



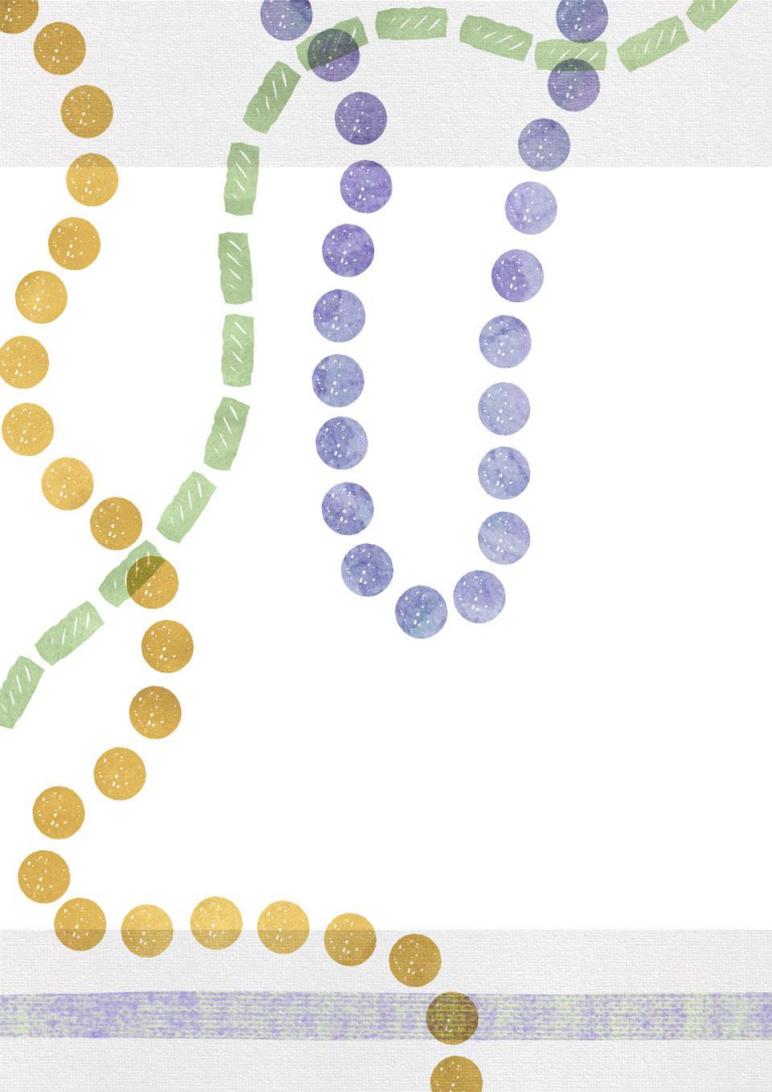
**Educational Technology
Monthly Call
April 2021**

Agenda

- [Grant Management](#)
- [Educational Technology](#)
- [E-Rate](#)
- [Academic Content & Professional Development](#)
- [Cybersecurity](#)
- [Important Reminders / Call Summary](#)

Suggested participants
for this call:

- Chief Technology Officers
- Information Technology Staff
- E-Rate Coordinators
- Privacy Coordinators
- Digital or Virtual Learning Staff

A decorative graphic on the left side of the slide. It features a vertical line of yellow beads on the far left. To its right is a green, leaf-like border made of small, pointed shapes. Further right is a vertical line of purple beads. The background is white with a light gray horizontal band at the top and bottom, and a purple and green textured horizontal band at the very bottom.

Grant Management

ESSERF II Funding Guidance FAQ

LDOE created an [ESSER II Funding Guidance FAQ](#) that contains the most frequently asked questions and answers related to ESSER II funds. School systems should continue to submit specific questions to LDOE.grantshelpdesk@la.gov.

In addition to the FAQ, the Department created an [ESSERF II Use of Funds](#) document that provides examples of allowable expenses for each allowability.

More information about these funds can be found in the [Fact Sheet](#) released by ED.



