Louisiana Believes

OpenSciEd Pilot Purchasing and Professional Learning

This document provides schools and school systems an overview of OpenSciEd, information on purchasing materials and information about professional learning Please send questions and feedback to STEM@la.gov.

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Overview of OpenSciEd

OpenSciEd is an effort among science educators, curriculum developers, teachers, and philanthropic foundations to improve the supply of and demand for high-quality K-12 science instructional materials by producing open-sourced, freely available instructional materials designed for college and career-ready science standards. OpenSciEd works with classroom educators, experienced science curriculum developers, individual school districts, education non-profits, and the science education community to create and pilot robust, research-based, open-source science instructional materials.

Field Testing and Unit Release

Ten partner states volunteered to join this effort, including Louisiana. After the initial development of the OpenSciEd units, the unit prototypes or **field test units** undergo rigorous external review and robust field testing in participating classrooms across partner states. The field test units are revised based on the feedback and data collected. The revised or complete units are submitted to NextGenScience Peer Review Panel and made freely and openly available to the public upon earning a quality rating.

Elementary

OpenSciEd is developing engaging science materials for grades Kindergarten through grade 5. Each grade level will have four units designed to align with the Louisiana Student Standards for Science. Field testing for the K-5 materials will begin in the fall of 2023 and continue through spring of 2025.

Middle School

The full middle school program is now freely available for download on the OpenSciEd website or for purchase through certified partners. Louisiana Guides to Piloting OpenSciEd for Grades 6, 7, and 8 on the K-12 Science Planning Page, provide guidance to assist educators with implementation and include sample scope and sequences.

High School

Development for a three-course sequence for high school began in January of 2021. Units for Biology, Chemistry and Physics are available now and the remaining units will be released on a rolling basis with plans to release the complete sequence of all three courses by summer 2024

For questions or additional information on the OpenSciEd pilots, contact STEM@la.gov.

OpenSciEd Middle & High School School Materials: Access and Purchasing Information

Educators piloting OpenSciEd middle school and for the available high school units may download the open source digital files and purchase print materials and kits from participating vendors as outlined below.

Print Materials

Printed Teacher and Student Editions are available for purchase from Kendall Hunt.

Kits: Laboratory Equipment and Other Scientific Supplies

Kit materials can be sourced independently by systems using the materials lists for each unit or purchased from Aquaphoenix (currently only middle school) or ECA (middle and high school).

OpenSciEd Professional Development Vendors

Teachers are better positioned to support students' meaningful growth when they have access to initial and ongoing professional development that helps them utilize quality curriculum effectively. OpenSciEd materials are freely accessible online. However, we highly recommend that all teachers participating in the pilot undergo at minimum, an Initial OpenSciEd Training, which is designed to build teachers' familiarity with the structure, approach, and key components of the curriculum. The following professional development providers are staffed with qualified facilitators who have received official training from OpenSciEd.

OpenSciEd PD Provider	Contact Information	Grades 6-8	High School
OpenSciEd	Professional Learning Page; Request a Quote	☑	☑
Louisiana Tech SciTEC	Diane Madden; dmadden@latech.edu; 318-257-2866	☑	☐
TNTP	Mary Jones; mary.jones@tntp.org; 415-577-4342	☑	☐
Michigan Math and Science Leadership Network (MMSLN)	Mary Starr; starrm@mimathandscience.org	☑	☑
Side-by-Side Strategies	Cathi Cox-Boniol; ccb91110@gmail.com; 318-268-7558	☑	☐
BSCS	Jody Bintz, Professional Learning Division	☑	☑
NextGen Science Storylines	nextgenscistorylines@gmail.com	☑	☑
University of Texas at Austin Charles A. Dana Center	Ledoux, Shelly M; shelly.ledoux@austin.utexas.edu	☑	☑
Instruction Partners	jessica.henderson-rockette@instructionpartners.org	☑	☑
inquiryHub	inquiryhub@colorado.edu	☐	☑
Activate Learning	https://activatelearning.com/contact	☑	☐

Certified Partners

In addition to open source, freely available files on their website, systems can purchase fully packaged versions of OpenSciEd from certified partners.

Ongoing Implementation Support

The Department will communicate OpenSciEd open enrollment events through Teacher Leader Newsletters and Academic Content and Educator Development Calls. Additionally, the Department holds monthly Office Hours for OpenSciEd Pilot Updates. The call takes place on the second Wednesday of each month from 10:30-11:30am, and a call summary with important links are added to the invite after each call. To be added to this monthly call, contact STEM@la.gov.