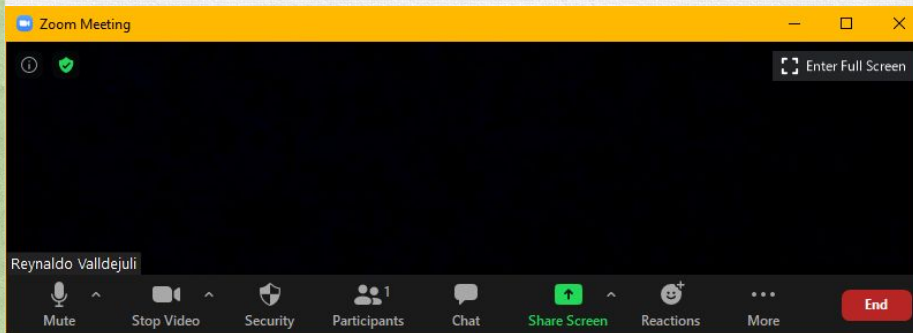


Zoom Meeting Preparation

- Please make sure your phone or computer is muted to minimize background noise.
 - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Mute.”
- Please make sure you have turned off your camera to save bandwidth and prevent any connectivity issues.
 - To do this, hover over the bottom left-hand side of your screen and click “Stop Video.”
- Please submit questions during the presentation in the “Chat” function located on the bottom of your screen.



NOTICE: In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance at this meeting please contact Idoecommunications@la.gov.



Certification Monthly Call
July 17, 2023

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HB 191 - Jefferson (ACT 63)

- Updates literacy requirements-- Aligns literacy options for traditional and alternately prepared teacher candidates
- Allows for the use of successful evaluations in a variety of settings:
 - Out-of-State (OS)
 - in-state nonpublic
 - contracted (or third party)educators
 - allows for 'mixing' of evaluation types
 - BESE to define rules and process for these approvals and evaluations

SB 81 - McMath (ACT 99)

Associate teacher pathway--Individual must:

- Have an associate's degree from an accredited college or university
- Be continuously enrolled in an undergraduate teacher education program at an accredited college or university for the purpose of obtaining a bachelor's degree
- Be at least 25 years of age
- Individual cannot participate in the program for more than 5 years
- Can be employed to teach only in the content area related to the participant's associate's degree
- Cannot teach special education classes
- Hours spent teaching shall count towards the student teaching hours
- Cannot be paid more than 75% of average yearly teacher salary for employing LEA
- Shall have a mentor (subject to funding)
- Shall participate in weekly teacher collaborations
- Have a clear CBC

HB 472 - Mincey (ACT 371)

Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact - Substituted w/ Military and Military Spouse provision

- LDOE to grant a 5 - year certification to Military or Military Spouses serving in LA
- Eligibility determination made within 20 days of receipt of complete application

SB 197- Peacock (ACT 392)

- Redesignates portions of certification law and makes technical changes
- Allows for conditional acceptance with GPA flexibility
- Updates literacy requirements-- Aligns literacy options for traditional and alternately prepared teacher candidates
- Applicant shall have completed at least 180 hours in actual teaching--and a substantial portion of the 180 hours on an all-day basis.
- Effective 1/1/2024--applicants applying for initial certification to teach K-3 shall pass a rigorous TOR exam

SB 197- Peacock (ACT 392)

- OS - must have three years of OS experience prior to LA teacher certification for exam exemption
- Exams required are pedagogy and applicant area of specialization
- Provides for exemptions and issuance of a provisional certificate for
 - Foreign Language Immersion Program teachers
 - OS candidates not meeting exam exclusion
 - Teacher Preparation completer lacking exams by 10%
- Defines OS exam exclusion
- Requires exam reporting on LDOE website

SB 197- Peacock (ACT 392)

Temporary Employment Permit (TEP) pathway expansion:

- graduate degree candidates (in subject teaching)
- bachelor degree candidates (in subject teaching)
 - in secondary shortage area only
 - degree from accredited institution w/ 2.5 GPA
 - passed all content exams
- teacher prep program completion except exams w/in 10%
- program completer w/ GPA less than 2.5

