

LDOE Weekly Newsletter: September 3, 2024

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Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours and Monthly Calls

- 2024-2025 Charter RFA Technical Assistance Webinar: [September 5 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Annual Financial Report Training Webinar: [September 5 at 2 p.m.](#)
- System Leaders Monthly Call: [September 6 at 9 a.m.](#)
- EdLink Workforce Dashboard Office Hours: [September 9 at 9:30 a.m.](#)
- Assessment and Accountability Office Hours: [September 10 at 3 p.m.](#)
- EdLink Workforce Dashboard Office Hours: [September 11 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Local-Authorizer Monthly Call: [September 11 at 11 a.m.](#)
- BESE-Authorized Charter Monthly Call: [September 12 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Educational Technology Monthly Call: [September 12 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Certification Monthly Call: [September 16 at 10:30 a.m.](#)
- Student Data Collection Training Webinar: [September 16 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Act 260 Numeracy Training Office Hours: [September 18 at 9 a.m.](#)
- Nonpublic Schools Monthly Call: [September 18 at 2 p.m.](#)
- Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR) Monthly Call: [September 19 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Preparation Provider Monthly Call: [September 25 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Teaching and Learning Monthly Call: [September 25 at 1 p.m.](#)
- Nutrition Support Monthly Call: [October 1 at 1 p.m.](#)

Upcoming Events and Deadlines

- Students of the Year Informational Overview Webinar 1: [September 4 at 9 a.m.](#)
- 2024-2025 Charter RFA Technical Assistance Webinar: [September 5 at 10 a.m.](#)
- Students of the Year Informational Overview Webinar 2: [September 5 at 1 p.m.](#)
- The Writing Revolution Training Interest Form Completion Deadline: [September 6](#)
- [Early Childhood Conference](#): September 7, Shreveport
- [School Support Institutes](#) Session 1: September 10-17
- [System Leader Regional Collaboration](#) Session 1: September 10-17
- Teacher Exit Survey Submission Deadline: September 13
- Developing Strong Literacy Skills in Grades 4-8 Webinar: [September 18 at 2 p.m.](#)
- September Charter Refresher: September 19
- [Nominations for Excellent Educators](#) Submission Deadline: September 30
- [Elementary School Counselor Report Survey](#) Submission Deadline: October 1
- [Early Childhood Conference](#): October 5, Baton Rouge
- 2025-2026 In-Person Super App Launch during LASAFAP: October 17
- [2024-2025 School Health Survey](#) Submission Deadline: October 18
- 2025-2026 Super App Virtual Launch: [October 22 at 10 a.m.](#)

Teaching and Learning

Academic Content

Data Sharing Agreements Available for Code.org and Barobo

Please share with academic supervisors, IT administrators, principals, technology directors, and technology teachers.

Statewide data-sharing agreements are now available for Code.org and Barobo. [Code.org](#) is a non-profit organization that provides free computer science lessons and resources for K-12 students and teachers. [Barobo](#) offers robotics materials and curriculum and has partnered with the LDOE for the Middle School Robotics Lab Pilot.

Learn more at the [LDOE Data Sharing Agreements](#) webpage or contact STEM@la.gov with questions.

Educator Talent and Workforce Development

The New Teacher Experience - Professional Learning Modules

Please share with school leaders, school system leaders, and new teachers.

The LDOE, in partnership with A+PEL, has developed monthly professional learning modules on topics that are critical for new teacher success. These modules include online asynchronous content followed by an in-person learning lab where participants practice and apply these concepts.

Teachers are expected to complete the entire series of Professional Learning Modules. These five modules are designed to build learning throughout the year.

- Module 1: Classroom Management/Classroom Environment
- Module 2: Standards and Curriculum
- Module 3: Data Literacy
- Module 4: Literacy for 21st Century Learners
- Module 5: Parent and Community Engagement

This year, complimentary seating for the first 245 registrants will be offered. Half of the seats for the northern location (Monroe) and half for the southern location (Port Allen) will be reserved as complementary seating. Once those seats are exhausted, teachers may still attend but there will be a cost of \$1,272.00 per teacher to complete the series of modules.