GEER I Funding

Funding Availability: 4/24/2020 - 5/24/2021

Reimbursement claims deadline: COB 5/24/2021)

Required GEER I Funding Reimbursement Documentation for Computer Equipment and Software:

- Purchase order or agreement
- Copies of paid invoices, along with proof of payment
- Signed Delivery and Acceptance Certificate

Note: *If a single invoice is submitted that needs to be divided among multiple funding sources (ie ESSER I Formula, GEER I, Title I, etc.), please provide a break-down of the line items on the invoice by fund source.*

New Pre-Approval Process for Capital Expenditures

Under the Uniform Grant Guidance Edgar 200.439 a pre-Approval Process for Equipment and other capital expenditures is required. Typically, inclusion of a cost in the eGMS budget is considered a request for prior approval. Expenditure requests that require the new “Pre-Approval Process” include:

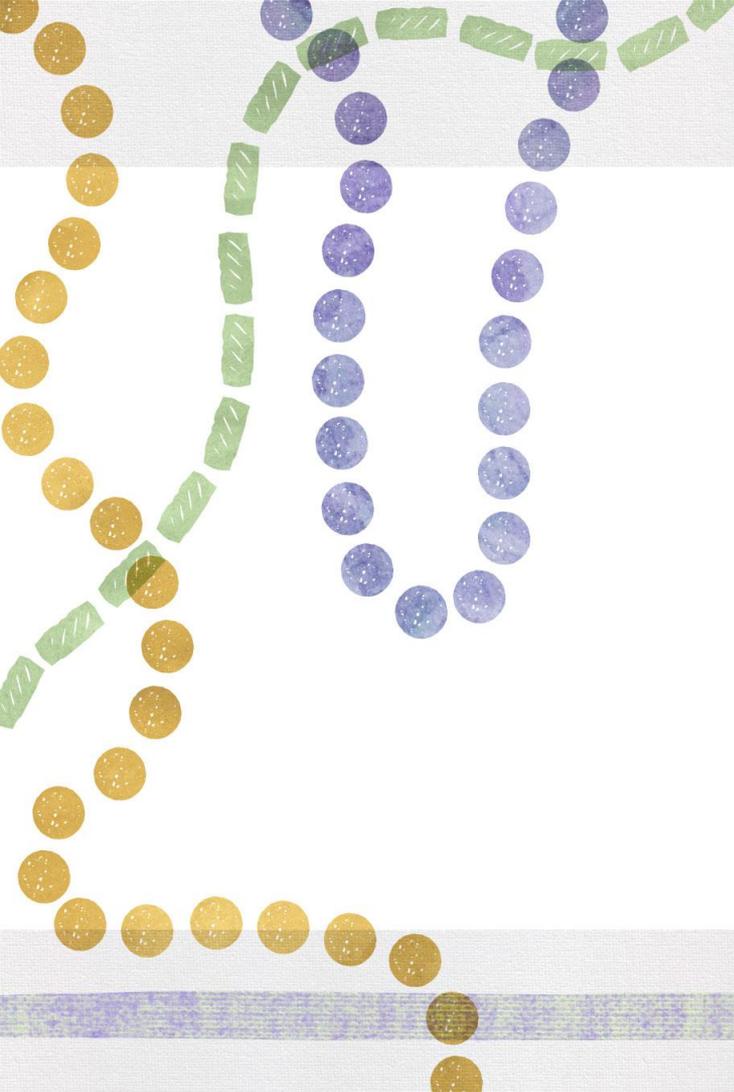
- Capital expenditures for general purpose equipment, buildings, and land are unallowable as direct charges, except with the prior written approval of the federal awarding agency or passthrough entity.
- Capital expenditures for special purpose equipment are allowable as direct costs, provided that items with a unit cost of \$5,000 or more have the prior written approval of the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity.
- Capital expenditures for improvements to land, buildings, or equipment that materially increase their value or useful life are unallowable as a direct cost except with the prior written approval of the pass-through entity (LDOE).

