



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

Dear Believe and Prepare Community,

As the school year ends, summer planning begins. It is one of my favorite times of the year; we reflect on our goals, success, and opportunities to inform our year ahead. Over the past several years, we have intentionally communicated with our school systems actions they should start, stop, and continue doing in order to grow students and teachers.

- **Math:** Now that it's been several years since new standards and we have widespread implementation of high-quality materials and aligned professional learning, we are in the "now what" phase of the work. Knowing that supporting all students every day doesn't stop at access to high quality materials and professional learning, we must use evidence-based instructional practices that accelerate learning. This means educators must stop creating stagnant groups based off of large scale assessment data, and they must continue providing extra time for learning to all students.
- **Social Studies:** With new social studies standards, our educators should utilize the new course frameworks to prepare aligned lessons. Grade 4 and grade 5 teachers can start using Bayou Bridges, an open-source K-8 curriculum, and attending professional learning on implementation. This means teachers should stop using resources aligned to the 2011 standards.
- **Science:** Educators should continue engaging learners in investigating science and stop any practice that leads to instructional approaches not aligned with Louisiana Student Standards for Science such as pre-planned or "cookbook" hands-on investigations and labs in which the outcome is known.
- **ELA:** Students should continue engaging with complex texts, building content knowledge, and receiving explicit writing instruction in their ELA classrooms, and they should stop participating in activities that focus on superficial assessment formats such as part A and part B items.

We have seen a lot of progress and momentum in our vision for success, and there are a lot of opportunities this summer for systems leaders to refine implementation plans for next school year. Our system and school leaders are thinking about how these actions were evident or need to be more evident in their classrooms next year. They are planning how to build the capacity of their teams, so that powerful teaching leads to powerful learning.

We know that your candidates' experiences of these actions in schools and the connections they are making to their coursework are preparing them for making a strong impact in their first year in the classroom.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment to strengthen our educator workforce.

Em Cooper, Deputy Assistant Superintendent of Educator Development

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 15: Data verification [webinar](#)

May 15: Monthly [certification call](#)

May 18: Mentor and resident spring data reporting [webinar](#)

May 24: Preparation provider monthly [webinar](#)

May 30- June1: [Teacher Leader Summit](#)

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

May 19: Title II Institutional data deadline

May 19: Data Sharing Agreement addendum deadline

May 26: Deadline for graduating seniors to complete [NTE contact survey](#)

June 1: Deadline to submit NOI for program approval

NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Preparation Provider Monthly Webinar

Please join the monthly webinar on Wednesday, May 24. As a reminder we will not have a monthly webinar in June or July. We will pick back up with these calls in August.

Webinar Details:

- Webinar Date and Time: Wednesday, May 24 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 with questions.

Resident and Mentor Spring Data Reporting

The Department will be collecting Mentor and resident data in Edlink from school systems for those residents and practitioners who began their residency in spring 2023. An overview call will be held on **May 18** to provide further details to school systems and preparation programs about this data collection process.

Webinar Details:

- Webinar Date and Time: Thursday, May 18 from 10-11 a.m
- Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/3455048179>
- Webinar Phone Number: 470-381-2552
- Meeting ID#: 345 504 8179

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

Teacher Leader Summit

Plan before you geaux! Connect to the event app and plan your schedule.

The Teacher Leader Summit app opened on May 1. **Download the app** from the App Store (Apple) or Google Play. Sessions will fill up quickly so don't wait too long before you finalize your plans.

Step 1: Download the Cvent app.

- Cvent App – [App Store](#) (Apple)
- Cvent App – [Google Play](#) (Android)

Step 2: Schedule your sessions.

Please contact events@emergentmethod.com with questions.

Louisiana Pre K-12 Education Improves Five Places in U.S. News & World Report Rankings

Louisiana schools showed marked improvement on the latest state rankings released by *U.S. News & World Report*. This widely-referenced report captured education as a component of its 2023 Best States rankings, which evaluates all 50 states. Louisiana moved up five places for Pre-K-12 education, improving to 41st in 2023.

"These positive gains reflect the unwavering commitment educators and policy makers have to improving the quality of education in Louisiana," said State Superintendent of Education Dr. Cade Brumley. "In a state long-challenged with educational outcomes, this movement is welcome news; however, we have a long way to go and must keep pushing forward."

This improvement is similar to the positive data released earlier this school year on NAEP, also known as "The Nation's Report Card," where Louisiana 4th graders ranked #1 in the country in reading growth.

According to *U.S. News & World Report*, from 2019 to 2023, Louisiana has improved its overall Pre-K-12 ranking five spots, jumping from 46th to 41st. Categorically, Louisiana made the following improvements among the states:

- College readiness improved two places from 42nd to 40th
- High school graduation improved eight places from 45th to 37th
- Math scores improved six places from 50th to 44th
- Reading scores improved 10 places from 48th to 38th
- Preschool enrollment improved six places from 15th to 9th

For more information read the full [press release](#).

Mentor and Content Leader Training

As a reminder all CIR schools must have a trained Mentor, ELA content leader, and math content leader. School systems recently received notification regarding their Super App funding to support this work. If you are approved by BESE to offer Mentor or content leader training you should reach out to your school system partners to let them know about registration timelines and processes.

Please contact believeandpepare@la.gov with any questions.

