



LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
**PREPARATION PROVIDER  
MONTHLY EMAIL**

Dear Believe and Prepare Community,

Happy new year!

One of our state priorities is to remove barriers and create equitable, inclusive learning experiences for all children. I want you and your teams to be abreast of the ways we have been supporting school systems in this work. The first thing that was important to us was to clearly articulate three instructional best practices for diverse learners and provide robust supports for building capacity for all educators. I will share more with you about this work on our monthly call.

1. Focus on core instruction.

This practice is centered on the belief that the vast majority of students with mild to moderate disabilities and English Learners should be attending core classes and should be learning alongside their typically-developing peers and with their English-speaking peers. Inclusive core instruction matters most. This time must be viewed as sacred, and it is necessary to avoid pull-out services happening during core instruction time.

2. Extra time to learn.

Adding extra time to learn to core instruction results in mastery of content. What teachers do during intervention matters. This is a dedicated time where current material is accelerated, aligning to current grade level instruction. Students are grouped by similar need, and planning for this time is a collaborative process between the special education teacher and content teacher.

3. Content strong teachers.

Content strong teachers are much more effective in accelerating learning. Students who need the most support should receive it from the strongest teachers.

Thank you for preparing our future educators, not just our special education teachers, for a classroom of unique learners where they will be champions of high expectations for students with disabilities and English Learners.

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

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**January 25:** Preparation Provider [monthly call](#)

**January 26:** Pre-Educator Pathway site visit: Monroe City Schools

## **IMPORTANT DEADLINES**

**January 27:** Ed Rising State Conference [proposal](#) deadline

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

## **NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Preparation Provider Monthly Webinar**

Please join the monthly webinar on Wednesday, January 25.

#### **Webinar Details:**

- Webinar Date and Time: Wednesday, January 25 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.

### **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!

**Presentation Proposals - Deadline January 27:** The conference theme is "The Future is Golden!" We invite aspiring and current educators, counselors, and leaders in middle school, high school, college, and district/state departments to submit proposals for conference presentations, interactive workshops, panels, and/or a poster showcase. Proposals can be submitted in collaboration with others. All proposals should be submitted by January 27, 2023. Click here to submit a conference presentation proposal: [Proposal Submission Form](#)

**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!

## **Cyber-Security Education Management Council (CEMC)**

The [Cybersecurity Education Management Council](#) is tasked with promoting degree and certificate programs in cybersecurity fields offered by public postsecondary education institutions in order to meet the state's workforce needs.

R.S. 17:3138.9 Established the Louisiana Cybersecurity Talent Initiative Fund, created within the state treasury as a special fund for the purpose of funding degree and certificate programs in cybersecurity fields. This also created the Cybersecurity Education Management Council, comprising representatives of the Louisiana Board of Regents, Louisiana higher education institutions, the Louisiana Department of Education, the Louisiana Workforce Commission, Louisiana Economic Development, and members appointed by the Governor to advise and make recommendations to the Board with respect to

distributions of monies for the expansion of cybersecurity programs.

If there are any post-secondary schools looking to create Cybersecurity programs or expand programs that currently exist please check out this funding opportunity.

Please contact [Bonnie.Chelette@la.gov](mailto:Bonnie.Chelette@la.gov) with any questions.

## **Louisiana Literacy Foundations Training**

This series of professional learning modules will be designed to improve educators' understanding of foundational literacy instruction grounded in the science of reading. Series content developers will work with the project director to develop literacy modules.

**Who should apply?** Louisiana higher education faculty who teach English Language Arts methods courses and have a deep knowledge of the science of reading and key components of literacy development. Compensation will be paid upon completion of modules.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact [louisianaliteracy@la.gov](mailto:louisianaliteracy@la.gov) for an application.

## **HB 136: Dyslexia Course Requirements**

[Act 607](#) of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session amended R.S. 17:7.2 to require that teacher preparation programs include no less than three credit hours on teaching students with dyslexia. This applies to students who enter a teacher education program during the 2024-2025 school year and thereafter.

Preparation programs cannot exceed the 120-hour program requirement; and the dyslexia course has to fit into the required hours of the program. Programs have the discretion on how that happens; it could be replacing a course, revising a course, or adding a course. As long as all of the [competencies](#) are being included in the program's courses and the dyslexia course is included, a program would be meeting requirements.

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

## **Pre-Educator Pathway Site-Visits**

Pre-Educator Pathway Teacher Preparation leads are invited to attend a Learning Visit for a day of on-site learning and community building. During Learning Visits, leads will observe Grow Your Own work that is being done in a school system and strategize to improve Grow Your Own efforts in their community.