To submit a pre-approval request please complete and submit the [Pre-Approval for Equipment/Capital Expenditures Form](#). The equipment/capital expenditure pre-approval form can also be accessed via the [FSGR Library](#). Once received, LDOE staff will review the request and provide either an approval or denial response to the request. Please contact ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

DCFS MOU for P-EBT

DCFS is working on an MOU for districts to sign in order to provide students with EBT Cards. This should be coming within the next couple of days, along with additional details. Please be on the lookout for an email on this topic.





Education Technology



Believe to Achieve

The Department recently released [Believe to Achieve: Educational Priorities](#). This priorities plan serves as the Department's roadmap to improving outcomes for all Louisiana children.

Believe to Achieve includes the Department's new belief statements, state data to help track progress toward Louisiana's six critical goals, and the new priorities that will direct the LDOE's efforts as they work toward achieving the critical goals. Each priority outlines focus areas for the key actions and initiatives.

ACCESS

Believe to Achieve

Premier Ordering Pages for School Systems

We are working with a number of providers to create Premier Ordering Pages that include all discounted rates on devices, accessories and software for Louisiana Schools based on our State Contracts. To finalize setup of these online ordering sites we need to collect the following information from all school systems:

- System Contact Name
- System Contact Phone Number
- System Contact Email
- Billing Address
- Shipping Address

The goal is to have each primary IT contact setup in the system, and then we can add others within your school system who may need to access the system.

Please submit the above information in the google form linked [here](#).

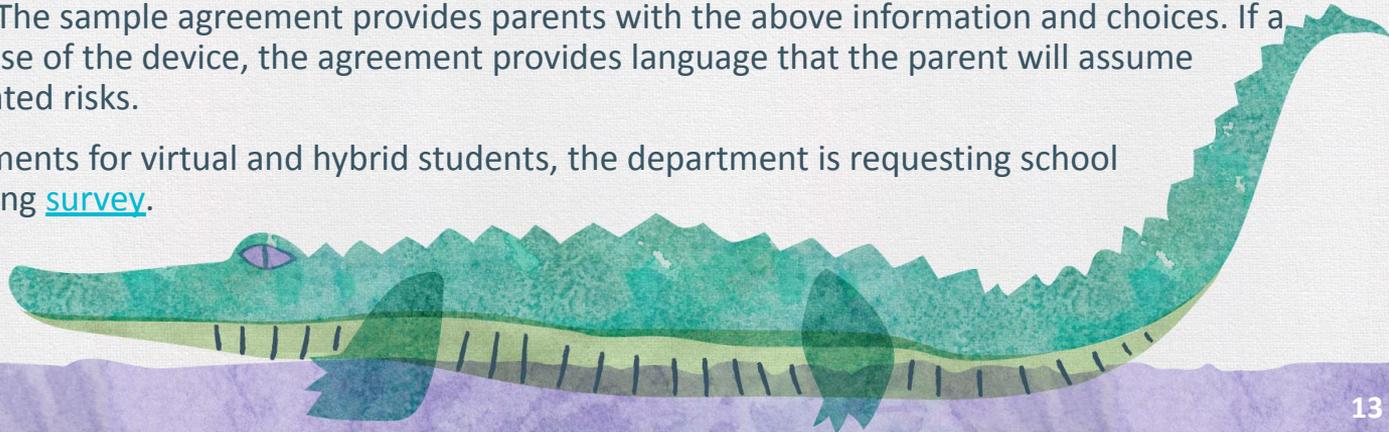
Verizon Recall

Verizon is currently working with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to [recall Ellipsis Jetpack mobile hotspot devices, including models MHS900L, MHS900LS and MHS900LPP](#) which were provided to students for distance learning across the United States. During investigations with the supplier, it has been determined that the lithium-ion battery in the Ellipsis Jetpack devices can overheat, posing a fire and burn hazard.

School systems can choose to either have students return these devices immediately and wait for a replacement or allow them to continue to use the devices (with new use instructions/guidance) until a replacement device becomes available.

To assist school systems, the department has created a [flyer and sample agreement](#) schools systems can use to notify parents and students. The sample agreement provides parents with the above information and choices. If a parent chooses to continue use of the device, the agreement provides language that the parent will assume responsibility and the associated risks.

