

Louisiana Believes

School System Updates

April 23, 2020

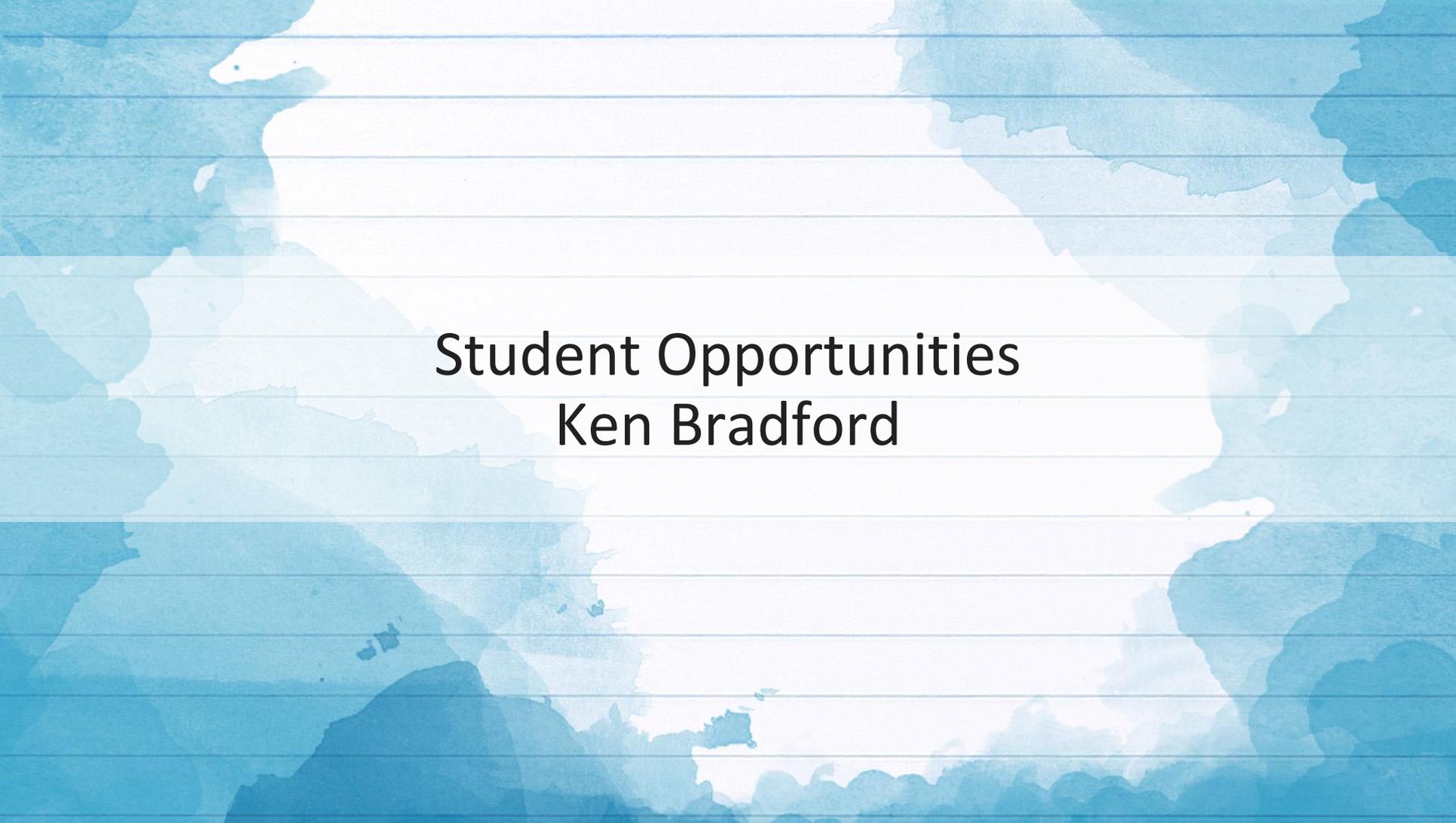
ATTENTION: Instructions for participants

During this meeting, participants may submit questions via the online chat feature throughout the presentation. Submitting questions via the chat allows LDOE the opportunity to not only answer your question while on the call but to also add your question and the answer to our publicly disseminated FAQ document(s).

