

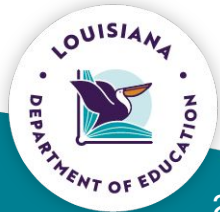
Community Network Lead Agency Office Hours



February 6, 2024

Notice: AI Recording on Zoom

Please be advised that LDOE does not permit artificial intelligence (AI) meeting recorders to join online meetings and does not consent to having this meeting recorded or transcribed.



Webinar Purpose and Objectives



Webinar Purpose and Objectives

Purpose: During the February 6, 2024 webinar, Community Network Lead Agencies (CNLAs) will review updates and reminders and learn about available grant opportunities.

Objectives: Community Network Lead Agencies will:

- Receive reminders about upcoming deadlines
- Review Family Child Care Recruitment and Outreach strategies
- Receive information about TS GOLD® Checkpoint
- Receive reminders about upcoming deadlines



Agenda

- I. Webinar Purpose and Objectives
- II. Family Child Care Recruitment and Outreach
- III. Early Childhood Reminders
- IV. Teaching Strategies Gold® Checkpoint
- V. Upcoming Events



Family Child Care Recruitment and Outreach



Family Child Care Outreach and Recruitment

Continuing the conversation in sharing how CNLAs can begin working to recruit Family Child Care Educators as part of efforts to increase access in family choice within the community.

CNLAs can anticipate learning about strategies to launch and facilitate ongoing recruitment including but not limited to how to:

- Identify and initiate initial conversations with existing FCC sites in each community
- Share the benefits of participating in Academic Approval with FCCs
- Include FCCs in CNLA events and activities
- Collaborate with all FCCs in additional ways that encourage active participation in the network

The Department encourages CNLAs to ensure that any staff members working with FCCs attend the next Office Hours on February 20 to learn more.

Family Child Care Outreach and Recruitment

Contact felicia.jackson3@la.gov for an updated list of registered FCCs.



Family Child Care Outreach and Recruitment

CNLAs are strongly encouraged to include FCCs in all community events and activities. Doing so promotes the importance of building strong relationships within the community.

The Community Network Lead Agency serves as the center-point for many resources to families within the community. CNLAs are contacted by families for support from enrollment to nutrition throughout the year.

Suggestions for Success:

- Build out quarterly/bi-annual community events that include engagement from the community (families, local businesses, early learning sites, etc.) to increase awareness of FCC sites serving children within the community and enhance relationships
- Collaborate with local partners that may have existing events in place to support and include FCC sites

Family Child Care Outreach and Recruitment
Contact felicia.jackson3@la.gov for an updated list of registered FCCs.



Early Childhood Updates and Reminders



February 1 Child Count

Per [Bulletin 140](#), Community Network Lead Agencies are required to count all publicly-funded children served at each publicly-funded site as of February 1 and submit to the LDOE by February 28.

- The Department will capture February 1 Child Count utilizing data templates. Data templates are available via the [FTP site](#) in the 2023-2024 subfolder in the Child Count folder.
- Data templates will have the following naming conventions:
CNLA_February 2024_LDOE Child Count
Program Partners_February 2024_LDOE Child Count



2022-2023 Network Summary

Network Summary Files will be available tomorrow via the FTP for Community Network Lead Agencies.

These files provide a high-level summary of the community network's 2022-2023 data on CLASS® domains, Performance Ratings and access to care. There are also comparisons to data from 2021-2022 where appropriate.

Network Summary Files will have the following naming conventions:

CNLA NAME_2022-2023_Network Summary

Early Childhood Updates and Reminders

Please contact robert.jones4@la.gov with questions.

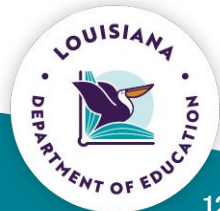


Community Network Lead Agency and Ready Start Network RFA Process Beginning

The RFA process for both Community Network Lead Agency and Ready Start Network is about to begin. All current CNLAs and RSNs should prepare their internal teams for the application process and timeline.

