

Educational Technology Monthly Call

August 8, 2024



<https://bit.ly/Ed-Tech-Aug2024>

Agenda

- Digital Learning Updates
- Federal Updates
- E-Rate, Affordable Connectivity Program, and Emergency Connectivity Fund
- Important Reminders and Other Information

Next meeting: GOHSEP representative is scheduled to attend, Google Workspace for Education and Microsoft Updates



Digital Learning Updates



Digital Citizenship Support

As educators prepare for the new school year, consider incorporating digital citizenship into back-to-school activities. Establishing a foundation of safe and responsible online practices sets the stage for a successful and secure learning experience for all students.

- [Digital Citizenship - Cybersecurity for Students](#)
- [Digital Citizenship - Elementary Student Guide](#)
- [Digital Citizenship - Secondary Student Guide](#)
- [Digital Citizenship - Parent Guide](#)
- [Digital Citizenship - Teacher Guide](#)
- [AI Teacher and Admin Guide](#)

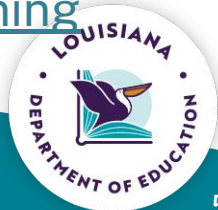
Contact digitalllearning@la.gov with questions.



Back to School LMS Resources

- Explore these essential resources to make the most of your Learning Management System (LMS).
- LMS Back-to-School Resources:
 - [Back to School - Microsoft Teams](#)
 - [Microsoft Teams - Getting Started PDF](#)
 - [Microsoft Teams - Next Steps PDF](#)
 - [Back to School - Preparing Your Canvas Course](#)
 - [Back to School - Preparing Your Google Classroom](#)
- You can find resources like this and more on the [LDOE Digital Learning website](#).

Contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions



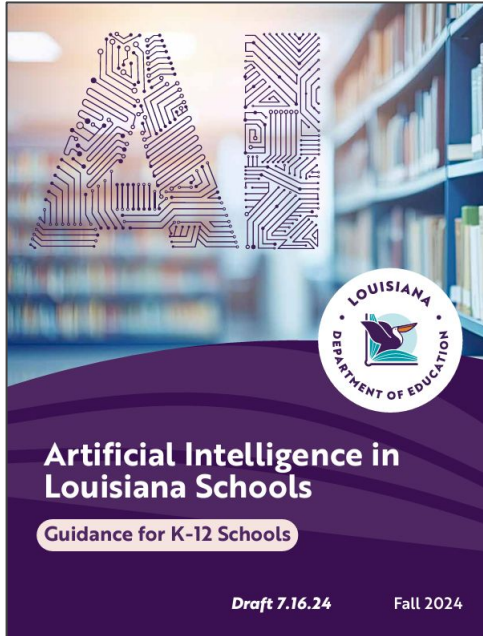
Kami Webinar Recordings

- This summer the LDOE hosted a Kami summer webinar series and regional face to face trainings to support the implementation of Kami statewide. As announced last year, all K-12 public and charter school teachers and students have access to Kami's premium features at no cost for the 2024-2025 school year.
- The [Kami Webinar Series Recordings and Slides](#) can be found on the [LDOE Digital Learning website](#).
- Stay tuned to LDOE communications for upcoming training opportunities on Kami and other digital tools!

Contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions.



Artificial Intelligence (AI) Update



- Guidance will be:
 - published August 2024;
 - presented at August BESE; and
 - include recommendations and resources for school systems.
- More teacher materials and resources will be shared throughout the year for support.

Contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions.



Code.org Data Sharing Agreement

- The LDOE is pleased to announce a new data sharing agreement with [Code.org](https://code.org).
- This agreement ensures the highest level of student data protection while expanding access to computer science education resources.
- Learn more at the LDOE [Data Sharing Agreements](#) webpage.

Contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions.



LDOE Professional Learning Platform-Canopy

- To access the LDOE Professional Learning Platform, known as [Canopy](#), users need to complete all of the [steps to create](#) an EdLink Security Account.
- Superintendents must [opt-in](#) to the EdLink Partially Automated Teacher option to grant classroom teachers Canopy Learner access each school year. The 2025 opt-in opened on July 29.