SB 197- Peacock (ACT 392)

- OS principal - defines exam exclusion and changes certificate validity
- School Psychologist - qualifications shall be not less than NASP and the board may deem School Psych certified
- TCAC - provides for options for membership when an entity named in law dissolves
- Updates Criminal history requirements and prohibitions
- Defines appeals options to the Board for specific situations

SB 197- Peacock (ACT 392)

- Prohibits certification of individuals with certain offenses
- Provides for a 'grandfather' clause for those issued a credential or having an appeal pending prior to July 1, 2023, with certain prohibited offenses
- Beginning **January 1, 2025**, an applicant for initial certification shall undergo a background check for certification.
- The LDOE will check rap backs for anyone already certified when an educator tries to advance, renew, or otherwise modify a credential. The LDOE may obtain a criminal history check if needed.
- Educators, administrators or other credentialed personnel must notify the LDOE of any felonies or 15.587.1 offenses within 2 business days

SB 197- Peacock (ACT 392)

- The Board shall revoke any educator's credential for conviction of an offense listed in R.S. 15:587.1 or any felony offense.
- The LDOE shall notify the last known school that employed the person of the revocation of a credential.
- The LDOE will make available on its website the identities of any person whose credential has been denied, suspended, or revoked for:
 - felony convictions or convictions of offenses listed in R.S. 15:587.1
 - any person who has submitted fraudulent documentation to the Board or Dept
 - any person who has been found to have facilitated cheating on any state assessment

SB 197- Peacock (ACT 392)

- An employing school system may determine that an individual with a credential issued by the LDOE has not been convicted of a criminal offense.
- A CBC is **not required** for an applicant with a teaching credential issued by the Board (unless it has been denied, suspended or revoked).
- An administrator, teacher or other school employee must **notify** of final conviction or no contest plea to any criminal offense, excluding traffic offenses, to his employer and to the LDOE within **2 business days**.
- **Repeals** the requirement for the issuance of a teaching authorization
- Updates R.S. 15:587.1 to include newly redesignated sections of law

HB 326-Nelson

ACT 347 requires that a teacher preparation program include instruction on foundational numeracy skills that include, but are not limited to:

- effectively teaching foundational mathematics skills explicitly and systematically
- implementing effective mathematics instruction using high-quality instructional materials
- providing effective instruction and interventions for students who have difficulty with mathematics
- understanding and using student data to make instructional decisions

The Act requires that BESE **revise teacher certification requirements and the requirements of teacher education programs** to require instruction on foundational numeracy skills standards for candidates seeking certification to teach students by **12/31/2023**.

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Proposed Policy Updates

In an effort to align with **law**, the LDOE is proposing additional policy updates to be presented at **August BESE**. Proposed revisions related to legislation include:

- literacy policy alignment
- GPA flexibility
- TEP expansion--bachelor degree option for shortage areas, GPA not met, OS exams not met
- Third party vendor and nonpublic evaluation/ evaluation mixing
- TA removal
- Military Certificate update
- Associate's Degree option

Proposed Policy Updates

In an effort to streamline, update, and accommodate some stakeholder requests, the LDOE is proposing policy updates to be presented at **August BESE**. Proposed revisions include:

- reinstatement criteria,
- evaluation and experience requirements including military spouse experience,
- nonpublic certificates, and
- technical edits.

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Literacy Policy Updates

At June BESE, policy was adopted specifically around Mild/Moderate literacy requirements for certification. Updates include:

- A **future effective date** for the add-on policy to align with program requirements (2024-2025) for Mild/Moderate Special Education areas that require **9 semester hours** of literacy coursework

Teaching Authorization (TA) Update

As of June 14, 2023 per [Act 392](#) of the 2023 legislative session, the Teaching Authorization (TA) is **no longer being issued**.

TAs already issued are still valid.