Teachers will be asked to receive approval to attend from their school leader. [Registration](#) is now open. Once teachers complete the registration, participants will receive details on selected training locations. Participants will also receive an invitation to access the online asynchronous modules.

Please contact laurie.carlton@la.gov with questions.

School Improvement

School Support Institutes/System Leader Regional Collaboration Session 1

Please share with system and school leaders.

[School Support Institutes](#) and [System Leader Regional Collaboration](#) begin next week. Registered participants will receive an email from SSIsupport@la.gov this week with logistic information including parking directions and room assignments.

SSI Integrated Pathway participants are asked to bring beginning-of-the-year informal classroom observation data to the session. Guidance for collecting the data, along with SSI overview information, can be found at this [link](#). SSI Literacy Pathway participants should bring their school's literacy plan if available. Additionally, the team should bring or have access to any relevant data needed to create literacy goals, such as LEAP scores, DIBELS scores, and intervention data.

System leaders from the same system are asked to attend the Regional Collaborations at the same cohort. Following the sessions on System Coherence, Instructional Coherence, and Leadership Capacity Building, system leadership teams will have an opportunity to huddle for sharing and collaborative planning pertaining to the pathway learning.

- **Sept 10:** Monroe ULM Campus Bayou Pointe, 1 Warhawk Way
- **Sept 11:** Shreveport Convention Center, 400 Caddo Street
- **Sept 12:** Lafayette ULL Student Union, 620 McKinley Street
- **Sept 13:** New Orleans Pontchartrain Convention Center, 4545 Williams Boulevard
- **Sept 17:** Baton Rouge Crowne Plaza, 4728 Constitution Avenue

SSI is from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Regional Collaboration is from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Please email SSIsupport@la.gov with questions or registration change requests.

Governmental, Administrative, Public Affairs, and Operations

2024-2025 Title I, Part A - Annual Comparability Reports

Share with superintendents and federal program directors.

The LDOE will release the 2024-2025 SY Title I Comparability Report section in eGMS on September 16.

Title I Comparability requires school systems* to demonstrate that services provided with state and local funds are comparable between both Title I schools and non-Title I schools, or are substantially comparable for school systems with all Title I schools.

School systems should use October 2023 staffing and salary data to complete this report. Please access the [Comparability Instructions](#) for further details on how to complete the report. The completed report should be submitted via eGMS no later than November 15.

For assistance with completing this report, access the [Comparability FAQ](#) document or contact DOE-program.monitoring@la.gov.

**School systems with one school per grade span and Type 2, 3, 3B, and 5 charters are exempt from this submission.*

Louisiana Elementary and Secondary Education Act Fiscal Flexibility Waiver Request

Please share with federal program directors, business managers, superintendents, and financial officials.

Instructional loss presented unique learning challenges for Louisiana's students, increasing the need to provide continued, evidence-based instructional strategies to support learning loss and provide educators with targeted professional development. LDOE requested the U. S. Department of Education (ED) approve its tydings waiver to receive the opportunity to access additional flexibilities for certain funds received under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA). This waiver will support the statewide instructional focus areas, including literacy, STEM, and college and career activities. The state has already witnessed positive gains regarding student learning loss recovery efforts.

In recent communication received from ED, the requested ESEA Waiver has been approved. This waiver includes flexibility for carryover limitations on FY 2023 Title I Part A funds, period of availability of FY 2022 funds for Title I Part A, B, C, and D; Title II Part A, Title III Part A, Title IV Part A and B; and Title V Part B Subpart 2. For additional information, please review the [FY22 ESEA Waiver](#).

Please contact ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov with questions.

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

LEAP 2025 Social Studies Resources

Please share with school and system leaders, testing coordinators, and teachers.