Initial Tasks	Deadline
Intent to Apply Email to earlychildhood@la.gov .	Tuesday March 5
Launch of RFA process for both CNLA and RSN	Tuesday March 5
RFAs for CNLA and RSN due	Tuesday April 2

Additional information will be shared at the February 20 CNLA Office Hours.



Community Network Lead Agency and Ready Start Network RFA Process Beginning

Intent to apply emails must be sent to earlychildhood@la.gov for both CNLA and RSN RFAs. Those that hold both roles may send the intent to apply in the same email.

Please use the subject line: <Entity Name> RFA Intent to Apply CNLA/RSN

Please use the following body text:

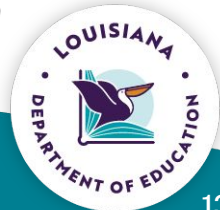
<Entity Name> <intends / does not intend> to apply for the role of CNLA (*and RSN as applicable*) for the 2024-2026 RFA period.

If not intending to apply, please explain.

If a CNLA is prepared to submit an intent to apply, submissions may begin immediately following this webinar.

Early Childhood Updates and Reminders

Questions regarding this process should be directed to janet.grigg@la.gov



Teaching Strategies GOLD® Checkpoint



TS GOLD® Checkpoint Completion

Winter TS GOLD® checkpoint is February 28, 2024. The Department has set program expectations of completion for each checkpoint. Networks should monitor completion rates at the site and classroom levels. This assessment is mandated through program assurances and included within Bulletin 140:

Sites ensure all required information for classrooms containing children from birth to five years is entered in the GOLD® online system. Additionally, all child assessment results for publicly-funded infants, toddlers, and pre-K children must be entered and checkpoints finalized by October 31, February 28, and May 31.

Fall 2023 (October 31)	Winter 2024 (February 28)	Spring 2024 (May 31)
80%	85%	90%



TS GOLD® OSEP Monitoring

Program OSEP administrators should monitor sites, classrooms, and users to ensure checkpoint completion.

For each checkpoint, OSEP Administrators should:

- ensure all children have an entry date reported;
- ensure all current students that have an IEP are marked “yes” as having an IEP. OSEP administrators are encouraged to cross-check SER each month for children with new IEPs to ensure data for all children is accurately reported;
- ensure all children with an IEP have the 4 extra objectives. These objectives include 1c1, 1c2, 1c3, and 1c4. When the child’s profile is marked “yes” for IEP, the system adds these objectives to the child’s report and they are mandatory for OSEP reporting purposes. These objectives cannot be finalized unless they are leveled.

TS GOLD® Checkpoint Completion

Please contact ECAssessment@la.gov with questions.



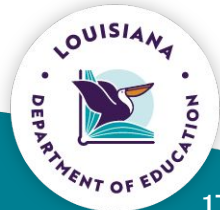
TS GOLD® OSEP Monitoring

For each checkpoint, OSEP Administrators should ensure that:

- children with an IEP do not have any objectives leveled with “Not Observed.” “Not Observed” is a null value. These children need to be leveled as “Not Yet” or leveled accordingly; and
- all children with an IEP that are being reported to OSEP will have to have at least two completed checkpoints by the end of the year or they will not be in your OSEP report.

TS GOLD® Checkpoint Completion

Please contact ECAssessment@la.gov with questions.



Upcoming Events



Upcoming Events

New Directors Office Hours

CNLAAs are asked to share this information with new directors. The LDOE team conducts webinars that focus on topics related to early childhood quality or operations. The topic for February is “LDOE Early Childhood & Navigators for a Healthy Louisiana Partnership: Affordable Health Insurance Options for Your ECE Educators & Staff.”

Attendees can access the webinar using the information below:

Date: February 23, 2024
Time: 12:00 p.m.
Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92298578944>
Phone Number: 1-346-248-7799
Meeting ID: 922 9857 8944

Upcoming Events

Please contact tella.henderson@la.gov with questions.