The LDOE will still continue to monitor any rapbacks received on an educator holding a TA and will take action accordingly.

OFAT Processing Update

After stakeholder feedback, we are planning to update processing procedures for Out-of-Field-Authority-to-Teach (OFAT) certificates. Currently, OFATs are valid for a ***school session***, which sometimes is retroactive to the beginning of a school year and reduces the actual time a teacher candidate has to complete OFAT requirements.

Effective **July 1, 2023**, OFATs will be issued for a ***year from the date issued***. Any feedback regarding this change is appreciated.

TAT Processing Update

After stakeholder feedback, we are planning to update processing procedures for Temporary Authority to Teach (TAT) certificates. TATs currently are issued for a year; however, the TAT area is not allowed to be changed.

Since the TAT is a workforce shortage certificate, **effective July 1, 2023, at the time of renewal/extension**, the certification area and/or the LEA can be changed.

Three years is the maximum amount of time a person can serve on any TAT no matter of area or LEA changes. Every year on the TAT counts towards the maximum allowable three years.

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Contact and Communicate with Certification Experts

- Submit a question via the [Online Teacher Certification Portal, Teach LA Live!](#)
 - Responses are provided, in writing, in less than five business days.
 - Using the online portal provides transparency and accountability for which responses can be referred to through the user's online history.
 - Providing details in the question will allow responses that are specific to educators' cases.
- Schedule an office hours appointment through an HR or Program Provider account
 - Complex questions can be asked/answered verbally during the call and with follow-up email.
 - Certification applications may be expedited during the call.
 - If more than 15-minutes is needed, please schedule multiple appointments.

School Nurse Policy

At January BESE, School Nurse policy was updated. The policy now states:

A. *Beginning **August 1, 2023**, a registered nurse who holds a current, valid license in good standing with the Louisiana State Board of Nursing is considered certified by BESE.*

Use the [School Nurse guidance document](#) for frequently asked questions regarding this change.

Important steps:

- [Verify a license](#) - the certificate number will be the same as the license number
- Provide [School Nurse training](#)
- Review existing local policy

Processing Updates

We are working with additional resources to process applications. Applications may be processed out of date order for some applications during the next few weeks. You may see applications in the following categories processed before other categories:

- Early Childhood Ancillary Certificate (ECAC)
- Teaching Authorizations (TAs) - these will no longer be issued
- Temporary Authority to Teach (TATs)
- Renewal Higher (RH)
- Mentor Teacher/Content Leader (MT/CL)
- Residents (Rs)
- Practitioner Licenses (PLs)
- Initials

Processing Updates

A preliminary analysis of the certification applications received indicate a significant number are incomplete, inaccurate, or incorrectly submitted. All of these issues contribute to the increased processing time for all applications. We are asking for your partnership in reviewing **all** applications before submitting them.

Please **review** the following ‘best practices’ slides in the Certification Reminders Section to assist in your preparation of applications before submitting.