Questions will be addressed at the end of the call. To signify that you would like to ask a verbal question at that time, please **raise your hand in the online system (preferred) or type *9 on your telephone**. The moderator will then acknowledge and unmute your line when requested by the presenter. **You will not have the ability to unmute/mute yourself individually using *6 or the online system**, so please be patient while the moderator assists the presenter in taking questions.

Agenda

- Student Opportunities
- Assessment and Accountability
- Early Childhood
- Federal Programs and Fiscal Operations
- Q&A



Student Opportunities

Ken Bradford

Student Opportunities Office Hours

Student Opportunities Office Hours will occur each Wednesday from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. through May 31.

Join via Zoom: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/411290309>

Meeting ID: 411 290 309

Meeting Password: 031058

If you join by calling in, use any of the following numbers:

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 301 715 8592 US

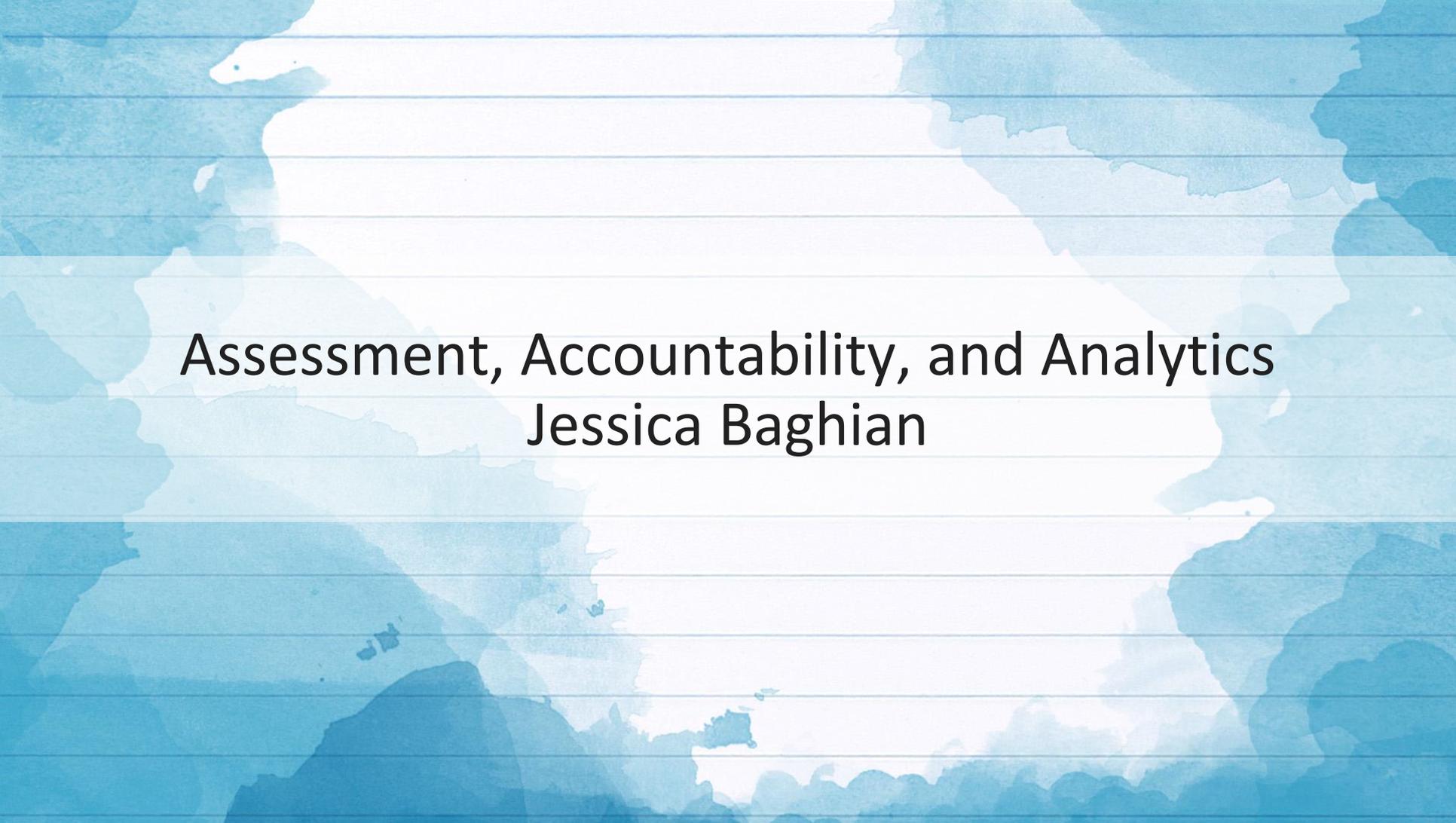
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Advanced Placement Exam Updates