In order to prioritize replacements for virtual and hybrid students, the department is requesting school systems complete the following [survey](#).



LMS Vendor Guide

The Louisiana Department of Education will release a Learning Management System Vendor Guide. The guide is a summary of the responses received from the Request for Advertisements (RFA) that was issued in early April.

The LMS Vendor Guide is intended only to assist school systems. The LDOE is not endorsing the products included in the guide. The LDOE is also not opposed to school systems engaging vendors not included in the guide.

School systems wanting to learn more about Learning Management Systems can attend sessions available at the Teacher Leader Conference or the LACUE Tech Leader Summit.

Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions.



Summer/Fall TRT Collection

School systems should begin planning to update their device, broadband and home connectivity data collections and submissions. As well as clean up any data that has changed since submitting in January.

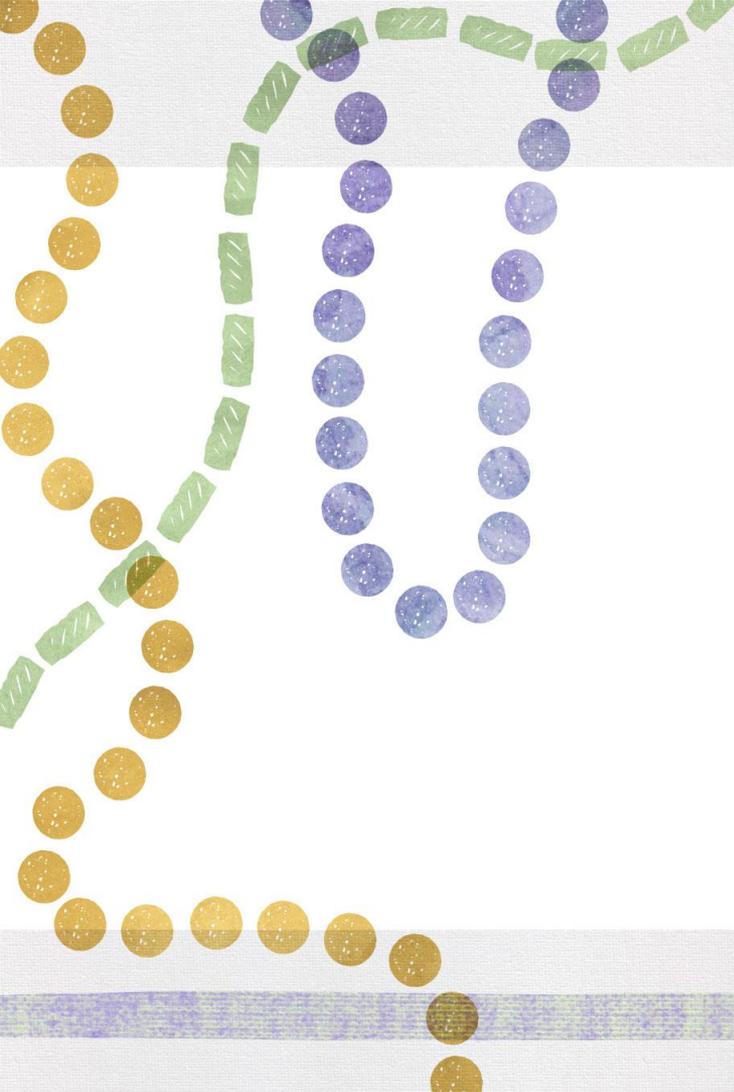
Reporting includes:

- **ALL** devices (desktops, laptops, iPads) for teachers, students and administrators
- Which funding source the device was purchased from (GEERS, ESSER, ESSER2, etc..) not just by broad funding source (CARES, CARES2 and ARP)
- Home internet access (collected at the school-level to roll-up to system level)
 - By grade level, does each student have access to *reliable* broadband internet at home or not?
 - Is the school providing internet services for the student at home? If yes, what service is being provided, which funding source and what is the grade level of student?
 - If the student does not have access, is it because there is no internet service provider or limited/unreliable services?
- Community/Off-campus Internet access
 - Is the school/school system providing access? If yes, what type of service is being provided and which funding source?

