at 1 p.m.	<a href="#">Staffing and Scheduling Best Practices Webinar</a>
May 11 at 11 a.m.	<a href="#">Job Alike Session: District Academic Leadership</a>
May 11 at 1 p.m.	<a href="#">Job Alike Session: Diverse Learners Leadership</a>
May 12 at 11 a.m.	<a href="#">Job Alike Session: Counselors and Counselor Leadership</a>
May 12 at 1 p.m.	<a href="#">Spring Job Alike Session: School Leadership</a>

# Staffing and Scheduling

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 **May 4**.

Please contact [em.cooper@la.gov](mailto:em.cooper@la.gov) with questions.

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)
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)

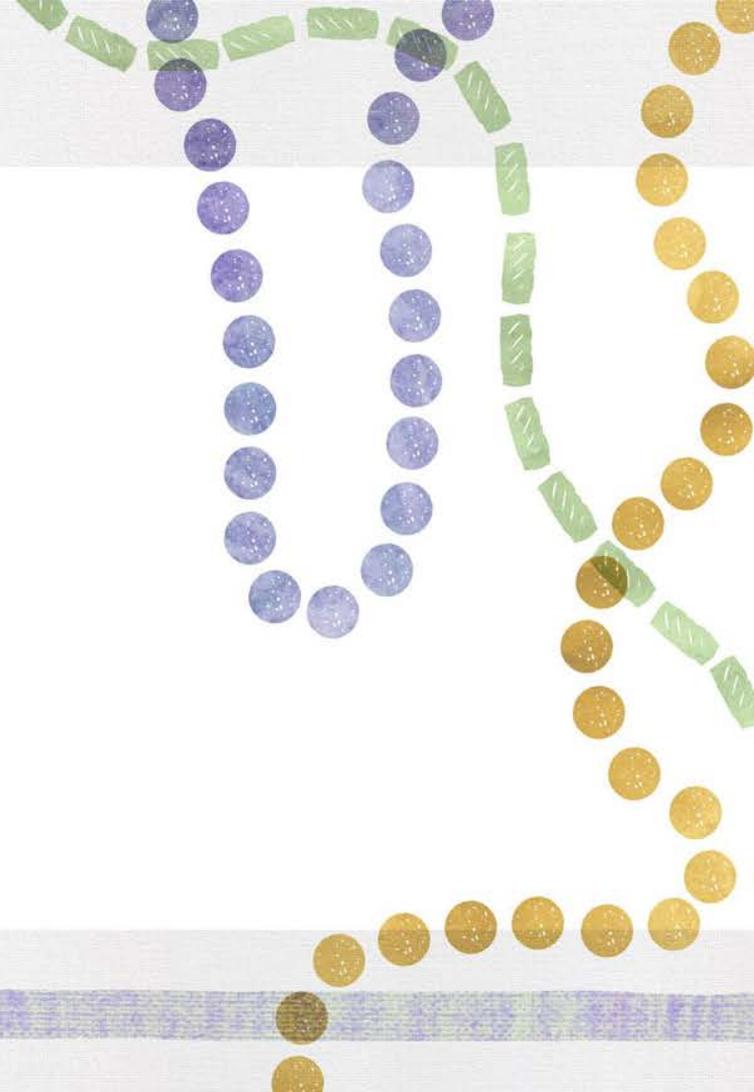
# Assessment Development Educator Review Committees

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.

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. General education teachers, special education teachers, teachers of English Learners, school and school system supervisors, and school administrators are all encouraged to apply. **Deadline to apply is May 9.**

# Graduation Pathways



# Believe to Achieve: Louisiana ACT<sup>®</sup>NOW

The [Louisiana ACT<sup>®</sup> 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](mailto:meredith.mcgovern@la.gov) with questions.

