

Community Network Lead Agency Office Hours



December 12, 2023

Agenda

- I. Webinar Purpose and Objectives
- II. Coordinated Enrollment Reminders and Updates
- III. Upcoming PDG Grant Opportunities
- IV. Early Childhood Reminders
- V. Upcoming Events



Webinar Purpose and Objectives



Webinar Purpose and Objectives

Purpose: During the December 12, 2023 webinar, Community Network Lead Agencies (CNLAs) will review the main components of Coordinated Enrollment (CE) and the Coordinated Enrollment timeline.

Objectives: Community Network Lead Agencies will:

- review the main components of the Coordinated Enrollment process,
- understand the alignment of the of the CE plans to the CNLA work with the field,
- and learn the timeline of the CE process.



Coordinated Enrollment Reminders and Updates



December 12, 2023

Coordinated Enrollment Components

The Louisiana legislature enacted Act 3 to design Early Childhood Community Networks, or Community Network Lead Agencies (CNLAs), and defined coordinated enrollment with Act 717 (2014) which required all communities to implement each of the following components:

- Coordinate Information: Families know of all available seats
- Coordinate Eligibility: Families easily know what programs for which they qualify
- Coordinate Applications: Families apply to all birth-5 publicly funded programs through one application
- Match Based on Preference: Families enroll their child in the highest ranked preference available



Coordinated Enrollment Planning Sequence

Blueprint

Establishes mission, vision, and goals

Coordinated Funding Request

Allocates resources according to local needs and family choice

Super App

Applies for funding and communicates local priorities

Self-Assessment for Previous Coordinated Enrollment

Evaluates and reflects for continuous improvement

Coordinated Enrollment Plan

Coordinates and executes the early childhood enrollment process

Coordinated Enrollment Reminders and Updates



Coordinate Information

Community Network Lead Agencies (CNLAs) work with early childhood stakeholders to develop a Coordinated Information Campaign. This campaign should:

- ensure that families have access to enrollment information year-round;
- be broadcasted so that information is accessible to all families during similar timeframes;
- and institute a “No Wrong Door” approach by utilizing multiple outlets of communication.

Coordinated Eligibility Determination

CNLAs work with early childhood stakeholders to develop a system for Coordinated Eligibility Determination. Coordinated Eligibility Determination is a year-round process that refers families to child care options that meet their needs. This also means that the process refers families to other available programs when they do not qualify for a program, or no seats are available at the time of their application. Coordinated Eligibility Determination should offer families support in:

- understanding program and funding eligibility requirements;
- determining preliminary eligibility with the use of a unified application; and
- assisting families in making the right choices for the needs of their children.

Coordinated Applications

CNLAs work with early childhood stakeholders to create and utilize a unified Coordinated Application to collect information about a family's child care preferences. This application should:

- guide families through child care eligibility options in their geographical area;
- give families the opportunity to designate child care preferences during open enrollment;
- coordinate application and enrollment timelines across all programs year-round;
- and place families waiting for seats on a community waitlist.

Match Based on Preference

CNLAs work with early childhood stakeholders to develop a process to enroll children in early childhood programs. This process should include mechanisms that:

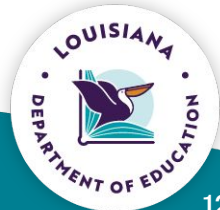
- enroll children in child care sites and applicable publicly funded programs based on family preference and eligibility;
- provide enrollment options throughout the year; and
- establish a community-wide waitlist for families unable to be enrolled initially based on seat capacity and local enrollment procedures.
 - This waitlist should be used as a tool to communicate with families when a seat does become available that matches their needs, eligibility, and preferences