Upcoming Events

Monthly 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:

Date: March 7, 2024

Time: 1 p.m.

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93597745872>

Phone Number: 1-312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 935 9774 5872

Passcode: 641464



Teacher Leader Summit 2024 Registration

- Teacher Leader Summit (TLS) 2024 will be held Tuesday, May 28 through Thursday, May 30 at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.
- Early Bird Registration for TLS 2024 has closed.

[Regular registration](#) for **TLS 2024** opened on **February 3, 2024**, and closes on **March 15, 2024**, or at sellout. There will be no onsite registration. All registrations **must** be completed in advance of arriving at the event.

- Educators will use Cvent to [register](#) for the event. The LDOE strongly encourages the email address used for Cvent to be the participant's professional email address.



Upcoming Events

Contact events@emergentmethod.com with questions.



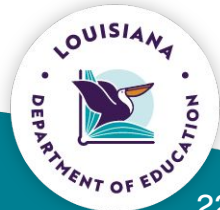
Early Childhood Conference 2024

The Early Childhood Conference (ECC) is moving to Fall 2024!

- New this year, the 2024 Early Childhood Conference will be held at two locations, in order to make it easier for providers from across the state to be able to attend:
 - **Shreveport, LA event date: September 7th**
 - **Baton Rouge, LA event date: October 5th**
- At each site, ECC 2024 is expected to be held on one day only, a Saturday, to provide more opportunity for educators and providers to attend.
- Details regarding registration and presenting at ECC will be shared at a later date.

Upcoming Events

Contact events@emergentmethod.com with questions.



Events and Deadlines



February 10: LA4/NSECD/CCAP B-3 Attendance due

February 13: No Office Hours, Mardi Gras!

February 28: Winter TS Gold® Checkpoint

February 28: February 1 Child Count Due in the [FTP site](#)

March 5: CNLA and RSN intent to apply email due to earlychildhood@la.gov

March 15: 2024 Teacher Leader Summit [Regular Registration](#) closes

Contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions



Community Network Lead Agency Office Hours



February 20, 2024

Notice: AI Recording on Zoom

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Webinar Purpose and Objectives



Webinar Purpose and Objectives

Purpose: During the February 20, 2024 webinar, Community Network Lead Agencies (CNLAs) will review updates and reminders and learn about child care access expansion activities.

Objectives: Community Network Lead Agencies will:

- Study best practices for FCC Recruitment and Outreach from other CNLAs



Agenda

- I. Webinar Purpose and Objectives
- II. Family Child Care Recruitment and Outreach
- III. Early Childhood Reminders
- IV. Upcoming Events



Family Child Care Recruitment and Outreach



Family Child Care Recruitment and Outreach

CNLA's across Louisiana are developing ways to recruitment and engage Family Child Care sites to increase involvement and build relationships.

Children's Coalition:

- Utilizing a portion of Ready Start Network funding to recruit and support FCCs
 - Assistance will be provided to becoming academically approved
 - Providing stipends and materials for business needs

Caddo Parish:

- CNLA conducts observations -strengthens relationships with the FCC Educator
- Purchasing curriculum and supplies needed
- CCAP B-3 scholarships available for eligible students
- Providing support as needed with Child Count, EdLink, and other business needs
- One-on-one communication via phone calls, emails, etc. to inform community & state level information



Family Child Care Recruitment and Outreach

CNLAs across Louisiana are developing ways to recruitment and engage Family Child Care sites to increase involvement and build relationships.

East Baton Rouge Parish:

- Network Inclusion and Engagement
- Recognize and celebrate sites (including FCCs in AA) that achieved high proficient CLASS® observation scores

Tangipahoa:

- Recruitment
 - Website & Marketing for FCCs on readystarttangi.com
 - Community Presence/Connection
- Retention
 - Relationship Building & Communication
 - Academic, technical, and funding support



Family Child Care Outreach and Recruitment

Network	Number of FCCs Registered with the LDOE	Number of FCCs in Academic Approval Prior to EE Grant	Number of FCCs in Academic Approval After Release of EE Grant	% of type III sites that are FCCs in Network
Caddo	16	5	9	14%
Children's Coalition	37	18	22	28%
E. Baton Rouge	44	15	18	16%
St. Tammany	6	2	3	7%
Tangipahoa	7	2	3	7%

Contact felicia.jackson3@la.gov with questions.