# Regulatory Flexibility Guidance: Graduating Seniors

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) has granted [additional opportunities for high school seniors to meet the LEAP 2025 and Career Diploma IBC credentialing requirement.](#)

The aforementioned opportunities are available to high school seniors who meet the following qualifications:

1. Met all other graduation requirements
2. Attempted all LEAP 2025 assessments at least one time
3. Were enrolled during the spring 2021 semester and are graduating by August 31, 2021

# Regulatory Flexibility Guidance: Graduating Seniors

All high school seniors who meet the qualifications have the option to substitute the following in lieu of the LEAP 2025 high school assessment requirement and/or Career Diploma credential requirement:

## LEAP 2025 Substitution Opportunities

1. An ACT composite score of 17 or higher for all students; or
2. An ACT subject score of 17 or higher in the corresponding LEAP 2025 high school assessment; or
3. A score of Silver or better on ACT WorkKeys for students pursuing a Career Diploma; or
4. The student participates in 20 or more extended learning hours per LEAP 2025 high school assessment subject pair for which the student has yet to achieve level 2 (approaching basic/fair) or above, with such instruction provided by a qualified teacher. A template will be provided to school systems to document the extended learning hours and the level of achievement.
  - a. School systems will determine the number of extended learning hours needed (**minimum 20**) and the assessment method used to determine whether or not the student is performing at the equivalent of Approaching Basic.
  - b. Qualified teacher is defined as holding a valid and current teaching certification or a final COMPASS evaluation of Effective: Emerging or better.

# Regulatory Flexibility Guidance: Graduating Seniors

All high school seniors who meet the qualifications have the option to substitute the following in lieu of the LEAP 2025 high school assessment requirement and/or Career Diploma credential requirement:

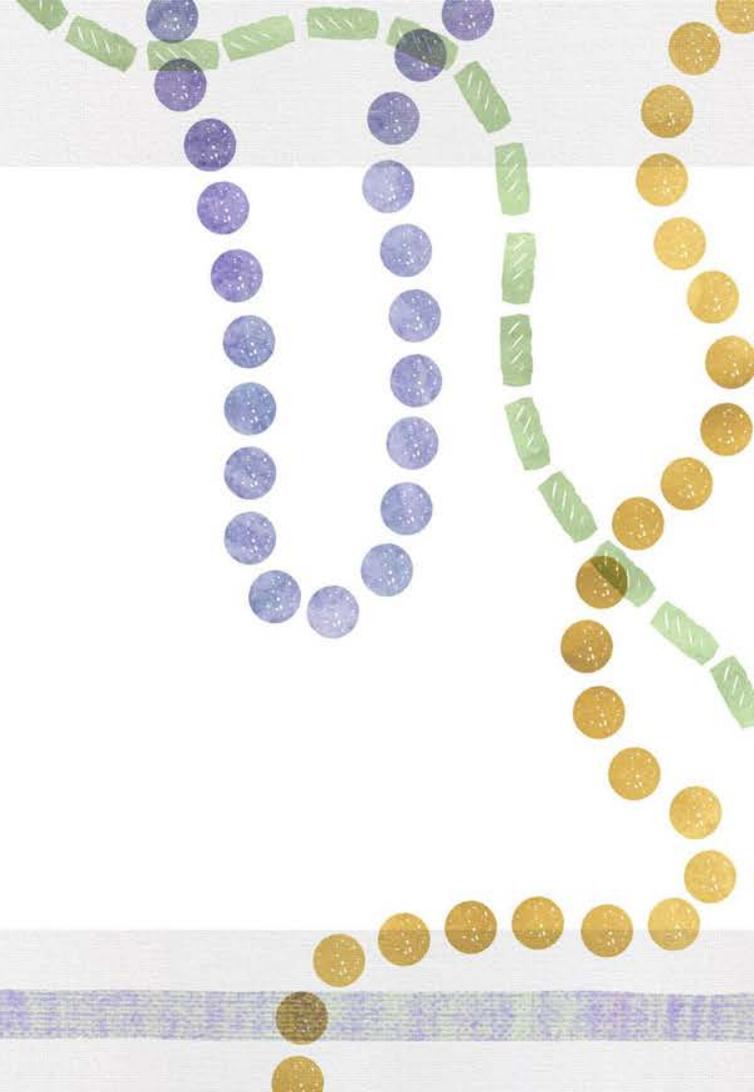
## Career Diploma IBC Credentialing Requirement Substitution

- WorkKeys Silver and above can also substitute for an IBC credential for the purpose of meeting graduation requirements for Career Diploma students.