Chromebook Storage Procedure

Google has issued instructions for maximizing the battery life of chromebooks when they are not in use. We recommend this process be implemented on chromebooks that will not be used for extended periods of time. More information can be [found here](#).





E-Rate

American Rescue Plan Act: Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF)

The FCC is currently taking reply [comments](#) on how to implement the new \$7.1 billion ECF program. Initial comments were submitted on April 5th and reply comments are due April 23rd.

- **Eligible Recipients:** Public schools, non-public schools, libraries and consortiums
- **Eligible Expenses:** Reimbursement of up to 100% of the costs associated with the purchase of eligible equipment and advanced telecommunications/ information services, including Wi-Fi hotspots, modems, routers, devices that combine a modem and router, and connected devices.

Note: The FCC has the right to place limitations of reasonableness with respect to the request by the school or library for the reimbursement.

- **Period of Funds Availability:** Purchases must be made prior to June 30th, 1 year after the date on which the Secretary of Health and Human Services determines the COVID-19 emergency has ended. Funds will remain available until September 30, 2030
- **How to apply and participating providers:** TBA

Emergency Broadband Benefit Program

The Federal Communications Commission has finally released their rules for the [The Emergency Broadband Benefit program](#). This program provides will provide a discount of up to \$50 per month towards broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for those on Tribal lands. Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop, or tablet from participating providers if they contribute \$10-\$50 toward the purchase price.

The application process is expected to be released on April 29, 2021. LDOE will cover this process during our Education Technology Office Hours on May 13, 2021 as well as send out information in the Weekly Newsletter. Additionally, the FCC will host a public webinar to provide information on EBB on April 27, 2021 at 3 pm EST. To watch live go to [fcc.gov/live](https://www.fcc.gov/live). Registration is not required for the FCC webinar.

The initial list of of providers approved to participate in the EBB program can be found [here](#). If there is a provider in your area that is not listed, please contact our EdTech team so that we can reach out to these vendors and assist them in signing up for the program.

Funds for Learning 11th Annual E-Rate Survey

For the past decade, Funds For Learning (“FFL”) has been conducting a nationwide survey asking schools and libraries to contribute their opinions and experiences regarding the E-rate program. These surveys have become an increasingly important source of information for Congress, the FCC, and USAC to help them evaluate the E-rate program. A copy of the [2020 survey results](#), as provided to the FCC, is worth reviewing to understand the survey’s importance. We urge you to participate.

The survey is available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/21erate>. The survey consists of 32 primary questions, plus 6 more optional demographic items. It should take less than 10 minutes to complete.

Survey results are completely confidential. Only aggregate data is reported.

Non-public School E-Rate Validations

For FY 21, PIA has begun reaching out to verify the discount levels of all schools. The State provides a master validation list of all public schools yearly, but is now being asked to also include data for all non-publics schools as well. The EdTech team will be reaching out to all non-public schools who applied for FY 21 E-Rate funding to verify their student and free/reduced lunch counts. Please be on the lookout for these emails and respond by the deadline.