Impact of Coordination of Enrollment

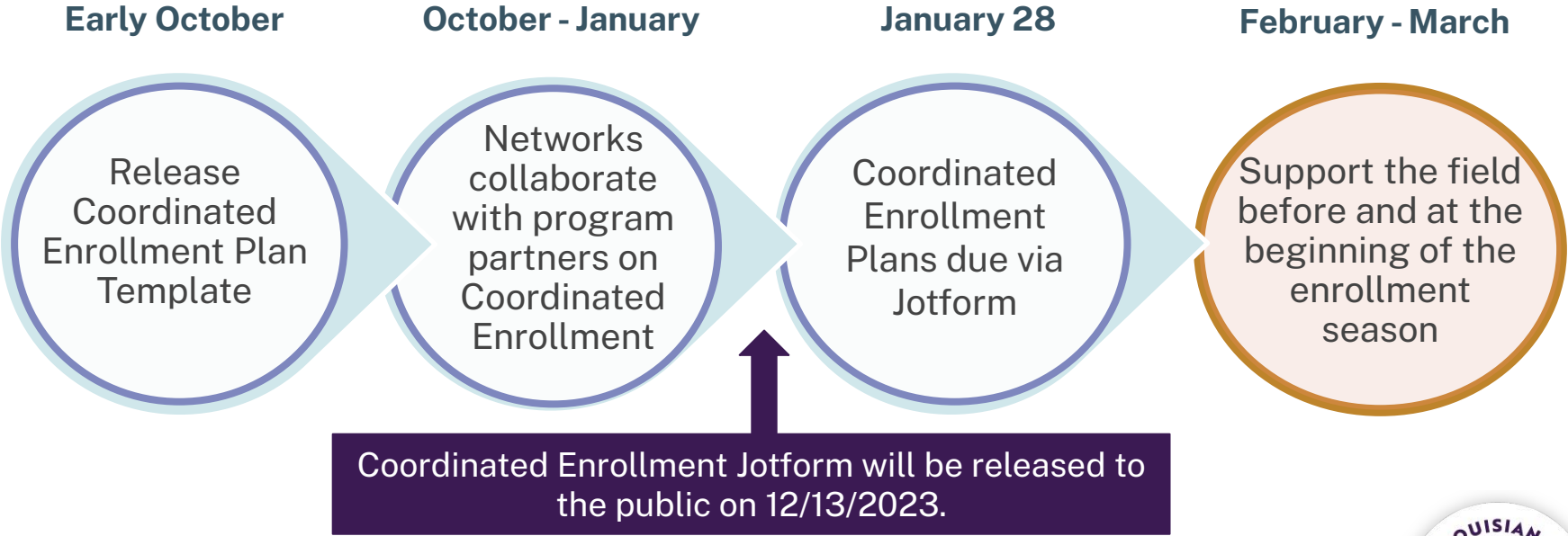
Coordinated enrollment builds a unified system of early childhood education by offering ways for Early Childhood Community Networks to support families.

Coordinated enrollment practices result in the greatest number of children in each community being served when:

- families and community members have a better understanding of quality care;
- families can see which early childhood programs are available in their community;
- parents have an easy way to understand their eligibility for programs and enroll their children; and
- families' stress is alleviated through streamlining the access and enrollment process.



Coordinated Enrollment Timeline



Ready Start Network Grant Opportunities



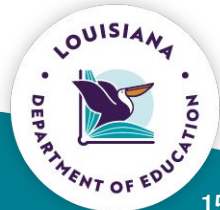
December 12, 2023

2024 Preschool Development Grant

Louisiana continues building on the focus of its PDG Planning Grant award to identify and address gaps in Louisiana's B-5 mixed delivery ECE system and revise its existing needs assessment and comprehensive statewide strategic plan accordingly.

These efforts include prioritizing building systems and structures to support the implementation of state-level and local strategies within the following activities:

- Strengthening family engagement and leadership
- Recruitment and retention of a quality ECE workforce



Overview of the Family Engagement and Leadership Planning Grant Cohort 2

The LDOE will partner with five well-established RSNs to participate in the Family Engagement and Leadership Planning Grant that will strengthen family engagement by improving the capacities of existing programs and systems, streamlining experiences for families, and maximizing the capacity of the system by ensuring those closest to children and families are empowered.

- The LDOE will provide grants of up to **\$100,000** each to 5 RSNs to participate in the Family Engagement and Leadership Initiative Planning Grant.
- The LDOE will select RSNs to participate based on an application process that will indicate their readiness, capacity, and communities represented in the cohort.
- Family Engagement and Leadership initiatives and activities will be funded **March 2024** and must be completed by **December 31, 2024**.

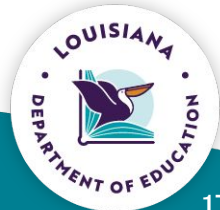
Upcoming PDG Grant Opportunities



The Workforce Planning Grant (WPG) Cohort 2

The LDOE will partner with five RSNs to participate in a new cohort of the Workforce Planning Grant and will continue to use a collaborative approach to develop local-level rationale for new strategies that support the stabilization of the ECE workforce.

- The Department will provide grants of **\$100,000 each** and technical assistance to 5 RSNs to develop a detailed analysis of community ECE workforce needs and a strategic plan to address those needs. Deliverables and a formal report will be required with this grant opportunity.
- The LDOE will select RSNs to participate based on their readiness, capacity, and communities represented in the cohort.
- The WPG Cohort 2 allocation will be sent to BESE in **March 2024** and must be expended by **December 31, 2024**.



The WPG and FEL Grant Timeline

Date	Event
December 12, 2023	Announcement of Workforce Planning and Family Engagement and Leadership Grant Cohort 2 during the CNLA Office Hours Weekly Webinar
December 12, 2023	Application Period Opens Family Engagement and Leadership Planning Grant Cohort 2 Application Workforce Planning Grant Cohort 2 Application
January 5, 2024	Application period closes - applications for both grants are due by 5:00 p.m.
January 19, 2024	Grantees will be announced via email from LDOE
March 5, 2024	Allocations for selected grantees will be presented to BESE for approval.
April - October 2024	Grant implementation period



Early Childhood Updates and Reminders



Early Childhood Updates and Reminders

Naming Shared Files Effectively

Any time a CNLA or CCR&R is sending a document to the LDOE, please include the parish name, the CNLA name, or the CCR&R name in the name of the file.