Two visits will be hosted in Spring 2023.

- January 26: Monroe City Schools
- March 9: Calcasieu Parish Schools

A limited number of spots are available for each visit. Those interested must [register](#) to attend.

Email questions to [toriano.hayward@la.gov](mailto:toriano.hayward@la.gov).

## **Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway Guidance Released**

A compilation of guidance and resources for school systems and preparation partners developing access to the Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway and other Grow Your Own strategies has been released. The Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway Guidance is intended to guide and assist Louisiana school system and preparation partners in the development and expansion of Grow Your Own strategies through the Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway. The guide aims to serve as a centralized hub for effective strategies and resources for developing Pre-Educator coursework and experiences in K-12 schools or systems.

The Guidance along with other previously released resources can be found in the [Pre-Educator Pathway Resource Library](#).

Contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov) with questions related to the Louisiana Pre-Educator Pathway.

## **Teacher Leader Lagniappe: New Episode Released**

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

### **Season 2, Episode 10: Louisiana is on the Rise with Superintendent Brumley**

By popular demand, Dr. Brumley is back to chat with us again about Louisiana's State priorities, assessments, and the 2022 NAEP results. Em Cooper is also super excited to smile about Northshore Charter School, Hurst Middle School, George Washington Carver High, DeSoto, Point Coupee, and West Feliciana Parishes for their speedy implementation of literacy resources.

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 Reminders**

**Program Completers/Initial Licenses.** Earlier this year, 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.

**Provisional Admittance/Pre-Practitioner's License.** At October BESE, policy was adopted to allow for GPA flexibility for candidates with **less than a 2.20 GPA**. This policy allows for **provisional** admittance into a teacher preparation program and creates a **temporary, non-standard** certificate (pre-practitioner's license) for teacher candidates **without** the required GPA.

The policy is an **interim** solution until such time the law is amended. The policy was adopted as

emergency rule, meaning it is effective now, and the **policy end date** is at the end of the next legislative session.

For program providers, provisional admission requirements include:

- possess a **non-education baccalaureate degree** from a university accredited in accordance with 34 CFR 602;
- **pass** the required **content examinations**. If no examination has been adopted for Louisiana in the certification area, candidates must present a minimum of **30 semester** hours of **coursework** specific to the **content** area
- satisfactory **completion a personal interview** by the program admissions officer;
- if the program awards credit hours, the applicant shall achieve a minimum grade point average (**GPA**) of **3.00** in alternate teacher preparation program courses by the **end of the first 12 credit hours** and successfully complete the program;
- if the program does not award credit hours, the applicant shall **demonstrate mastery of competencies** as required by the **program administrator and by the school system** in which the applicant completes required clinical practice;
- satisfactory completion all program requirements as set forth by BESE, including any requirements for clinical practice, at graduation;
- preparation provider **informs teacher** candidate of the **risk\*** of provisional enrollment; and
- provisional admittance rules **end** at the conclusion of the 2023 legislative session.

\*The risk is if the law is **not changed** during the next legislative session to allow for flexible GPA entry options, these candidates **may not be able to complete** the teacher preparation program, **nor will they be able to seek certification** in the state of Louisiana.

Pre-Practitioner's License requirements include:

- minimum of a **non-education baccalaureate degree**
- **2.20** or higher **undergraduate** GPA on a 4.00 scale; or be granted **conditional admittance** into an alternate teacher preparation program **following a satisfactory personal interview** by the program admission officer
- **passing scores on content area exam(s)**, or 30 semester hours of coursework specific to the content area
- The approved teacher preparation program provider shall submit the request for the pre-practitioner license directly to the LDOE.
- Teacher candidates **receiving mentoring** while on the pre-practitioner license by a certified mentor and completing all other certification requirements for issuance of the initial standard level teaching certificate **may** advance from the pre-practitioner license to the standard level teaching certificate.
- Teacher candidates **not receiving mentoring** while on the pre-practitioner license by a certified mentor **must** serve on the **practitioner license and be mentored** by a certified mentor for a year and meet all other certification requirements prior to advancing to the standard level teaching certificate.

**New Applications.** The Certification Office has updated all applications related to the recent legislation and policy changes. The new applications were posted and available on teachlouisiana.net on **September 15**. The new version of the application was **required**, effective **November 1**. In the revisions we tried to simplify the requests and will be processing based on the documentation submitted. Also available on our website on **November 1** was the Pre-PL application.

### **Certification Monthly Call**

The Certification Office has a monthly call devoted solely to certification. This call began in August. 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://doe.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).