A FAQ document will be forthcoming to provide more details on inputting the updated waiver into STS and answer additional questions surrounding the policy.

Please contact [highschoolacademics@la.gov](mailto:highschoolacademics@la.gov) with questions.

# Teaching and Learning



# LDH COVID-19 Family Stress & Resilience Survey

The Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Public Health, Bureau of Family Health seeks to better understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on people living in Louisiana.

- The purpose of this survey is to understand the challenges Louisiana families with young children are facing and learn about resiliency within families.
- The feedback from families will guide an internal review of resources and services that families are accessing to ensure families' needs and mental health needs are being met.

Survey link: <https://laredcap.oph.dhh.la.gov/surveys/?s=MKNJMKT9E4>

# Teacher Leader Summit

Registration for the in-person Teacher Leader Summit is underway.

- The session schedule and app was released to early bird ticket holders on April 7.
- The session schedule and app will be released to regular ticket holders on April 9.

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

- All access codes turn off on April 13 preventing further registration.

There will be no onsite registration this year. The Department may open a first come, first served registration after April 13 for any unused seats.

Please contact [LDOEvents@la.gov](mailto: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 limitation 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.

Please contact [LDOEvents@la.gov](mailto:LDOEvents@la.gov) with questions.

# Teacher Leader Summit: The Virtual Series

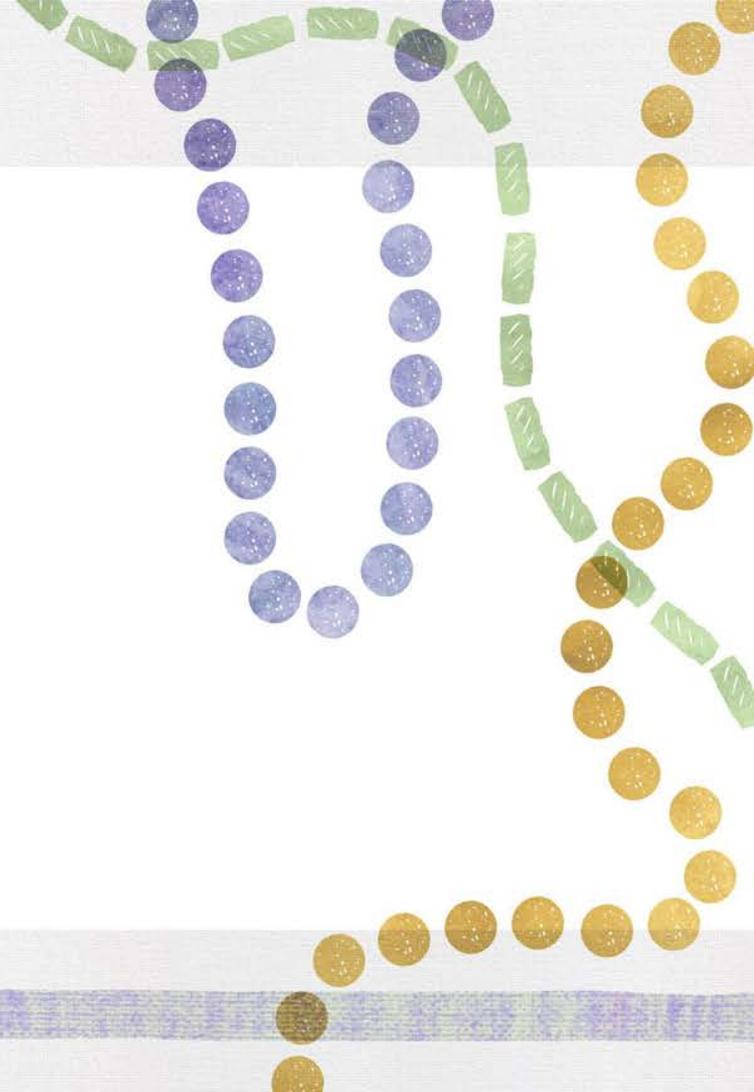
Registration for the Teacher Leader Summit: The Virtual Series will open in April. Tickets are inclusive of all days of the event.