Advanced Placement exams will be administered **online** by the College Board [May 11-22 and June 1-5](#) (make up exams)

Students will receive a link to the exam **via the email used to register for the exam. School districts should ensure that students using district provided emails are capable of receiving emails from the collegeboard.org**. If school systems or students have technology needs, please [fill out this form by April 24](#).

The College Board is offering subject-specific webinars regarding **AP Exam Day Updates for AP teachers** beginning next week. [Registration is required and the full listing of webinars is found here](#).



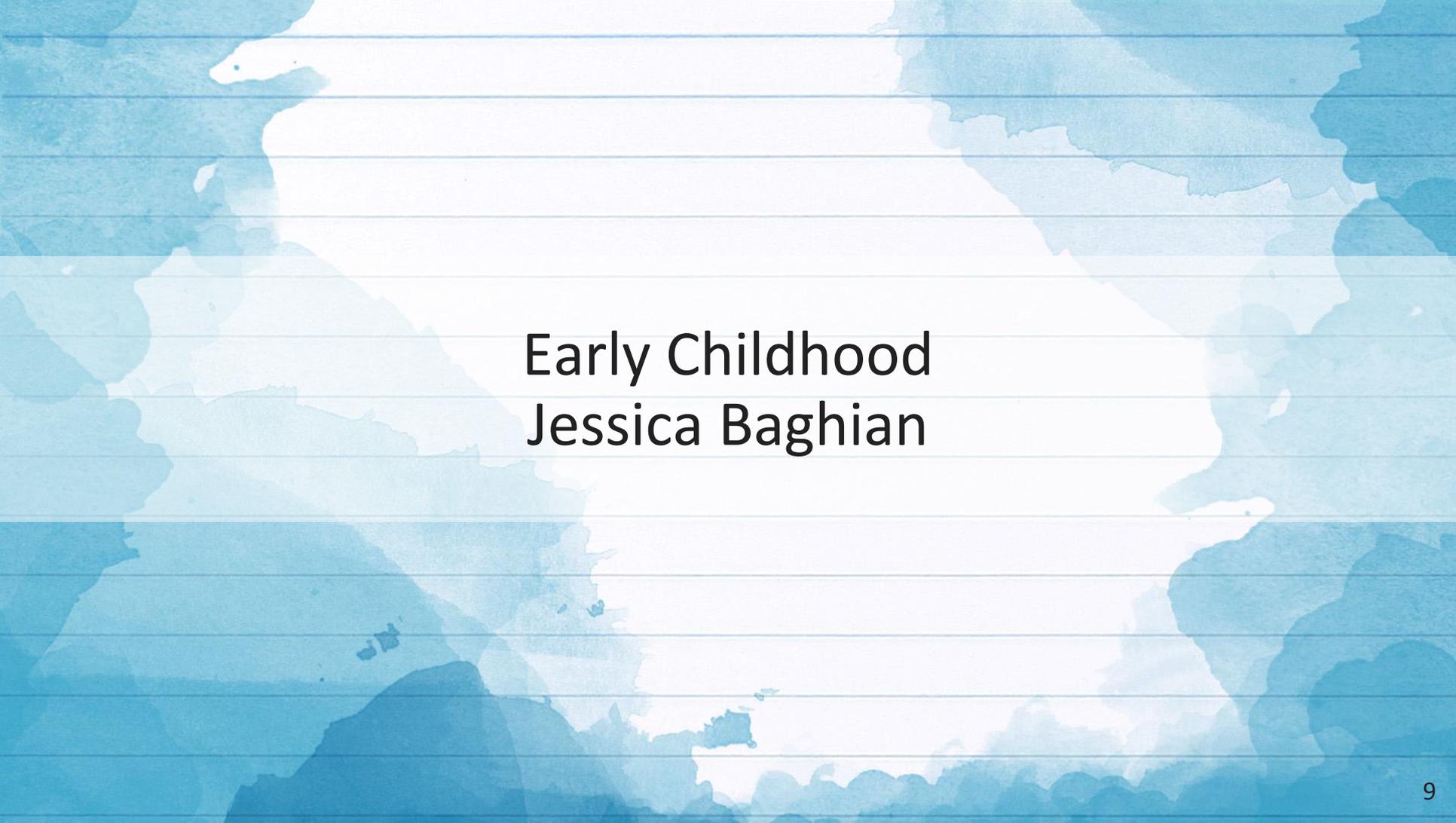
Assessment, Accountability, and Analytics