Early Childhood Updates and Reminders



February 1 Child Count

Per [Bulletin 140](#), Community Network Lead Agencies are required to count all publicly-funded children served at each publicly-funded site as of February 1 and submit to the LDOE by February 28.

- The Department will capture February 1 Child Count utilizing data templates. Data templates are available via the [FTP site](#) in the 2023-2024 subfolder in the Child Count folder.
- Data templates will have the following naming conventions:
CNLA_February 2024_LDOE Child Count
Program Partners_February 2024_LDOE Child Count



Upcoming Events



February Events

Community Network Lead Agencies are encouraged share this information with providers in their network.

February Events

CNLA Office Hours

Date: February 27, 2024 at 3:00pm

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95789083528>

Phone Number: 1-470-381-2552

Meeting ID: 957 8908 3528

Passcode: 282377

New Director Office Hours

Date: February 23, 2024 at 12:00pm

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92298578944>

Phone Number: 1-346-248-7799

Meeting ID: 922 9857 8944



Events and Deadlines



February 28: Winter TS Gold® Checkpoint

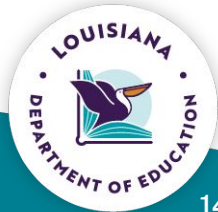
February 28: February 1 Child Count Due in the [FTP site](#)

March 5: CNLA and RSN intent to apply email due to earlychildhood@la.gov

March 11: LA4/NSECD/CCAP B-3 attendance due

March 15: 2024 Teacher Leader Summit [Regular Registration](#) closes

Contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions



Community Network Lead Agency Office Hours



February 27, 2024

Notice: AI Recording on Zoom



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Webinar Purpose and Objectives

Purpose: The Community Network Lead Agency (CNLA) Office Hours webinar provides CNLA administrators with information, updates, and reminders related to current LDOE Early Childhood Care and Education initiatives and events.

Objectives: Community Network Lead Agencies will receive:

- information regarding the B-3 Seats Application Survey;
- updates regarding Teaching Strategies GOLD® accounts;
- information highlighting the Department's workforce initiatives; and
- reminders about upcoming events and deadlines.



Agenda

- I. New Early Childhood Community Network Information and Updates
- II. Featured Topic: Update on Department Workforce Initiatives
- III. Early Childhood Community Network Reminders
- IV. Upcoming Events and Deadlines



New Early Childhood Community Network Information and Updates



B-3 Seats Application Process Survey

The Louisiana Department of Education is in the process of developing a new CCAP application. As part of this process the LDOE will be adding the capability to manage and maintain the CCAP B-3 Contracted Seats.

To assist the Department in the transition of the B-3 Contracted Seats, the State would like current network lead agencies with B-3 seats to review and respond to the [B-3 Seats Application Process Survey](#) before March 1, 2024.

These responses will assist the Department with determining how we may proceed in the development of the process in ways that may be able to integrate or communicate with existing network systems.

If you have any questions, please contact Robert.Klein3@la.gov.



Teaching Strategies GOLD®

The [GOLD Administrator Assurances List](#) is the list utilized as a point of contact by the LDOE Early Childhood Strategy Team.

Please review the list at the beginning of each month and if there are any changes, please email ECAssessment@la.gov with corrections.

This will ensure that the Early Childhood Strategy Team is able to reach GOLD® Administrators and OSEP Administrators with important information and updates.

Administrator Assurances Updates
Please email ECAssessment@la.gov with questions.



Teaching Strategies GOLD®

Early Childhood Assessment has noticed an increase in duplicate teacher accounts in the Teaching Strategies GOLD® platform.