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 will be released to early bird ticket holders on May 10 and May 12 for regular registrants.

Please contact [LDOEvents@la.gov](mailto:LDOEvents@la.gov) with questions.

# SER/Data Systems



# 2020-2021 End-Of-Year Collection for Special Education Reporting (SER) System

Collection Name	Application System – What Data is Collected	Deadline
EOY	<b>Reports to run and verify:</b> Reevaluation Management Roster for 2020-21, Developmental Delay Turning 9, IEP/Services Plan Management Roster, Purge Report	<b>Open: April 23, 2021</b>
	<b>Reports to run and verify:</b> SER/SIS Exit Cross Check, Disciplinary Removals-Summary, Disciplinary Removals-Detail (Out of School Expulsions-No, Out of School Expulsions-Yes), Part C Transition Compliance	<b>Open: April 30, 2021</b>



# 2020-2021 End-Of-Year Collection for Special Education Reporting (SER) System

## Re-Eval and IEP/Service Plan management reports

- Run your Re-Eval and IEP/Service Plan management reports for 2020-21 for a list of students with evaluations due for the rest of the year.
- Also run the reports for the upcoming school year to identify evaluations due in the summer or the start of the school year.
- Reports are available under the Rosters folder on the Reports tab.

## Purge report

- Run the report to identify students who will be purged due to their records being 5 years or older. These students will be marked inactive after the purge.
- The purge report is available under the General Reports folder.



# 2020-2021 End-Of-Year Collection for Special Education Reporting (SER) System (contd)

## Developmental Delay Turning 9 report

- For any students classified as Developmental Delay and are turning 9 this year, you can run the report for this school year and next school year.
- DD students must be re-evaluated by their 9th birthday.
- This report is available under the Rosters tab.



# 2020-2021 End-Of-Year Collection for Special Education Reporting (SER) System

## SER/SIS Exit Cross Check Report

- Count date as of June 30th
- Exits reported for students 14 and older
- Compares only certain exits from SER
  - **HS diploma**
  - **Moved out of State/Known to be Continuing**
  - **Certificates of Achievement, LHSD**
  - **Death**
- SER exit reason must be comparable to SIS exit reason

## Part C Transition Compliance Report

- Run the Part C Transition report found under the Compliance folder.
- The IEP is developed and implemented by the third birthday.
- The Department will check compliance at the end of the school year.