Jessica Baghian

Technology for Continuous Learning

All students should have access to a device and the Internet, now more than ever. Student access to technology enables continuous learning and a strong start to 2020. To help facilitate investments in access for all students, the Department [released information and resources](#) on discounted technology and broadband.

Implementation Timeline	
Date	Action Item
Thursdays from 1p.m. -2:30 p.m. beginning April 23	Office Hours - email EdTech@la.gov to reserve time
April 23 - May 15	Individual support calls to school systems with limited Internet access
April 30	First consortium order
May 21	Second consortium order



Early Childhood

Jessica Baghian

ECE Updates

The Department has expanded its at-home care and learning supports for families.

New supports include:

- [Guidance for Early Learning at Home](#): A guidance document that walks families step-by-step through the process of creating a productive daily schedule, including tips and sample schedules, along with age-appropriate, play-based learning activities to enhance that schedule.
- [Noggin Cares](#): The Department has partnered with Noggin, Nickelodeon's learning service for children age 2 and above, to offer a free, three-month subscription to families. The app is loaded with read-aloud e-books, learning games, songs, and other engaging content. It also provides ideas for off-screen family activities, and it provides special content to help young children cope during this time.

ECE Updates

To offset some of the financial burdens experienced by child care providers as a result of the COVID-19 crisis, the Department is offering **two grant opportunities** for child care assistance providers. [Louisiana Child Care Assistance Provider \(LaCAP\) Relief Grants](#):