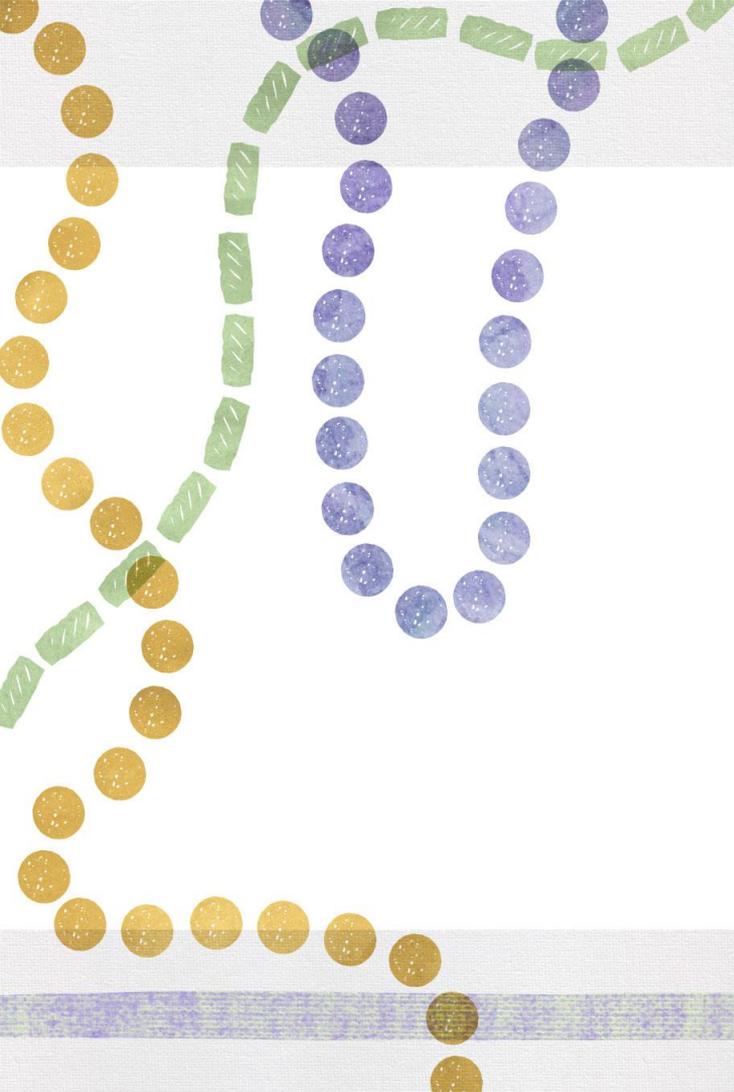
We are asking all non-public schools to respond by May 7, 2021 on the form linked [here](#).

Data needed for USAC Validation:

School System Sitecode	School System Name	School Sitecode	School Name	E-Rate BEN	Total Full-time Students	Total NSLP (free and reduced lunch) Students
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Upcoming E-Rate Deadlines

April 22	<p>Form 486 deadline for FY 2020 covering funding committed in Wave 35. More generally, the Form 486 deadline is 120 days from the FCDL date or the service start date (typically July 1st), whichever is later.</p> <p>Upcoming Form 486 deadlines are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wave 36 04/30/2021• Wave 37 05/07/2021• Wave 38 05/14/2021• Wave 39 05/21/2021• Wave 40 05/28/2021
April 23	Deadline for filing reply comments on the FCC Emergency Connectivity Fund (“ECF”).
April 27	FCC webinar on the Emergency Broadband Benefit (“EBB”) program for consumers and outreach partners.
May 29	Expected release of EBB Application
May 10	Legislative deadline for the FCC to promulgate regulations for the Emergency Connectivity Fund (“ECF”).



Academic Content and Professional Development



ELA Guidebooks Digital Unit Readers

- Digital versions of the ELA Guidebooks Unit Readers are now available through the [XanEdu](#) portal.
- School systems interested in purchasing digital or digital+print hybrid Unit Readers to support their implementation of ELA Guidebooks should access the portal for pricing and purchasing information.



For more information, please contact elaguidebooks@la.gov.

Teacher Leader Summit: The Virtual Series

To maximize the [delivery of content](#) and educator development, The Teacher Leader Summit: The Virtual Series will take place from June 1 - 11, and sessions will be accessed remotely. The format will be similar to the Virtual Series offered during Spring 2020.

- There will be a max overall registration limitation of 8,000.
- The Department is not allocating seats. Registration will be on a first come, first served basis.
- Paid ticket holders of the in-person event will receive free access code to the Virtual Series.
 - Each code will be one-time use and must be used only by the original ticket holder.

Registration for the Teacher Leader Summit: The Virtual Series is closing soon. Tickets are inclusive of all days of the event.

Ticket Type	Purchasing Window	Ticket Price
Early Bird Registration	April 1 - 25	\$50.00
Regular Registration	April 26 - sell out	\$65.00

The session schedule and app will be released to early bird ticket holders on May 10 and May 12 for regular registrants.

Please contact LDOEvents@la.gov with questions.