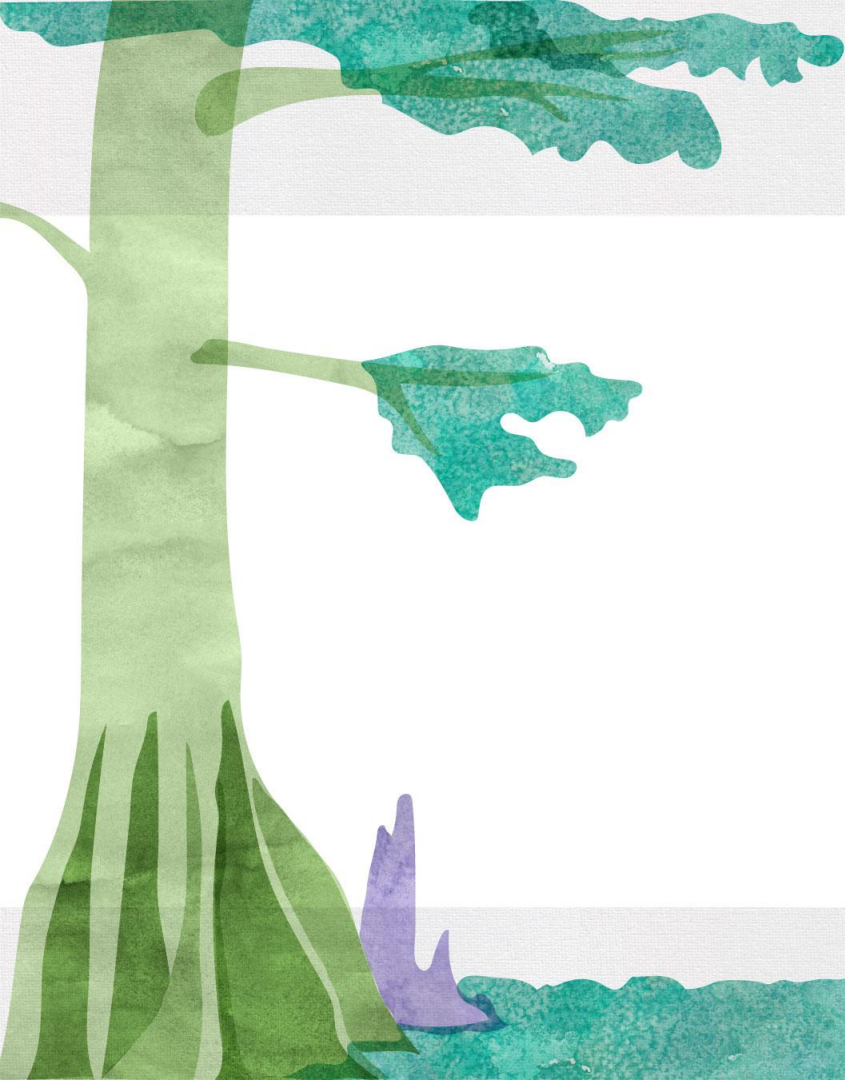
Application Submission Best Practices

- **Read and follow** all instructions included in each application packet
- **Do not** include parts of other applications with an application, i.e. including other requests (from the EV form) in the RH form or vice versa
- When scanning, scan **upright** and in the **order** on the application checklist, **combining** all pieces into a single PDF file. A physical scanner may have settings to allow scanning to a single PDF file or use a scanning app (Genius Scan, CamScanner, the scan feature included on some phones or camera apps, or Print to PDF tool).
- **Choose** the appropriate category for the application that is uploaded when submitting; if submitting a document as a feedback/follow-up to a previous application, select “Feedback/Follow-up” as the application type
- Please ensure that questions submissions are actually questions and application submissions are actually applications and not vice versa

Application Submission Best Practices

- When submitting self-evaluations (now required), ensure that **course titles & course numbers** are included
- If licenses are required (i.e. speech pathologist, etc.), please ensure they have a current validity
- When a graduate degree is a **qualifying requirement** for the issuance of a certificate (e.g. Level 3), eligibility (e.g. EDL eligibility), or endorsement (e.g. Academically Gifted), the degree will be placed on the certificate at the time of the add-on, issuance, or eligibility. **There is no need to apply for the degree to be added separately or to pay an additional fee for the degree to be placed on the certificate.**

Please note: eligibility letters submitted for issuance of a certificate also require a picture ID and copy of SS card as stated in the eligibility letter.



Q & A



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Important Dates

Key Dates:

- **July 18: Nonpublic School Council Meeting**
- **July 19: Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council**
- **July 27: Superintendents' Advisory Council Meeting**
- **August 22: BESE Committee Meetings**
- **August 23: BESE Board Meeting**
- **August 28: Certification Monthly Call**

Supports and Resources:

- [2021-2022 School System Support Calendar](#)
- [Educator Resource Guide](#)
- [School System Planning Resources](#)
- [Family Support Toolbox Library](#)
- [Certification Bulletin, Bulletin 746](#)
- [Online Teacher Certification Portal, Teach LA Live!](#)