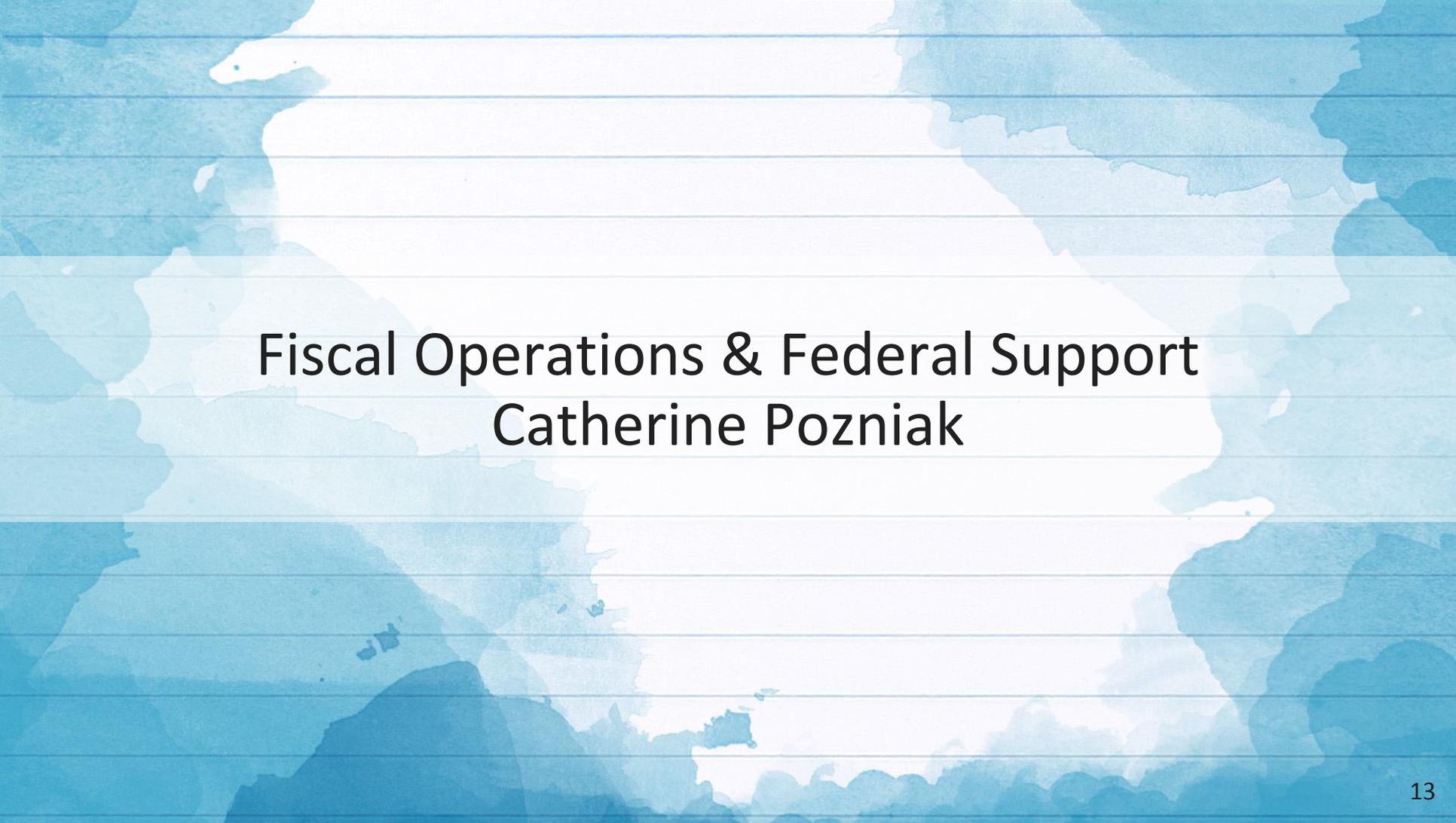
- **Emergency Child Care Relief Grant:** This grant would provide support for providers to stay open or reopen after this period in an effort to support child care access for families in need of care.
- **Emergency Child Care Development Fund Response Grant:** Many child care assistance providers have remained open or reopened during the Governor's Stay At Home Order to provide child care for frontline workers, and are incurring additional costs as a result. This grant would provide support to offset higher costs of operating during the pandemic.

To qualify for the grants, providers must submit an [application](#) by COB today, April 23.

ECE Updates

Each early childhood lead agency that submitted a Coordinated Funding Request for LA 4, NSECD, or PDG birth through three-year-old seats was **notified of funding/seat allocations for the 2020-2021 school year on Tuesday, April 21.**

- Due to the large number of PDG seats requested (nearly 5,000) for birth through three year olds, the Department was unable to fund all seat requests.
- Networks that were not awarded PDG seats this year should **continue to cultivate partnerships** with programs in anticipation of an increase in seat allocations next year.
- Legislative discussions will continue on the need for additional seats, and increased funding of \$25M has been proposed by the Governor.



Fiscal Operations & Federal Support

Catherine Pozniak

Super App Update

Earlier this week, every school system received notification of 2020-2021 Super App approval and funding. Following this notification:

- The Department will host a **webinar today, April 23, at 11 a.m.** to review next steps school systems should take. The webinar can be accessed at this [link](#).
- The Department will upload competitive allocations this week and will provide notice on the [eGMS homepage](#) when school systems can start amendments and begin budgeting those funds.
- Redesign funds allocated for school improvement activities are available for spending immediately.