To reduce the number of duplicate accounts, the Department is requesting that networks use the following naming conventions to add a new user (e.g., amy.smith.ldoe.1 or amy.smith.ldoe.2) only if:

- the duplicate user error came as a mistake, or
- the user does not already have a GOLD® account

If a user is listed within another parish, email ECAssessment@la.gov for assistance.



Teaching Strategies GOLD®

Early Childhood Assessment has noticed an increase in duplicate child accounts in the Teaching Strategies GOLD® platform. Functionality was added to the to prevent duplicate child portfolios.

- If you receive a message that a child portfolio already exists, do not create a new account for this child.
- Use the Child ID# provided in this message to search for the child within your program or submit a transfer request for the child to be added to your program.

Duplicate Child

This child matches the child profile associated with ChildID [#####] in GOLD®. To make changes to this child profile before adding the child, select Make Changes.

Make Changes

Duplicate Users - Child Accounts

Please email ECAssessment@la.gov with questions.



Teaching Strategies GOLD®

Because Early Childhood Assessment has noticed an increase in duplicate child accounts in the Teaching Strategies GOLD® platform, here is some information regarding transferring students.

- Transfer requests should be completed and submitted through the [TS GOLD Transfer Request Form](#).
- When completing a transfer request, please include a LASID (if available) and GOLD® ID.
- The individual making the transfer request must be recognized as a network or OSEP administrator and authorized by the superintendent of the school system to request a transfer of student data.
- The form can be submitted by the program the student is transferring to or the program that the student is transferring from.
- The person submitting the transfer request should also notify ECAssessment@la.gov that a transfer request has been submitted. *This email should not contain any identifying student information.*

Transferring Students

Please email ECAssessment@la.gov with questions.



Featured Topic

Update on Department Workforce Initiatives



Updates on Department Early Childhood Workforce Stabilization Efforts

During Fall Collaboratives, the Department shared information about the efforts being executed related to early childhood workforce stabilization.

In recent months, the LDOE has continued these efforts by engaging two groups of early childhood stakeholders:

- The Workforce Stabilization Study Group (WSSG), and
- The Impact Team

As part of our featured topic today, the Early Childhood Strategy team will share updates from these stakeholder meetings.



LDOE Early Childhood Workforce Priorities

EC Workforce Stakeholder Groups

Workforce Stabilization Study Group

The Study Group is made up of EC experts who work in or directly support the field.

Participants are tasked with:

- reviewing research and exploring the impacts of workforce support and stabilization strategies used locally and nationally
 - applying the knowledge gained to field-based realities
 - making recommendations that will be shared with the Impact Team