Mentor Waiver

In April 2023 BESE approved a full waiver of the mentor credential for the 2023-2024 school year. Just like previous years the mentor waiver will be granted on a case-by-case basis through the application process established by the LDOE and at no cost 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.

The application process for the 2023-2024 school year will open in July. The waiver application portal for this school year will close in late May.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

New Teacher Experience Summer Kick Off

The Louisiana Department of Education will host a Summer Kick-off for the New Teacher Experience on **July 26 from 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. in Baton Rouge** for 500 first year teachers.

The goals of the event are to

- Welcome new teachers to the profession.
- Understand the components of Louisiana's New Teacher Experience.
- Engage in professional learning around topics relevant to new teachers.
- Provide statewide networking opportunities for new teachers.

Registration details will be provided in the coming months. If your spring graduates would like to receive information directly about this event please ask them to complete this [contact survey](#) by **May 26**.

Please contact laurie.carlton@la.gov with questions.

2023 Title II Institution and Program Report Card (IPRC) Data Collection

The Institution and Program Report Card (IPRC) data collection period is open. Institutional data should be submitted by **Friday, May 19**. To get started, go to [Title II](#) and select "Submit Reports" in the upper right-hand corner of the webpage. Usernames and passwords remain the same. If you have a new user, email believeandprepare@la.gov for assistance. Helpful resources for submitting this data can be found on Title II's [Technical Assistance](#) page, including step-by-step video tutorials.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Assurances Submission for Approved Programs

Providers will receive an assurances document to review and sign in the coming weeks, no later than mid-June, covering the policy updates in [ACT No. 108](#), [ACT No. 448](#), and [ACT No. 244](#) regarding credit, literacy, literacy exam, and dyslexia course requirements. These assurances will ensure that already approved programs are in alignment with law and policy. The signed assurances will go to August BESE.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions

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.

Season 2, Episode 13: Creating a Culture of Success: Insights from Lafayette's Comeback School Principals

Learn from five inspiring educational leaders from the Lafayette Parish School System who share their experiences and insights that led them to receiving the Louisiana Comeback Campus distinction. Jody Slaughter-Duhon, Bridget Malveaux, Catherine Bricelj, Allison Champagne, and Tia Trahan share the unique approaches they take to create a positive and engaging learning environment for their staff and students. Richland Parish makes Em Cooper smile this week with their celebration of teachers for literacy improvements.

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 with any questions.

Literacy Licensure Test Standard-Setting Study

In 2022, the state legislature passed [ACT No. 448](#), which requires kindergarten through third-grade teachers seeking initial licensure to pass an examination of the teaching of reading that is scientifically researched and evidence-based. This assessment will replace the existing Reading Language Arts exam, which will be a part of the Louisiana Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects Praxis® exam.

The standard-setting process for this exam will take place in June, with chosen committee members being notified this week. The representatives from K-12 and teacher preparation will recommend an appropriate passing score for the exam, which will be presented to BESE in August for adoption. The new Louisiana Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects Praxis® exam will be available to test takers beginning in September 2023.

Beginning January 1, 2024, an applicant applying for initial certification to teach kindergarten through third-grade must pass the Teaching of Reading: Elementary examination. This assessment will be available as a part of the Louisiana Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects Praxis® exam or as a stand-alone exam.

If you have any questions, please contact rebecca.stephenson@la.gov.

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

The next call is **Monday, May 15.**

If you have any questions, please contact Christy.Bellue@la.gov.

TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM APPROVAL

2023-2024 Program Approval Applications Now Open

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 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)
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 believeandprepare@la.gov.

TEACHER PREPARATION QUALITY RATING SYSTEM

Teacher Preparation Providers Data Sharing Agreements

The LDOE has executed a statewide data-sharing agreement on behalf of teacher prep providers to utilize services with MMCS for the Teacher Preparation Quality Rating System (TPQRS) data review. This agreement, by way of addenda, allows individual providers to opt in so that they may also receive the services provided and protect the privacy of their students. Please note this data-sharing agreement does not replace a provider's individual contracted services directly established with MMCS. This agreement allows providers to share data with MMCS and for MMCS to share information with the LDOE.

[MMCS TPP Data Sharing Agreement](#)

[MMCS TPP Data Sharing Agreement Addendum](#) – This should be signed by the teacher prep provider director/president and submitted to the LDOE either by uploading the signed agreement to this [link](#) or by emailing the signed agreement to LDEdata@la.gov.

The above agreement is an important part of performance profile calculations and allows providers the opportunity to verify their completer data before the Department runs TPQRS calculations. **Please submit the signed addendum by May 19.**

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

Teacher Prep Onsite Review Update

The onsite review RFP process is coming to a close this month, and an award is expected to be issued by June. There will be no onsite reviews this fall. LDOE will work with each provider to determine their onsite review windows this summer.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

Data Verification Webinar 2021-2022 Teacher Prep Provider Performance Profiles

The window to verify 2021-2022 teacher preparation providers' complete rosters for performance profiles is now open. Providers are invited to attend a Data Verification Webinar on [May 15, 2023](#), to review the data verification process.

Date and time: **May 15, 2023, at 11 a.m.**

Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/8322783910?pwd=OGNjTTNXQTg4bUVqVHVhZHVET1gydz09>

Meeting ID: 832 278 3910

Passcode: i3PfJs

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.