Cybersecurity





FBI Questionnaire

The FBI is taking proactive steps to prepare for future cybersecurity threats. In order to better understand the current state of our school systems, they have requested information from both LDOE and the school systems.

- System-specific questions will be incorporated into the LDOE annual system-wide survey.
- Questions which can be addressed at the LDOE level and pertain to all school systems will be answered by LDOE
- Additional details and information will be provided on our next EdTech Office Hour or Monthly Call.



Act 155 - Cybersecurity Awareness Training

On Oct. 20, 2020, the Louisiana State Civil Service released its newest course: CPTP SCS Cybersecurity Awareness. This web-based training meets the requirements set forth in ACT 155 of the 2020 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, including content on forming information security habits and best practices for detecting, assessing, reporting and addressing information security threats.

The course is available in LEO using search term Cybersecurity, and is also available for download for those state agencies employing contractors or governmental units without access to LEO. One download is allowed per IP address. Downloaders may then place the downloaded course on their intranet, LMS, or may make and distribute copies within the organization. The course may not be placed on a public-facing portal.

To request a download link for **CPTP SCS Cybersecurity Awareness**, please complete the download request form located [here](#) and email it to SCSCourseDownload@la.gov.

ACT 155 requires state and local agencies to identify employees or elected officials who have access to the agency's information technology assets. Anyone with such access is required to complete the training, including any contractors who may have access to state information technology (IT) systems. New employees shall complete the training within 30 days of initial service or employment with the agency.

If you have any questions about the course, please contact Dana LeBherz, Talent Development Director, at dana.lebherz@la.gov.

IPs of Interest / Scan & Exploit IPs

Below is a list of IP addresses and domains associated with malware observed by MS-ISAC. School systems should take appropriate action to block known malware sites.

- [IPs & Domains of Interest 2021-04-12 to 2021-04-18](#)
- [IPs & Domains of Interest 2021-04-05 to 2021-04-11](#)
- [Scan & Exploit IPs 3-01-2021 to 3-31-2021](#)
- [IPs & Domains of Interest 2021-03-29 to 2021-04-04](#)
- [IPs & Domains of Interest 2021-03-22 to 2021-03-28](#)

Cyber Advisories and Alerts

- MS-ISAC Advisory # 2021-049: [Multiple Vulnerabilities in Google Chrome Could Allow for Arbitrary Code Execution](#)
- MS-ISAC Advisory # 2021-048: [Multiple Vulnerabilities in Adobe Products Could Allow for Arbitrary Code Execution](#)
- MS-ISAC Advisory # 2021-047: [Multiple Vulnerabilities in Google Chrome Could Allow for Arbitrary Code Execution](#)
- **MS-ISAC Advisory # 2021-046: [Critical Patches Issued for Microsoft Products, April 13, 2021](#)**
- MS-ISAC Advisory # 2021-045: [Multiple Vulnerabilities in Cisco RV Series Routers Could Allow for Arbitrary Code Execution](#)
- MS-ISAC Advisory # 2021-044: [Multiple Vulnerabilities in Cisco SD-WAN vManage Software Could Allow for Arbitrary Code Execution](#)
- MS-ISAC Advisory # 2021-043: [Multiple Vulnerabilities in Google Android OS Could Allow for Remote Code Execution](#)
- MS-ISAC Advisory # 2021-042: [Multiple Vulnerabilities in Google Chrome Could Allow for Arbitrary Code Execution](#)

New Microsoft Exchange Vulnerabilities

- On April 13th, Microsoft released a software update to mitigate vulnerabilities that affect on-premise Exchange Servers 2013, 2016, and 2019. The newly discovered vulnerabilities can be used by an attacker to gain and maintain persistent access to the target host.
- **Please note - these vulnerabilities are different from the ones disclosed and fixed in early March 2021.**
- School systems running Exchange on-premise should install the **April 2021 Microsoft Security Updates** immediately.
- Additional information is available [here](#).