Impact Team

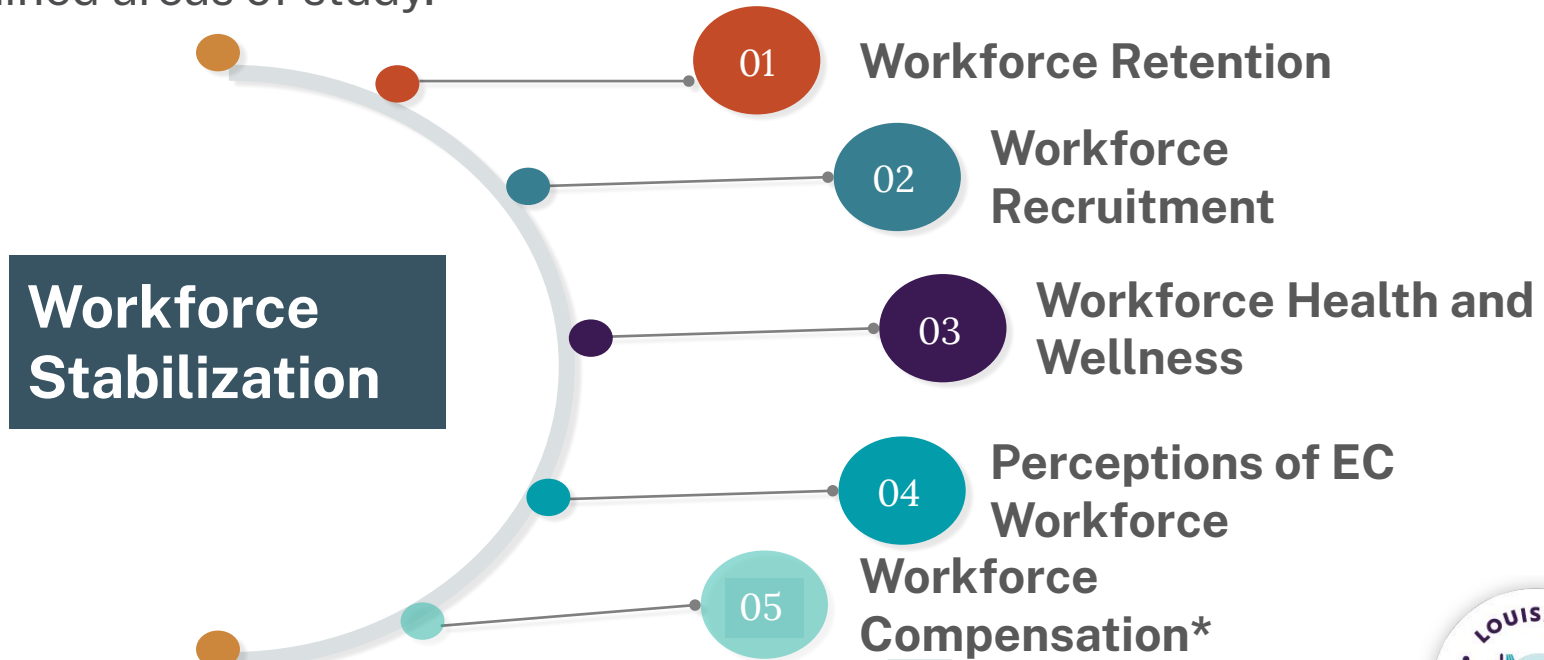
The Impact Team is made up of stakeholders who work at local and state agencies.

Participants are tasked with:

- reviewing the field-based perspectives, promising practices, and recommendations provided by the Study Group
- using this information to inform policy recommendations and develop strategies to address Louisiana's workforce needs while considering field-based realities

Workforce Stabilization Study Group Activities

As part of the initial meeting the Workforce Stabilization Study Group determined areas of study.



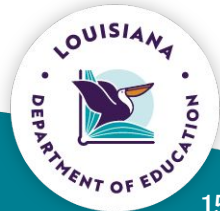
Workforce Retention Data and Information

Once the Workforce Stabilization Study Group identified the topics of study, the Early Childhood Strategy Team worked to gather information and data about the initial topic of study: early childhood teacher retention.

Initial information gathered related to retention fell into two primary areas:

- Engagement and Support
- Wellbeing and workforce conditions

These two areas are supported by national, state, and local data related to workforce retention.



The Impact of an Unstable EC Workforce

The data and information gathered, highlighted that unsatisfied teachers are less equipped to promote children's development and more likely to leave the classroom and that there are several key indicators related to why EC teachers leave the field.

Job-related Characteristics

- low pay
- working conditions
- poor relationships with children, families, or co-workers
- workplace stability

