

# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PREPARATION PROVIDER MONTHLY EMAIL

Dear Believe and Prepare community,

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

Sincerely,  
Nicole Bono

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**March 11:** Educators Rising [State Conference](#)

**March 30:** Preparation provider monthly [webinar](#)

## **IMPORTANT DEADLINES**

**April 15:** Teacher Leader Summit registration deadline

## **NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Preparation Provider Monthly Webinar**

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

#### **Webinar Details:**

- Webinar Date and Time: Wednesday, March 30 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.

### **Mentor Teacher Funding Increase for 2021-2022**

The Department has determined that Mentors supporting **year-long undergraduate residents** in the 2021-2022 school year will receive a \$1,800 stipend, instead of the usual \$1,000 stipend. Pending BESE approval in March, these funds will be added to school system allocations in eGMS.

This additional funding is for **one year only**, based on availability of funds. The Department expects in future years there will be an increase in the number of year-long undergraduate residents that will require that the Mentor stipend go back to the original \$1,000.

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

## **Training Provider Effectiveness Measures Pilot**

Based on your feedback and our hope to provide BESE with a more comprehensive view of Mentor and Content Leader training programs, we are developing tools that would create additional data points to be included in future training provider effectiveness reports. Currently these tools include **a participant survey, a district partner experience survey, and a training observation rubric**. This Spring, five providers have volunteered to participate in the piloting of these tools.

- A+PEL
- Great Minds
- Northwestern State University
- Southern University
- University of Holy Cross

Contact [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov) with questions.

## **Post- Baccalaureate Mentors**

Policy requires that alternate certification candidates in their first year on a Practitioner's License (PL) need to be mentored for five hours per week. School systems will verify this mentoring through an attestation form that is part of a candidate's application for a Level 1 certificate or renewal of a Practitioner License. Candidates without the mentoring will be unable to renew the PL or advance to the Level 1 certificate.

A list of [current first year PLs](#) was sent to school systems on **February 17**. Preparation providers may access this [list](#) using the link provided. The Department will send an updated list to school systems monthly.

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

## **Mentor Teachers**

In order to build a robust Mentor pool, the Department is encouraging school systems to utilize all options for Mentor certification. Below are a few suggestions shared with school systems to increase their Mentor pool.

1. Determine all educators in the system who are trained TAP evaluators.
2. Determine all educators in the system who are trained CLASS evaluators.
3. Determine all educators in the system who hold the EDL, EDL eligibility letter, or older supervisor credentials (elementary principal, etc.).
4. Identify outstanding educators in the system and support their completion of a Mentor training program.

[Apply](#) for the mentor credential for all of the above educators.

In addition, the Department is creating a list of credentialed Mentor teachers that will be shared with preparation providers in March 2022.

Reach out to [believeandprepare@la.gov](mailto:believeandprepare@la.gov) with questions.

## **Accountability Workgroup**

The Department reconvened the Teacher Preparation Quality Rating workgroup to discuss various adjustments and recommendations to the accountability system based on feedback and learnings from

the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 learning phase. Based on the workgroup's recommendations, the Department will request that BESE approve the following policy revisions and waiver.

- Given that the calculations for the 2020-2021 performance profiles will not include value-added data from the 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 renewal cycle, LDOE will request a performance profile public release waiver. However, if the waiver is granted, the Department will calculate the performance profiles and meet with each provider to discuss their results and recommendations this summer.
- Due to COVID-19 and the lack of individual value added data for teachers, adjust the date to make program renewal decisions from winter 2023 to winter 2025.
- To ensure programs have adequate time to implement recommendations and feedback from the onsite review process, shift all programs to a four-year accountability cycle. Additionally, programs with a performance profile rating below a level three during the biennial renewal periods will undergo progress monitoring. During the progress monitoring period, programs will develop improvement plans in partnership with the LDOE and engage in one or more interventions, including:
  - engaging in more frequent onsite reviews for one or more pathways
  - receiving low performing or at-risk labels
  - enacting improvement recommendations
  - limiting enrollment for certain pathways or programs
  - discontinuing the providers ability to recommend candidates for certification

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

### **Literacy Workgroup**

To ensure BESE policy requirements align with legislative requirements, the Department convened a Teacher Preparation Early Literacy workgroup consisting of teacher preparation providers, school system leaders, and literacy experts to clarify expectations relative to the coverage of research-based literacy instruction and foundational literacy skills. Based on the workgroup's recommendations, the Department will request that BESE approve the following reading and literacy requirements to ensure the required literacy courses and requirements, at minimum,