Contact amanda.slaughter@la.gov with questions.



LDOE Professional Learning Platform-Canopy

- eScholar Staff ID and Edlink Security were rolled over for 2024-2025 school year (ESSY = 2025) on July 29, 2024.
- Districts need to submit current/expected staff for the 2024-2025 school year.
- LDOE creates new user accounts and updates existing accounts (deactivates accounts) for eScholar Staff ID application from July 29.
- School systems can submit staff email (district email) in eScholar staff ID 3.0 file format layout. It is mapped as a Customer Defined Field similar to the State User ID.

Contact amanda.slaughter@la.gov with questions.



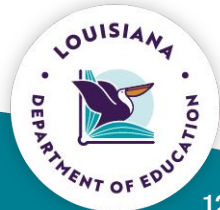
Federal Updates



Online Health and Safety

- The White House Kids Online Health and Safety Task Force released a new document titled “[Online Health and Safety for Children and Youth: Best Practices for Families and Guidance for Industry.](#)”
- On July 22, the Biden Administration convened U.S. officials, civil society leaders, youth advocates, academic researchers, and other experts to announce new actions to [advance children’s online health, safety, and privacy.](#)
- SchoolSafety.gov launched its [2024 Back-to-School Campaign](#), a month-long initiative that highlights resources and guidance K-12 school leaders, educators, staff, and parents and caregivers can use to help prepare for a safe return to school. [SchoolSafety.gov](#) serves as a comprehensive school safety resource library, housing actionable guidance, tailored information, and practical tools to help K-12 communities create and sustain safe and supportive learning environments for students and educators.

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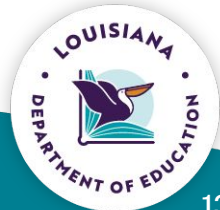


Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program

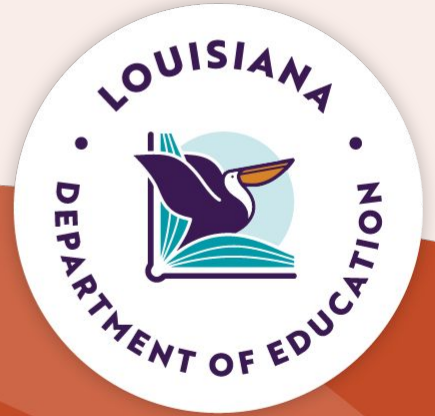
The **National Telecommunications and Information Administration** (NTIA) announced a new funding opportunity through the [Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program](#). This is the third of the digital equity programs authorized under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021. This final program authorizes funds to be used for the “development and implementation of digital inclusion activities that benefit the Covered Populations; training programs that cover basic, advanced, and applied skills; workforce development programs; access to equipment, instrumentation, networking capability, hardware and software or digital network technology for broadband services at low or no cost; and the construction or operation of public access computing centers for Covered Populations.” **Local education agencies are eligible entities under this program and may apply for grants.**

Applications are due by September 23 and further information is available [here](#).

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E-Rate, Affordable Connectivity Program, and Emergency Connectivity Fund

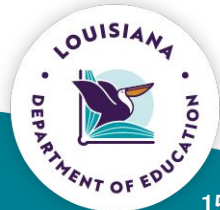


FY25 Form 470

USAC announced that the FY 2025 Form 470 would not be available until approximately the end of August. This would allow time for the FCC time to formally release the hotspot Order and to have it posted in the Federal Register for 30 days before becoming effective. At that point, USAC will be able to include hotspot equipment and services in the Form 470 pulldown menus.

However, it appears that USAC has reinstated the FY 2024 Form 470 for early FY 2025, non-hotspot, use. Be sure to include a narrative statement that this Form 470 is for FY 2025 products and/or services. Those seeking bids for hotspot equipment and services will need to wait until the hotspot option is available on the 470 (late Aug./early Sept).

Contact ERate@la.gov with questions.



