

# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## PREPARATION PROVIDER MONTHLY EMAIL

Dear Believe and Prepare Community,

Released last month, the annual [snapshot](#) of Louisiana's 2021-2022 educator workforce showed upward trends that directly aligned to our vision of recruiting and retaining a highly effective and diverse workforce. These positive results stem from the hardwork and commitment to improving our workforce of our many stakeholders.

This past year, we saw:

- The percentage of teachers of color increase by two percentage points.
- The percentage of certified teachers increase by two percentage points.
- The average teacher salary increase over \$1200.
- The retention rate increase by two percentage points and the first year teacher retention rate increase by five percentage points.

These are the early signs that the efforts of our school systems and preparation programs are paying off, and our comprehensive recruitment and retention strategy is in fact working.

As we continue to implement this robust strategy, it is expected to see additional upward movement in these numbers over the next few years. I look forward to sharing more about the data and progress on our plan during our monthly call.

**Em Cooper, Deputy Assistant Superintendent of Educator Development**

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**February 28:** Preparation provider [monthly call](#)

**March 17:** Educators Rising state [conference](#)

### **IMPORTANT DEADLINES**

**March 3:** Educators Rising State Conference [registration](#) deadline

**March 3:** Teacher Leader Summit presenter [applications](#) due

**March 3:** Education Expo [applications](#) due

**March 9:** Early Bird [registration](#) for Teacher Leader Summit closes

### **NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **Preparation Provider Monthly Webinar**

Please join the monthly webinar on Tuesday, February 28.

**Webinar Details:**

- Webinar Date and Time: Tuesday, February 28 from 10-11 a.m.
- Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/440246097>
- Webinar Phone Number: 646-876-9923
- Meeting ID#: 440 246 097

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

## **Teacher Leader Summit Registration, Presenter, and Expo Applications Now Open**

[Teacher Leader Summit registration](#) opened February 3 and is available on a first come, first served basis. The Teacher Leader Summit is an annual professional development conference which brings together Louisiana birth to grade 12 educators and content experts. Educators participating in the event will share their knowledge, learn new skills, and prepare for the 2023-2024 school year.

This year's Teacher Leader Summit will focus on our ability to accelerate for success, every single day. The Teacher Leader Summit will take place from **May 30 - June 1** at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (NOENMCC).

In years past many teacher preparation faculty have applied to present at Teacher Leader Summit. We strongly encourage you to share this opportunity with your faculty. Presenter [applications](#) are available and are due **March 3**.

Many preparation programs have also found it helpful to take part in the Education Expo. The Education Expo is designed to connect Louisiana educators with high-quality professional learning partners and non-profit organizations outside of scheduled sessions for Q&A opportunities, relationship building, and the sharing of best practices. To participate in the Education Expo, all Exhibitors must apply. With limited booth spaces available, it is important to submit the [application](#) for review by **March 3**.

Please contact [events@emergentmethod.com](mailto:events@emergentmethod.com) with questions.

## **Registered Apprenticeship in Teaching**

In November 2021, the U.S. Department of Labor approved the "K-12 teacher" occupation as eligible for a registered apprenticeship. A Registered Apprenticeship is an industry-driven, high-quality career pathway where states and school districts can develop and prepare their future workforce, and individuals can obtain paid work experience and receive progressive wage increases, rigorous and relevant classroom instruction, and a portable, nationally-recognized credential.

The Department will serve as the **sponsor for the entire state** and will seek a registered apprenticeship that is **competency based** using the current [Louisiana Teacher Preparation Competencies](#).

Ultimately, the registered apprenticeship allows for access to potential funding sources to help make a Grow Your Own program expand and be financially sustainable. Once Louisiana has approval from the federal government, LDOE will work with school systems and teacher preparation programs to register their programs through LDOE for an apprenticeship. Funds can be pursued at the federal, state, or local level via the U.S. Department of Labor, a state's department of labor, regional workforce boards and American Job Centers once this is done.

By having a registered teaching apprenticeship in the state of Louisiana, we will be able to attract more candidates into the teaching profession, strengthening our pipeline of educators in Louisiana.

Additional information about the registered apprenticeship in teaching will be shared on the Department's

monthly calls and newsletters.

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

## **2023 Educators Rising Louisiana State Conference**

University of Louisiana at Lafayette will host students from middle schools, high schools, and colleges for the 2023 Educators Rising Louisiana State Conference. The conference will be held on **Friday, March 17, 2023 from 8:15 am-3:00 pm** at the UL Lafayette Student Union. [Click here for a video showcasing some of last year's conference highlights!](#)

Events of the day will include keynote speakers, lunch in the union dining hall, exhibitors, optional competitions, and breakout sessions with panels, presentations, posters, and interactive sessions for aspiring educators and those who support them. In addition, we will have some St. Patrick's Day themed fun, so be sure to stick around until the end!