- develop and assess candidates' mastery of applicable literacy competencies, which are found in Part CXXXI, *Bulletin 746 Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel*.
- systematically and explicitly address the foundational literacy skills of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Each course shall, at minimum, integrate:
  - How to effectively teach the foundational literacy skills of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension;
  - How to administer literacy assessments and differentiate instruction for teaching students with advanced literacy skills and students with significant literacy deficiencies, including dyslexia;
  - How to implement effective literacy instruction using high-quality instructional materials;
  - Behavior management, trauma-informed principles and practices for the classroom, and other developmentally-appropriate supports to ensure that students can effectively access literacy instruction;
  - All five foundational literacy skills and include targeted instruction for each individual strand of reading;and
  - Evidence-based content and pedagogical knowledge in reading.

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

### **Teacher Leader Summit**

The [2022 Teacher Leader Summit](#) will be held **Tuesday, May 31 - Thursday, June 2**. The Department is celebrating both "Making a Comeback" and the 10th year for this event.

[Regular registration](#) will close on April 15 or at sellout. Tickets are available on a first come, first served basis.

Based on participant feedback, enhancements have been made to Teacher Leader Summit, including:

- An improved event app that allows networking with other attendees, Whova.
- Keynote speakers.
- Increased registration value by including t-shirts and tote bags in the ticket price.
- Networking opportunities throughout the event, including evening socials.
- Length of day adjusted to meet the needs of participants.

The Education Expo returns with high quality professional learning partners and non-profit organizations to connect with Louisiana educators outside of scheduled sessions for Q&A opportunities, relationship building, and the sharing of best practices.

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

### **Teacher Leader Lagniappe Podcast**

[Teacher Leader Lagniappe](#) offers a little something extra for Louisiana educators. As educators, we are leaders - leaders of our families, classrooms, schools, teams, and systems. Host Em Cooper shares inspiring stories from leaders in Louisiana and across the country. You'll hear from innovators, change agents, and experts that will empower you to grow in your profession. Educators can subscribe to the [podcast](#) and listen to the latest episode.

**Share Your Stories:** Educators can submit [pictures](#) of the great things happening in your school and system for our What's Making Me Smile segment.

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

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

The 2022 Educators Rising Louisiana State Conference will be held on **Friday, March 11** from 8:30-4:00 in the UL Lafayette Student Union. Hear from an outstanding line-up of keynote speakers and breakout sessions by excellent Louisiana educators and aspiring educators on why teaching is a powerful and prestigious career choice and how you can shape the future of education. There's power in teaching. Please join us as the next generation of educators in Louisiana is inspired.

[Click here](#) to find out more about how you can register to attend, register middle/high school/ or college students to attend or compete in exciting competitions, or submit a presentation proposal.

Please contact [aimee.barber@louisiana.edu](mailto:aimee.barber@louisiana.edu) with questions.

### **Southeastern University's Symposium and Shadow Day**

Southeastern Louisiana University's College of Education will be hosting its first Symposium and Shadow Day on **Wednesday, April 13, 2022**. We will start check-in at 9:00 am and will end the event after lunch. The itinerary for the day includes a keynote by First Lady Donna Edwards, a tour of the Teacher Education Center, several judged events (more info to come), and a visit to the center of campus to experience our traditional spring activity, Strawberry Jubilee. Hosted by the Campus Activities Board, the Jubilee promises food, fun, and games.

If you would like more information about participating in the COE Symposium and Shadow Day, please contact Amy Prats at [amy.prats@southeastern.edu](mailto:amy.prats@southeastern.edu).

## TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM APPROVAL

### **2021-2022 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. Additionally, the [Preparation Library](#) has program approval resources, including notices of intent and application rubrics. Programs submitting applications for review and 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 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.

<b>Application Portal Opens By</b>	<b>Notice of Intent Submitted By</b>	<b>Application Submission Deadline</b>	<b>Evaluation Period</b>	<b>Notification of Evaluation Results</b>	<b>BESE Considers (if recommended for approval)</b>
11/01/2021	12/13/2021	1/07/2022	01/10/2022 - 02/18/2022	03/11/2022	04/13/2022
05/01/2022	6/1/2022	6/30/2022	07/01/2022 - 08/19/2022	09/12/2022	10/12/2022

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