Individual Teachers' Attributes

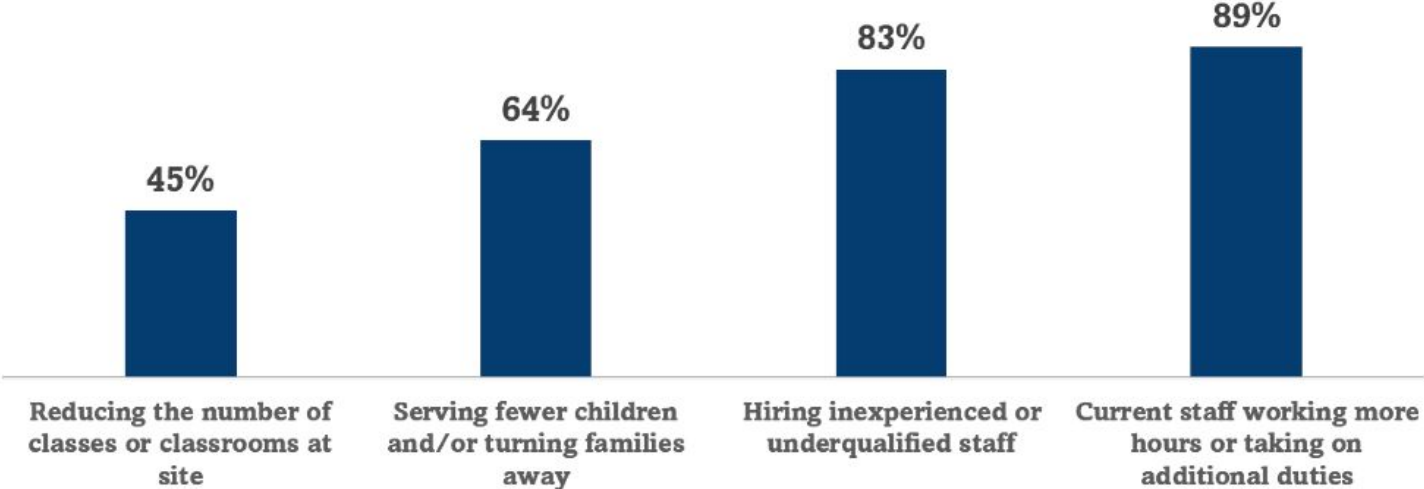
- high levels of stress
- poor well-being

Grant, A. A., Jeon, L., & Buettner, C. K. (2019). Relating early childhood teachers' working conditions and well-being to their turnover intentions. *Educational Psychology, 39*(3), 294-312.



Louisiana EC Workforce Staff Turnover Impact

Leaders who tried to fill vacancies reported the following impacts due to staffing shortages:



National 2023 Workplace Trends

Quiet quitting employees understand what they would change about their workplace to make it better.

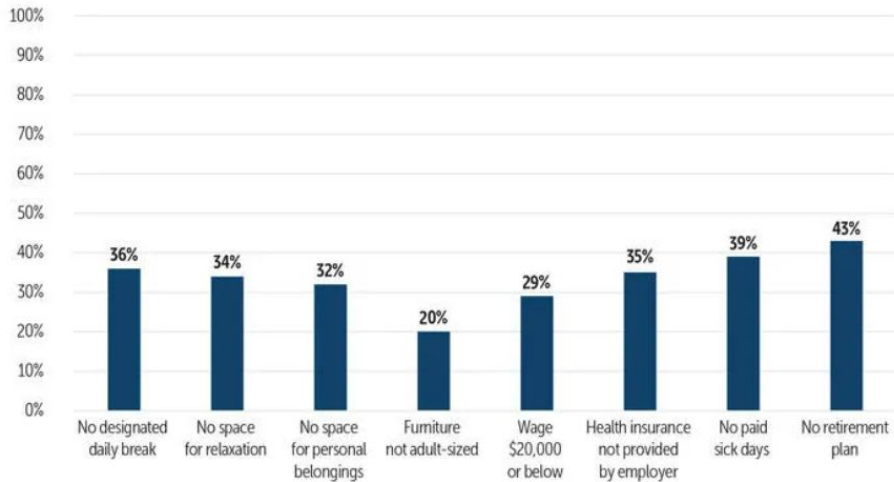


Early Childhood Workforce Well-Being

- Research from the Happy Teacher Project (2021) found that many EC teachers suffer from stress and demonstrate an overall lack of well-being at rates and levels that threaten quality and the retention of the EC Workforce.
- **Infant-toddler teachers** experience increased physical job demands than preschool teachers. These findings suggest that working conditions play a large role in EC Workforce well-being.
- In addition, there are added challenges of working with children with challenging behaviors or exposure to trauma.