**Conference Registration - Deadline March 3:** Thanks to generous support from the Pugh Family Foundation and the UL Lafayette Office of Admissions and Recruitment, we were able to keep the cost at only \$15 for students and sponsors! One sponsor from each school gets free attendance. Lunch and t-shirts are included in the registration cost. You can pay via credit card or purchase order. To register middle and high school students, please have the following information ready: Name, date of birth, email, intended college major, and t-shirt size. Click here to register for the conference: [Conference Registration Form](#).

**Competition Registration - Deadline March 3:** Another way to share your ideas to ensure the future of education is golden is to register for Ed Rising competitions! Students may choose to compete in up to two of five competitions. Click [here](#) for descriptions and full rubrics. If you should place in the top ten, you will need to be active-level members of the Educators Rising national organization as of February 15 in order to compete at the national conference in June. Click here to register for competitions: [Competition Registration Form](#)

### **Contact Us**

Please email [edrising@louisiana.edu](mailto:edrising@louisiana.edu) if you have questions or need assistance with presentation proposals or competition registration. We look forward to seeing you at the 2023 Educators Rising State Conference on March 17, 2023!

## **Teacher Leader Lagniappe**

LDOE's podcast, [Teacher Leader Lagniappe](#) provides *a little something extra* for educators to stay inspired, motivated, and connected in the work with students.

Educators can [submit pictures and stories](#) of the great work happening in their system to be highlighted on the podcast. Subscribe through [Apple](#) Podcasts, Google Play, [Spotify](#), or other apps.

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

## **Certification**

**Resident Certificates.** We have seen a recent increase in the number of denials for the initial Level

certificate(s), for educators holding a Resident (R), as the area(s) on the R and Level are not in alignment, in accordance with Bulletin 746 and Bulletin 996. Please ensure that when a resident changes his/her program area that certification is also updated.

**Processing Updates.** The Certification Office has been requiring a self-evaluation be included with specific applications for approximately a year. As a professional courtesy during this time, the first line review has requested any applications missing these items be sent via email during the initial review.

As of **February 1**, the first line review **no longer** requests these via email. If the self-evaluation checklists **are not included** when reviewed by a specialist, it will be considered an item **missing**. Therefore, it could result in additional fees if not included initially. This would be applicable to any initial applications requesting additional certification areas.

**Program Completers/Initial Licenses.** In 2022, both Bulletin 996, *Standards for Approval of Teacher and/or Educational Leader Preparation Programs*, and Bulletin 746, Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel, were updated regarding the issuance of initial certification. The updates aligned the two policies.

Updated requirements include that educators:

- Obtain a pre-service **certificate** while being prepared, either a Resident (R) or Practitioners License (PL)
- Are **mentored** as part of the pre-service preparation
- Comply with requirements for certification for both **in-state** and **out-of-state** residencies

Practitioner candidates are required to be mentored during their **first** year on a PL, thus also requiring mentoring to renew the PL. The waiver regarding any of the above requirements ended on June 30, 2022. There is **no new** requirement, but we wanted to remind preparation providers of the requirements because we are still seeing applications come through without having met these requirements. For the waiver to be applicable, the candidate must have completed the program by June 30, 2022.

If an initial completer will not be teaching in Louisiana after completing a program, non-practicing status can be requested on the initial application.

## **Certification Monthly Call**

The Certification Office has a monthly call devoted solely to certification. It will generally fall on the third **Monday** of each month at **10:30 a.m.** Any changes due to BESE meetings or holidays will be included on the [school system support calendar](#).

### **Certification Monthly Call details:**

**Webinar link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97801045748?pwd=N1JobWIDU1gvNnNYQk40Wjl3YmpxUT09>

**Meeting ID:** 978 0104 5748

**Passcode:** 959091

If you have any questions, please contact [Christy.Bellue@la.gov](mailto:Christy.Bellue@la.gov).

## **TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM APPROVAL**

### **2022-2023 Program Approval Applications**

Teacher, early childhood ancillary certificate program, educational leader proposals for initial approval, and mentor and content leader training proposals are accepted and considered by BESE twice per year. A panel of reviewers will evaluate proposals that meet all initial submission requirements to ensure they meet policy requirements. Additionally, the [Preparation Library](#) has program approval resources, including notices of intent and application rubrics. Programs submitting applications for review should use these materials to ensure their applications align with policy requirements.

Preparation providers seeking approval to offer new programs must first submit a [Notice of Intent](#) (NOI). The deadlines to submit notices of intent and applications are highlighted in the chart below. Note that providers may submit NOIs after the deadline. Applications must be received by the below deadlines in order for them to be reviewed during the below review cycles.

| Application Portal Opens By | Notice of Intent Submitted By | Application Submission Deadline | Evaluation Period       | Notification of Evaluation Results | BESE Considers (if recommended for approval) |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| 09/01/2022                  | 10/01/2022                    | 12/09/2022                      | 12/19/2022 – 02/17/2023 | 03/09/2023                         | 04/19/2023                                   |
| 05/01/2023                  | 06/01/2023                    | 07/10/2023                      | 07/17/2023 – 08/01/2023 | 9/12/2023                          | 10/11/2023                                   |

If you have any questions, please contact [emily.smiley@la.gov](mailto:emily.smiley@la.gov).