The LDOE receives documents from all parishes every time there is a submission of an application, template, etc. due. When the name of the parish/entity is not included in the file name, documents may be lost or not credited to the correct entity.

Naming convention best practice includes:

“Parish Name Title of File 202X-202Y”

For example:

“Washington Parish ECE Fund Application 2024-2025”



Early Childhood Updates and Reminders

End of Calendar Year Spending Deadlines

As the end of the calendar year approaches, Preschool Development Grant funded activities require recipients to expend funds by December 31.

All allocations for Early Childhood, including their fund source(s) and spending deadlines, can be found in the [Allocations Planning Tool](#) shared in Spring 2023 and available on the [Lead Agency Library](#).

Impacted allocations are EC Guides, Ready Start Networks, Workforce Planning Grant, Family Engagement and Leadership Grant, and Believe! Categories 1 and 3.

Updates & Reminders

Contact the program manager of each grant for questions.

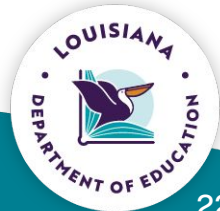


Early Childhood Updates and Reminders

Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year



MY EXPERIENCE BEING THE 2024 EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHER OF THE YEAR HAS BEEN VERY HUMBLING. FOR FAR TOO LONG I HAVE WATCHED THE WORK OF EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHERS GO UNNOTICED. I HAVE BEEN HONORED TO BE RECOGNIZED. BEING AWARDED THE 2024 EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHER OF THE YEAR, I HOPE TO ADVOCATE FOR ALL EARLY CHILDHOOD PROFESSIONALS. FOR ME, TEACHING GOES BEYOND EARNING A LIVING--IT BRINGS A SENSE OF PURPOSE AND FULFILLMENT. EVEN IN CHALLENGING TIMES, I AM GENUINELY EXCITED AND MOTIVATED ABOUT MY WORK, KNOWING THAT I AM MAKING A POSITIVE IMPACT NOT JUST ON MY STUDENTS, THEIR FAMILIES, BUT ON MY PEERS AS WELL, MY STORY IS A TESTAMENT TO THE POWER OF FOLLOWING YOUR PASSION AND FINDING FULFILLMENT IN YOUR WORK.

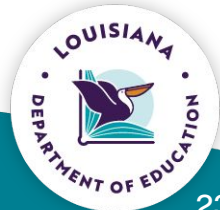


Fall 2023 CLASS[®] Observation Updates

- Community Network Lead Agencies are responsible for observing all classrooms that were open on Oct. 1, 2023, including FCC educators that opted into Academic Approval by Nov. 15, 2023
- Lead agencies can track observation completion via the “Reports” section of the [Early Childhood Portal](#), “System Level Reports” including the Community Network CLASS[®] Observations Completion Report, Community Network CLASS[®] Observations Planned, and Community Network CLASS[®] Observations Missing
- Observations must be submitted in the [Early Childhood Portal](#) by Dec. 15, 2023

Updates & Reminders

Please contact robert.jones4@la.gov for assistance



Fall 2023 CLASS® Observation Updates

Special shout out to the networks that have observed every single classroom!

**Concordia, DeSoto, Red River, St. John,
St. Mary, Terrebonne, West Carroll, Winn**

Updates & Reminders

Please contact robert.jones4@la.gov for assistance



Upcoming Events



Upcoming Events

Provider Update Webinar

CNLAs are encouraged to attend the monthly webinars for early childhood providers. These webinars will include important updates and reminders for all provider types.

Providers can access the next provider webinar using the information below:

Webinar Date/Time: Thursday, December 14, at 1 p.m.
Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93597745872>
Phone Number: 1-312-626-6799
Meeting ID: 935 9774 5872





Events and Deadlines

December 26: No CNLA Office Hours

January 2: No CNLA Office Hours

January 10: LA 4/NSECD/CCAP B-3 Attendance Due for December

January 11: Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year application due

January 28: 2024-2025 Coordinated Enrollment Plan due

Contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions





Upcoming Events

Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year Application Support Webinar

Interested applicants are invited and encouraged to attend. Please bring all questions related to applying for the Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year award to this call.

Webinar Date/Time: Thursday, December 14, at 3:30 p.m.

Phone Number: 1 312 626 6799

Meeting ID: 933 5609 9861

Meeting Passcode: 632345

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93356099861?pwd=Z0VmUGRBaXN1SmNXbk56Njc1WUloZz09>