Early Childhood Workforce Well-Being

Figure 3. Infant–Toddler Teachers' Working Conditions



Source: Kwon, Ford, Salvatore, et al., 2020

Complex issues face the EC Workforce including a systemic lack of workforce appreciation.

Field-Based Perspective: WSSG Comments

Engagement and support was the first category the WSSG chose to study related to workforce retention.

The WSSG members noted the following:

- Retaining infant/toddler teachers is challenging
- Current wages are not realistic for teachers with families
- Directors cannot sustain infant classrooms due to low ratios and the cost of additional teachers
- Exit interviews with teachers often revealed a high level of stress as a predominant factor in their decision to leave

The WSSG members' feedback was shared with the Impact Team last week and they are currently working to develop systems-level process to address workforce retention.



Opportunity for Reflective Discussion

- **Impact Team Network Member Insights**
 - Is there anything you would like to you would share about your participation on the Impact Team and the data and information shared today?
- **Network Leader Insights**
 - How does the data and information shared today align with what you are seeing in your networks?



Early Childhood Updates and Reminders



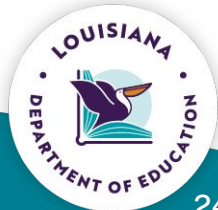
Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year

The LDOE is finalizing application reviews and will announce the Finalists by the end of March, 2024!

Community Network Lead Agencies are encouraged to provide additional support to Finalists in their network as they transition into the Interview round in April 2024, such as practicing interview skills, testing Zoom, and reviewing their responses to past interview questions.

Candidates that are not selected as Finalists also deserve recognition and support. Please encourage those applicants to apply again next year, recognize them in Network meetings, and support them in improving their future application.

For questions about the Teacher and Leader of the Year Award Program, contact
shallan.jones@la.gov



Community Network Lead Agency and Ready Start Network RFA Process

All interested applicants are encouraged to attend the Community Network Lead Agency and Ready Start Network Lead Agency Request for Applications (RFA) Informational Webinar on March 5, 2024, from 3:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to learn about the requirements of the RFA and receive a link to the applications.

Please refer to the Zoom invitation below:

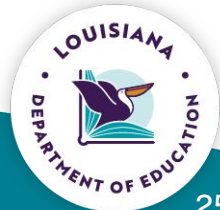
Date: March 5, 2024

Time: 3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us>

Meeting ID: 969 1233 0590

Passcode: 420266



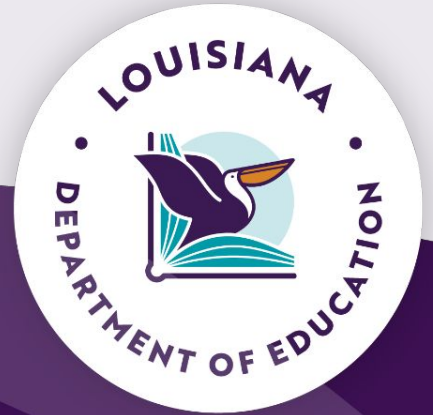
February 1 Child Count

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Upcoming Events



Upcoming Events

Monthly Provider Update Webinar

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

Attendees can access the webinar using the information below:

Date: March 7, 2024

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93597745872>

Phone Number: 1-312-626-6799

Meeting ID: 935 9774 5872

Passcode: 641464



Events and Deadlines

February 28: Winter TS Gold® Checkpoint Deadline

February 28: February 1 Child Count Due in the [FTP site](#)

March 5: CNLA and RSN intent to apply email due to earlychildhood@la.gov

March 7: [Early Childhood Provider Update Webinar](#)

March 11: LA4/NSECD/CCAP B-3 attendance due

March 15: 2024 Teacher Leader Summit [Regular Registration](#) closes



Please contact earlychildhood@la.gov with questions.





Thank You!

The Early Childhood Strategy Leadership Team

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