Malicious Domain Blocking and Reporting (MDBR)

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and Akamai have partnered to provide a **no-cost** Malicious Domain Blocking and Reporting (MDBR) service to U.S. State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial government members of Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center and Elections Infrastructure Information Sharing and Analysis Center. MDBR proactively blocks network traffic from an organization to known harmful web domains, helping protect IT systems against cybersecurity threats.

Once an organization points its domain name system (DNS) requests to Akamai's DNS server IP addresses (primary and secondary), every DNS lookup will be compared against a list of known and suspected malicious domains. Attempts to access known malicious domains such as those associated with malware, phishing, and ransomware, among other threats, will be blocked and logged. Accepted and blocked DNS request logs will be stored for a period of 30 days.

CIS will provide weekly reporting to each participating entity related to both accepted and blocked requests and assist in remediation, if needed.

- How to Sign Up: <https://mdbl.cisecurity.org>
- FAQ: <https://www.cisecurity.org/ms-isac/services/mdbl/mdbl-faq/>
- To Learn More: <https://www.cisecurity.org/ms-isac/services/mdbl>

Call Summary



2020-2021 Education Technology Webinar and Office Hours

Dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• May 13, 2021 09:00 AM (Office Hours)• May 27, 2021 09:00 AM• June 10, 2021 09:00 AM (Office Hours)• June 24, 2021 09:00 AM• July 8, 2021 09:00 AM (Office Hours)• July 22, 2021 09:00 AM• August 12, 2021 09:00 AM (Office Hours)• August 26, 2021 09:00 AM• September 9, 2021 09:00 AM (Office Hours)• September 23, 2021 09:00 AM• October 14, 2021 09:00 AM (Office Hours)• October 28, 2021 09:00 AM
Webinar Link	https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/575223228?pwd=NDNIN01SS3c0Rk4wV25aNkZhTEc2Zz09
Phone Number	1-301-715-8592
Meeting ID	Meeting ID: 575 223 228 Password: 2020-202!

Departmental Office Hours and Monthly Calls

Office Hours Calls

- Data Coordinator Office Hours: [April 22 at 1 p.m.](#)
- [Career and College Readiness Office Hours: April 22 at 3 p.m.](#)
- *Achieve!* Office Hours: [April 23 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours: [April 27 at 3 p.m.](#)
- Assessment and Accountability Office Hours: [April 27 at 3:45 p.m.](#)
- K-2 CLASS® Pilot Office Hours: [May 4 at 12 p.m.](#)
- Teacher Leader Summit Office Hours: [May 4 at 3 p.m.](#)
- SRCL TA Office Hours: [May 10 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Education Technology Office Hours: [May 13 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Educator Development Office Hours: [May 18 at 12 p.m.](#)

Monthly Calls

- Legislative and Policy Support Monthly Call: [April 26 at 10 a.m.](#)
- AE Leadership Community of Practice: [April 28 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Academic Content & Educator Devel. Monthly Call: [April 28 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Literacy Monthly Call: [May 6 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [May 6 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Data Coordinator Monthly Call: [May 6 at 1 p.m.](#)
- System Leaders Monthly Call: [May 7 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Charter Authorizers Monthly Call: [May 12 at 11 a.m.](#)
- BESE Authorized Charter School Monthly Call: [May 12 at 3 p.m.](#)
- SPED Leader Monthly Call: [May 13 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call: [May 18 at 3:45 p.m.](#)
- Federal Support & Grantee Relations Monthly Call: [May 20 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Career & College Readiness Monthly Call: [May 20 at 3 p.m.](#)
- System Leaders Roundtable: [May 21 at 9 a.m.](#)

Reference the [2020-2021 School System Support Calendar](#) or [weekly newsletter](#) for additional information.

Thank you for joining today's call.

Schedules, access links, and information for the Department's webinars can be found in the [LDOE Weekly Newsletter](#) and [2020-2021 School System Support Calendar](#).

Helpful Links

- [A+PEL PD for Educators](#)
- [Louisiana Believes Homepage](#)
- [School Improvement Library](#)

Support Toolboxes

- [Teacher](#)
- [System](#)
- [Principal](#)
- [Counselor](#)
- [Education Technology Staff](#)