CARES Act Funding Update

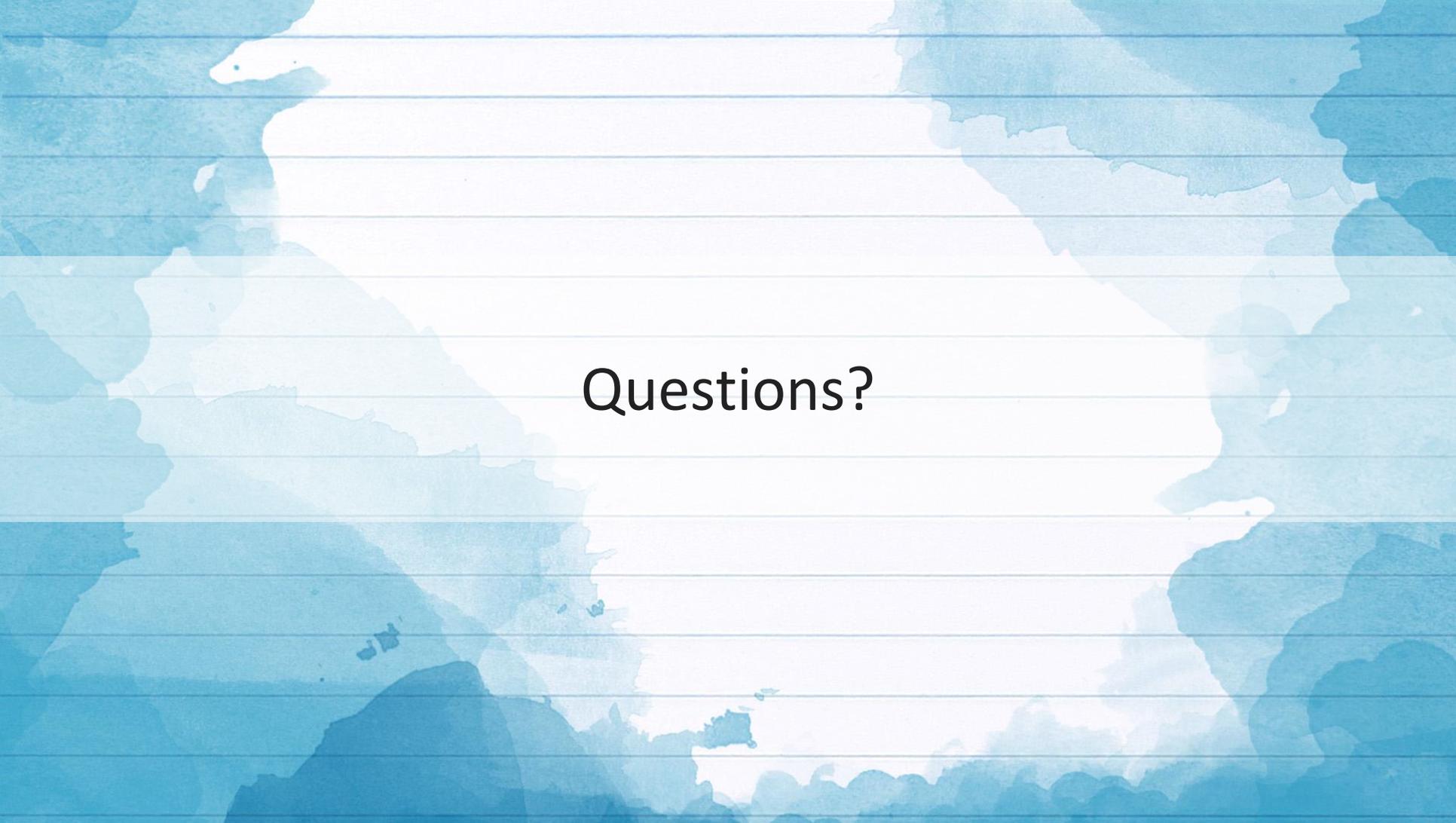
The U.S. Department of Education (ED) indicated it will provide state allocation amounts for the Elementary and Secondary School Education Relief Fund (ESSER) today, April 23.

Next steps:

- The Department will submit the state application for funding to ED.
- Provided we receive timely guidance with the state allocation, we hope to issue allocations to school systems by Friday, May 1.
- **The Department has scheduled an informational [webinar](#) for school systems on Thursday, April 30, at 1 p.m.** to provide an overview of allowability and guidance. We recommend program staff and business managers attend.

Important Notes about ESSER

- ED has indicated the beginning of the period of availability for ESSER will be March 13, 2020.
- Equitable services requirements will apply to funds school systems receive.
 - The Department will provide additional guidance regarding consultation with nonpublic schools.
 - There will be a nonpublic budget within the grant application so that school systems can track these expenses separately.



Questions?