# Reevaluation Pilot Partnership

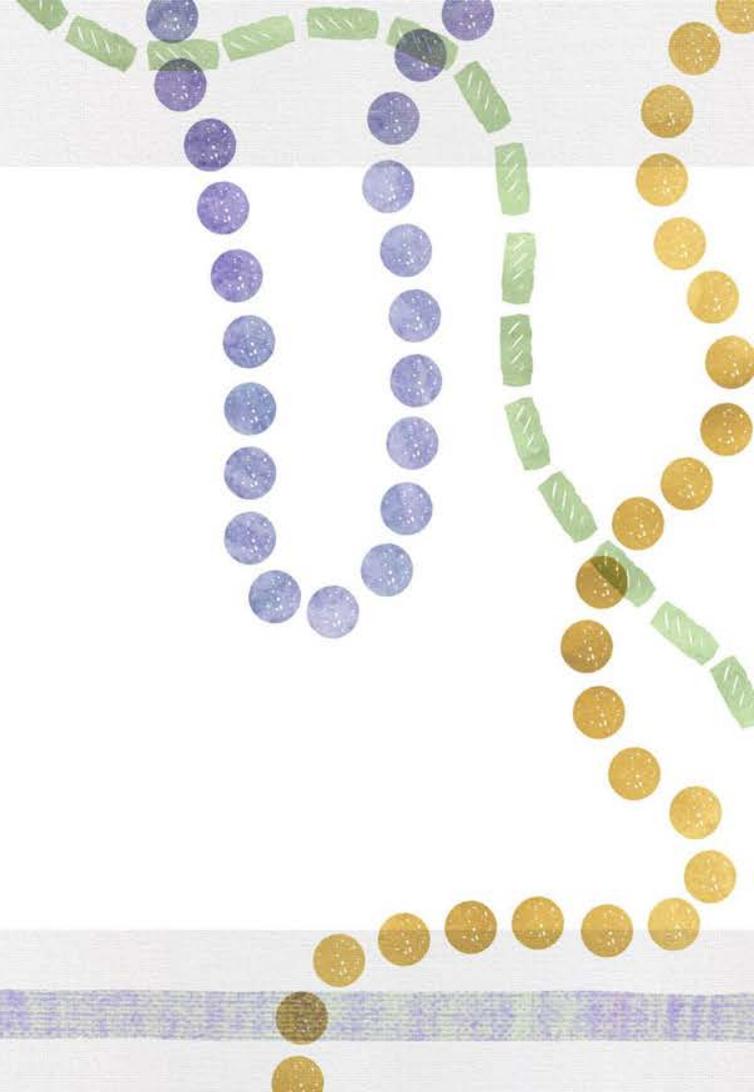
Key Actions	Dates
Development of Reeval Pilot Tab	Spring/Summer 2020
10 Phase 1 Partners Participate in Pilot	September 2020 - January 2021
14 Additional Partners Join in Phase 2, Pilot Continues	February - May 2021
Informational Webinars and Office Hours	March - April 2021
Presentation and Guidance Release at Teacher Leader Summit	May 2021
Additional Webinars, Office Hours, Guidance, Support	Summer 2021
Whole State Implementation	Begins SY 2021-2022

# Reevaluation Pilot Informational Webinar

The Department hosted an informational webinar on reevaluation and waiver changes in SER and office hours in the past month. Pupil Appraisal staff, special education coordinators and directors, data coordinators, SER managers, SER clerks, and any other staff who work with reevaluation and waiver processes in SER should be aware of these upcoming changes.

The [slides](#) and [recording](#) of the webinar are posted in the Students with Disabilities library on the Louisiana Believes website.

# Measuring Results



# SPP / APR Parent Involvement Survey

Each year, the Department surveys parents on their perception of the quality of their child's education and the quality of their relationship with their child's school. Below is a timeline of this year's parent survey.

<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Milestone</b>
March 2021	LDOE sends survey information to school systems for distribution
March - June 2021	Survey window open
Summer 2021	LDOE analyzes results
Fall 2021	LDOE reports outcomes to school systems
February 2022	Outcomes reported in the Annual Performance Report

# SPP / APR Parent Involvement Survey

Allen Parish	East Carroll Parish	East Feliciana Parish	Jefferson Parish	Orleans Parish	Pointe Coupee Parish	Rapides Parish
Sabine Parish	St. Landry Parish	Vernon Parish	Webster Parish	West Carroll Parish	International School of LA	Avoyelles Public Charter
Educators for Quality Alternatives	ReNEW Schools	Success Preparatory Academy	Akili Academy	Iberville Charter Academy	LA Key Academy	Ben Franklin HS
Edna Karr HS	Eleanor McMain Secondary	Robert Russa Moton Charter	Lake Forest Elem Charter	Rosenwald Collegiate Academy	IDEA Public Schools	

# SPP / APR Parent Involvement Survey

The survey is located on the Special Education Parent Involvement Survey page and is now available in Spanish, Vietnamese, and Arabic.

