

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

Dear Believe and Prepare community,

Below are important updates and events for the month of June. As always, please reach out with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,
Nicole Bono

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 30: Preparation Provider monthly webinar

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

June 30: Application deadline for October 2021 program approval

NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Preparation Provider Monthly Webinar

Please join the next monthly webinar on June 30, 2021.

Webinar Details:

- Webinar Date and Time: Wednesday, June 30 from 10:00-11:00 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 with questions.

Certification Updates

There are several upcoming legislative and policy changes. The Department plans to adjust some of the processing protocols to accommodate these changes. Some of those changes include, but are not limited to:

- Restructuring, reorganizing, and breaking apart and/or revamping certification applications
- Requiring all applications to be completed electronically
- Restructuring of fees
- Requiring Self-Evaluation checklist be included with applications
- Updating and increasing our customer service

- decrease processing time
- increase clarity in written feedback
- provide additional services

These changes will **begin** to go into effect on **August 1, 2021**.

The application reorganization changes include breaking apart the certification update application. It will be broken into three separate packets:

- Renewal/Higher/Status Change
- Evaluation/Add-on/Course Approval
- Certification/Exam Verification

Also as part of the processing protocol changes, processing fees will be re-bucketed. Even after rebucketing, certification processing fees will fall far below the SREB average certification processing fee (\$95) and the average professional fee for Louisiana (>\$105). Rebucketing will be as follows:

Certification Request Type:	Processing Fee
Initials of all types, extensions, renewals, higher certificates, evaluations, degrees, and additional certification areas	\$50
Ancillary MT/CL, MT/CL endorsement, Certification/Exam/Transcript verification, copies of certification, status change requests, *name change only, additional transactions on one application, teaching authorizations (CBC processing fee)	\$25
ECAC, WLC, and R certificates (name change*)	\$0

*Name changes will be free on all applications unless it is the only request.

We receive the bulk of our renewal applications over the summer (prior to August 1), so anyone renewing a certificate this summer will be under the “old/current” fee structure. The also applies to new graduates pursuing an initial certification during the summer.

Mentor Waiver

At the March BESE meeting, the Board approved an extension of the waiver of policy, contained in Bulletin 746, *Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel*, and Bulletin 996, *Standards for Approval of Teacher and/or Educational Leader Preparation Programs*, regarding the requirement that all undergraduate residents and post-baccalaureate candidates be placed with mentor teachers holding the ancillary mentor teacher certificate, the ancillary provisional mentor teacher certificate, or the Supervisor of Student Teaching certificate, for the 2021-2022 school year, with the contingencies listed below.

Mentor teacher waivers will be granted on a case-by-case basis through the application process established by the LDOE and at no fee to the applicant, school system, or teacher preparation provider. The waiver will be issued by the LDOE for educators highly recommended by the mentor’s principal and who possess one or more of the following qualifications:

1. Two years of Highly Effective Compass ratings;

2. National Board Certification;
3. Statewide or national distinction for excellence in teaching;
4. Experience as a TAP mentor, master teacher, executive master teacher, or certified TAP evaluator;
5. Content leader experience, as evidenced by participation in Content Leader training or redelivery of professional development; or
6. Master's or doctorate in education and exemplary experience hosting student teachers.

Further details around the application process will be provided this summer. Contact Believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

Mentor Credential Policy Updates

At the April 2021 BESE meeting, the board approved changes to Bulletin 746 regarding mentor credential requirements. These updates include:

1. Honoring Previous Training and Experience
 - a. EDL or previous administrative certifications
 - b. NIET trained evaluators
 - c. CLASS trained evaluators
 - d. Supervision of Student Teachers
2. Removing the Content-specific Assessments
3. Creating an Add-On Mentor Endorsement

Currently, these revisions will not begin the Notice of Intent process (advertised in the State Register) until June 20, 2021. The policy will go into effect **September 20, 2021**. Further details about the timeline for applying for the mentor credential under these new guidelines will be provided this summer.

Please reach out to believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

Mentor and Content Leader Training Providers

In October 2021, BESE will receive effectiveness data of each approved provider offering Mentor or Content Leader training. Effectiveness data will include Louisiana Mentor assessment series or Louisiana Content Leader assessment series passage rates and active training facilitator credentials.

The updated [process for data collection and verification](#) can be found in the Training Provider Section of the Mentor Teacher and Content Leader Library. As an update to this process, teacherleadertraining@la.gov should now be included with Bloomboard on all Enrollment form submissions.

Contact Believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

TEACHER PREPARATION QUALITY RATING SYSTEM

On-Site Reviews: 2021-2022

The first accountability cycle for the Louisiana Teacher Preparation Quality Rating System is 2020-2021 and 2021-2022. To ensure the Preparation Program Experience domain is measured using the same guidelines and format, the Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 onsite reviews will take place virtually. The teacher preparation providers that will engage in the upcoming reviews are included in the chart below.

Fall 2021	Spring 2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Louisiana Resource Center for Educators ● University of Louisiana at Monroe ● Nicholls State University ● University of Louisiana at Lafayette 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Centenary College of Louisiana ● Louisiana State University Shreveport ● McNeese State University ● Louisiana State University Alexandria ● University of Holy Cross ● Oxford Teaching Academy ● iteachLouisiana ● Louisiana State University Baton Rouge ● Louisiana Tech University

On March 26, 2021, Class Measures contacted the providers above to schedule their on-site reviews. If you haven't scheduled your on-site review, please contact Lydia.Hill@la.gov.

TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM APPROVAL

2021 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. Proposals that meet all initial submission requirements will be evaluated by a panel of reviewers to ensure proposals meet policy requirements.

Preparation providers seeking approval to offer new programs must first submit a [Notice of Intent](#) (NOI). The Department will send a link to the application following receipt of the 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.

Notice of Intent Submitted By	Application Submission Deadline	Evaluation Period	Notification of Evaluation Results	BESE Considers (if recommended for approval)
6/2/2021	6/30/2021	07/02/2021 - 08/19/2021	09/23/2021	10/13/2021

If you have any questions, please contact Lydia.Hill@la.gov.