In 2024-2025, the social studies assessments for grades 3-8 and Civics for high school will be administered as an operational assessment that will be included in school performance scores. The “Classroom Assessment Items” have been revised, updated, and renamed and are now available in the [Assessment Guidance Library](#) under the Social Studies Assessment Resources heading. Teachers should focus on teaching the curriculum and using the embedded assessments. The “LEAP Practice Questions” contain essentially the same content; the renaming intends to make a clearer distinction between curricular resources and LEAP assessment resources. Revisions and updates include:

- Stylistic changes primarily regarding purpose-setting statements
- Item-specific scoring rubrics for CRs and ERs
- Minor content corrections primarily focused on precision in wording

[LEAP Practice Questions Civics PDF](#)

[LEAP Practice Questions Social Studies Grade 3 PDF](#)

[LEAP Practice Questions Social Studies Grade 4 PDF](#)

[LEAP Practice Questions Social Studies Grade 5 PDF](#)

[LEAP Practice Questions Social Studies Grade 6 PDF](#)

[LEAP Practice Questions Social Studies Grade 7 PDF](#)

[LEAP Practice Questions Social Studies Grade 8 PDF](#)

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Innovative Assessment for ELA

Please share with testing coordinators and school leaders.

The department announced the discontinuance of the Innovative Assessment for ELA at all grade levels. Participating schools and systems have until September 30 to download reports from the ADAM testing and reporting platform before it is permanently closed to Louisiana users. The LDOE will maintain score files but will not have access to PDF score reports after September 30.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Assessment Data Certification

Please share with accountability contact and school leaders.

Assessment data certification opened on August 29 in La Data Review. With the opening, schools received assessment rosters for all schools that included scores from LEAP, LEAP Connect, ELPT, ELPT Connect, and Innovative Assessments for ELA. School systems also received a separate ELPT progress roster that confirms the points awarded to the assessment index included in the SPS. LEAP progress rosters are not yet available, and accountability contacts will be notified when they are posted.

School systems should work through their district accountability contact who has been granted an account in La Data Review. All submissions must be completed and submitted no later than September 25. Data not corrected during the appropriate cleanup period cannot be used to appeal school performance scores once released.

Please contact assessment@la.gov with questions.

Career and College Readiness

Elementary School Counselor Survey

Please share with K-6 school counselors and administrators.

Per [R.S. 17:3005](#), “School counselors shall provide preventive and developmental counseling services to all public elementary school students in kindergarten through grade six in order to prepare them for middle, junior, and senior high school responsibilities and their social and physical development”.

Elementary school counselors and administrators should complete the [Elementary School Counselor Report Survey](#) to provide feedback on school counseling programs by October 1.

Please contact candace.ioseph@la.gov with questions.

2024-2025 School Health Survey

Please share with school principals.

As required by state law, the LDOE monitors and evaluates health, recess, physical activity, and employee training in schools to provide an annual report to the Louisiana Legislature. Participation is critical to providing accurate, high-quality data to the Senate and House Committees on Health and Welfare. Also, the LDOE is required to collect information to provide funding to schools for AEDs and CPR/First Aid kits.

Although information may be collected from other staff, please have each principal in each school complete the [2024-2025 School Health Survey](#) by October 18.

Please contact healthyschools@la.gov with questions.

U.S. Presidential Scholars Program

Please share with system leaders, principals, and teachers.

The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program was established to recognize and honor some of our nation's most distinguished graduating high school students selected on the basis of outstanding scholarship. All high school seniors graduating between January and August 2025, who are U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents and who attend public, parochial, or independent schools, as well as those who are home-schooled, are eligible. School systems can submit, for LDOE consideration, up to two students in the General Component and up to two students in the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Component. The Department can nominate up to 10 males and 10 females AND up to five additional students for the CTE recognition component. To learn more about the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program and the Commission on Presidential Scholars, please visit <http://www.ed.gov/psp>.

This is a recognition program, not a scholarship program. The 2025 U.S. Presidential Scholars will be selected by the Commission on Presidential Scholars and receive the Presidential Scholars Medallion.