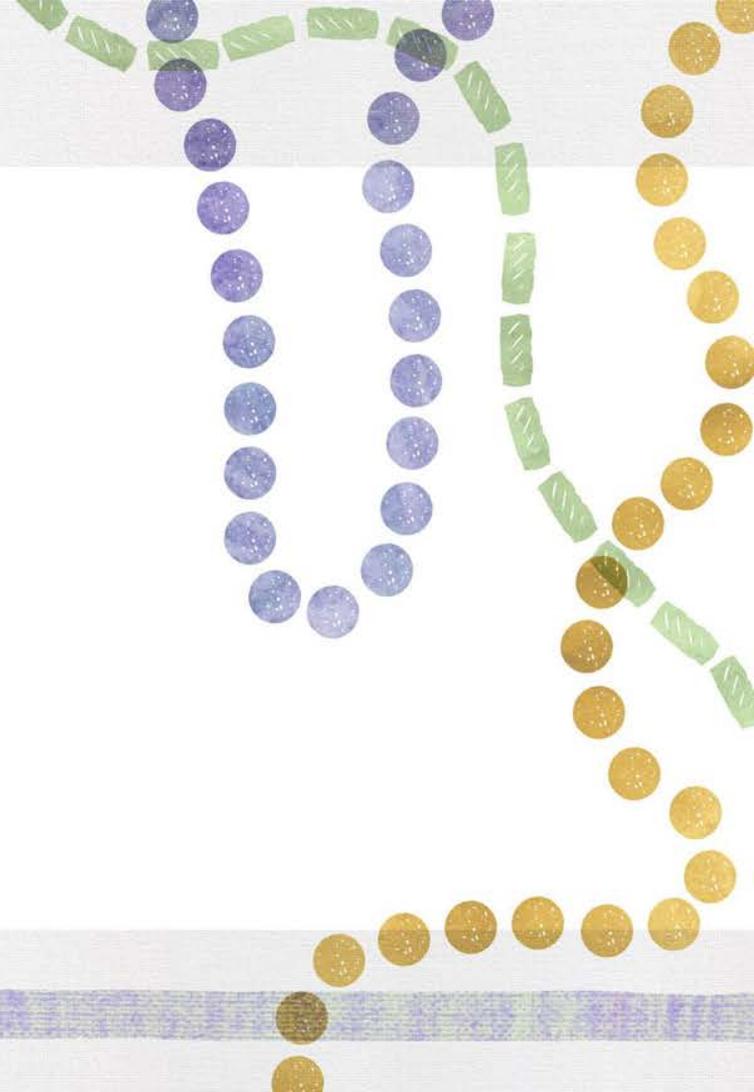
## WELCOME TO THE LOUISIANA SPECIAL EDUCATION PARENT INVOLVEMENT SURVEY

Each year we survey parents of children with disabilities who receive special education services. The purpose of the survey is to seek feedback on how well schools help to involve parents in the education of their children. This feedback will help guide efforts to improve services and results for children with disabilities and enhance family involvement.

If you received a letter about this survey from your school with a code to enter 3 digits and 5 digits, you can [access the survey here](#).

- Complete the parent survey in [Spanish](#), [Vietnamese](#), or [Arabic](#).

**Closeout**



# Call Summary

Month	Key Deadlines	Resources
<b>April</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Apply for the SPED Fellow Academy after the application opens on <b>April 12</b>.</li><li>● Register for in-person Teacher Leader Summit before <b>April 12</b>.</li><li>● Register for virtual Teacher Leader Summit before <b>April 25</b> to receive early bird discount.</li></ul>	
<b>May</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Apply for the Assessment Development Educator Review Committees by <b>May 9</b></li></ul>	May 13 <a href="#">SPED Leader Webinar</a>