FCC Releases Final Hotspot Report and Order

The FCC's Report and Order making hotspots eligible for E-rate funding in FY 2025 was approved at their meeting on July 18th. The final version ([FCC 24-76](#)) was virtually the same as the previously circulated draft version. One addition in the final Order was three paragraphs on gift rules and bundling noting that aspects of these rules, which had been relaxed for ECF during the pandemic, are back in full force.

For school systems interested in hotspots, we recommend watching SHLB's webinar ([video](#) and/or [slides](#)) where panelists discussed different aspects of the hotspot program including:

- Three-year prediscount budgets are based on an applicant's size (a school's enrollment or a library's square footage) and discount rate.
- Eligible pricing is capped at \$90 per unit for hotspot equipment (including activation) and \$15 per month for wireless service.
- Recordkeeping and other program safeguards are likely to require extensive administrative efforts on the part of the applicants and significant cooperation between those applicants and their suppliers.

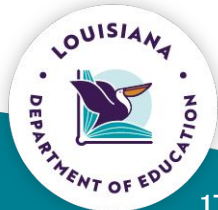
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FCC Releases Draft ESL for FY 2025

The FCC's proposed Eligible Services List for FY 2025 ([DA 24-743](#)) has been released for public comment. The only proposed changes for next year are the added references to the newly eligible Wi-Fi hotspots under wireless services. Please read the expanded section under Eligibility Explanations for Wi-Fi hotspots before applying to ensure your application will meet the requirements.

Contact ERate@la.gov with questions.



Upcoming Dates

Aug 9 - Form 486 deadline for FY 2023 Wave 51. More generally, the Form 486 deadline is 120 days from the FCDL date or the service start date (typically July 1st), whichever is later. Upcoming Form 486 deadlines are:

Wave 52 08/16/2024

Wave 53 08/23/2024

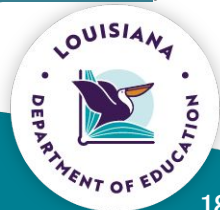
August 13 - USAC webinar on cybersecurity for E-rate and EPC beginners ([registration](#)).

August 15 - USAC webinar on Wi-Fi hotspot eligibility ([registration](#)).

August 20 - USAC webinar to review the information to be required in the Cybersecurity Pilot's initial application, the Form 484 Part One ([registration](#)).

August 22 - Introductory USAC webinar for service providers new to the E-rate program ([registration](#)).

Contact ERate@la.gov with questions.



Upcoming Dates - Cont'

August 27 - USAC webinar with an overview of the Open Data system ([registration](#)).

August 29 - USAC Open Data training on creating reports and visualization ([registration](#)).

August 29 - Invoice deadline for ECF Window 3 applications.

August 30 - Due date for public comments on the FCC's proposed Eligible Services List ("ESL") for FY 2025 ([DA 24-743](#)). Reply comments are due September 16th.

Contact ERate@la.gov with questions.



Education Technology Monthly Webinar & Meeting Dates



2024-2025 Education Technology Monthly Webinars

Slides from each meeting will be posted on the [Educational Technology Leaders website](#). Recordings are available on request. A [complete calendar](#) of LDOE events can be found on the Louisiana Believes website.

Future Monthly Call Dates

- September 12
- October 10
- November 14
- December - LACUE
- January 9
- February 13
- March 13
- April 10
- May 8

Time:	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Webinar Link	https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/575223228?pwd=NDNlN01SS3c0Rk4wV25aNkZhTEc2Zz09
Phone Number	1-301-715-8592
Meeting ID	Meeting ID: 575 223 228 Password: 2020-202!

Please contact edtech@la.gov with questions.



Reminders



Kami

As mentioned in our previous call, the LDOE will be providing access to the digital tool Kami at no cost to school systems. [Kami](#) will be available for all K-12 teachers and students in the 2024-2025 school year. The great news is we are on track and rolling out licenses as school systems' educational technology departments register.

- Onboarding and early adopters can begin setting up their district-wide Kami account by filling out the [LDOE Kami Intake Form](#).
- Professional learning opportunities will be shared in future LDOE communications.
- Additional information about Kami and tutorials are now available on the [Kami website](#).

Please contact digitallearning@la.gov with questions.