In order to recommend students for nomination to the program, school systems are required to submit to the LDOE a parental release form for each nominated student and complete a [JotForm application](#) for each student by 4 p.m. November 6. It is recommended that school systems review the LDOE evaluation rubric prior to nominating students.

Please contact tiffany.thomas@la.gov with questions.

School Choice

Charter Schools

2024-2025 Annual RFA Charter Application Updates and Webinar

Please share with school system leaders and LEA Charter Authorizers.

The 2024-2025 Common Charter Application was revised and approved by BESE August 20.. During the Technical Assistance Webinar, the Office of School Choice will share the application revisions, the new Common Charter Application timeline, and important documents for school systems. School systems must have one person attend.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** September 5 at 10 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92921283038?pwd=aZ1fqszh6ki7KUjbszFRUgRLo6frNh.1>

Please contact Jade.Gambino@la.gov with questions.

2024-2025 Virtual September Refresher for BESE-Authorized Charters

Please share with BESE-Authorized school leaders.

The Office of School Choice is developing virtual training sessions for BESE-Authorized Charter School Leaders. This virtual session will be held on September 19. Topics include:

- Technology Readiness for Testing
- Data Management
- System Overview
- CSP Subgrant Opportunity
- Q & A

This series will be designed for schools in pre-opening, newly hired staff in related positions, or those in need of a refresher. Use the [Jotform](#) to register by September 17.

Please contact charters@la.gov with questions.

Nonpublic Schools

2025-2026 BESE and Brumfield v Dodd Approval Application

Please share with nonpublic school leaders.

Nonpublic Schools Seeking State Approval must apply annually for approval by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE). To become eligible for state and federal funding, schools must be approved by BESE and also comply with Brumfield vs. Dodd, a federal court order that prohibits discrimination.

The [2025-2026 BESE Approval Application](#) is now available through October 15. The 2025-2026 Brumfield v Dodd Application is accessible within the BESE application.

Please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with questions.

2024-2025 Nonpublic School Annual Reporting

Please share with nonpublic school leaders and data managers.

The annual enrollment report window for all nonpublic schools approved by BESE (Private Schools Seeking State Approval) to submit their school's 2024-2025 annual enrollment data opened on August 26 and closes on October 15.

Prior to completing NPS annual enrollment reports, the school administrator who will be entering the accurate data is required to set up an EdLink account and request the "NPS School Manager Role." Please review and follow the request steps in the [NPS Edlink Manual for the Annual Enrollment Report PDF](#).

Please contact nonpublicschools@la.gov with questions.

Quarter 1 Scholarship Enrollment

Please share with nonpublic school leaders and data managers.

Quarter 1 reporting for the Louisiana Scholarship Program (SEE) and School Choice Program (SCS) must be submitted September 3-9 in order to receive tuition payments on time.

- If any information is incorrect or a student is missing from the roster, please contact studentscholarships@la.gov immediately for assistance.
- If the enrollment reports are not accurate and submitted on time, it affects the student enrollment counts and delays tuition payments.
- Each school is responsible for reviewing the final quarterly enrollment report as entered in the LEADS system.
- If a student drops, please follow the drop procedures so that the student can be dropped from the roster.

**Please note that the payment report generated in LEADS does not accurately reflect final payment amounts.*

Schools will have 30 days from the last day of the quarterly enrollment reporting period each quarter to report any enrollment issues.

Please contact studentscholarships@la.gov with questions.

School System Relations

Seeking Nominations for Excellent Educators

Please share with teachers, school, and school system leaders.

The LDOE is currently seeking nominations for Teacher and Principal of the Year, Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year, and New Teacher of the Year. (Candidates for the New Teacher of the Year program must have less than one year of teaching experience.)

By September 30, please submit nominations via the [nominations portal](#). Multiple nominations are accepted, as well as self-nominations. Upon portal closure, the nomination information will be shared with school systems for their consideration.

Please share the information for the [nominations portal](#) with stakeholders and encourage everyone to nominate outstanding teachers and leaders.

Please contact excellenteducators@la.gov with questions.