



# Important News for **NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS**



October 14, 2021

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## Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours	
Office Hours Title	Zoom Link
<a href="#">Science of Reading Implementation Office Hours</a>	<a href="#">October 18 at 3:30 p.m.</a>
P-EBT Data Managers Office Hours	<a href="#">October 19 at 10 a.m.</a>
Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours	<a href="#">October 19 at 3 p.m.</a>
<a href="#">Assessment and Accountability Office Hours</a>	<a href="#">October 19 at 3:45</a>
K-2 CLASS® Pilot Office Hours	<a href="#">October 26 at 12 p.m.</a>
<a href="#">Career and College Readiness Office Hours</a>	<a href="#">November 4 at 3 p.m.</a>
School System Planning Office Hours	<a href="#">November 12 at 10 a.m.</a>
Monthly Calls*	
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
System Leaders Roundtable	<a href="#">October 15 at 9 a.m.</a>
Legislative and Policy Support Monthly Call	<a href="#">October 18 at 10 a.m.</a>
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	<a href="#">October 19 at 3:45 p.m.</a>
<b>Nonpublic Monthly Call</b>	<b><a href="#">October 20 at 2 p.m.</a></b>
Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call	<a href="#">October 21 at 10 a.m.</a>

Preparation Providers Monthly Call	<a href="#">October 27 at 10 a.m.</a>
Academic Content and Educator Development Monthly Call	<a href="#">October 27 at 1 p.m.</a>
Education Technology Monthly Call	<a href="#">October 28 at 9 a.m.</a>
Nutrition Support Monthly Call	<a href="#">November 2 at 1 p.m.</a>
Literacy Monthly Call	<a href="#">November 4 at 10 a.m.</a>
Data Coordinator Monthly Call	<a href="#">November 4 at 1 p.m.</a>
System Leaders Monthly Call	<a href="#">November 5 at 9 a.m.</a>
CLSD UIN Communities of Practice	<a href="#">November 12 at 11 a.m.</a>
Teaching and Learning Roundtable	<a href="#">November 12 at 11 a.m.</a>
Career and College Readiness Monthly Call	<a href="#">November 18 at 3 p.m.</a>
*Monthly call presentations are available in the <a href="#">School Improvement Library</a> . View the <a href="#">School System Support Calendar</a> to access a complete schedule of events.	
<b>Upcoming Events</b>	
<b>Event Title</b>	<b>Zoom Link</b>
<a href="#">Fall Virtual Counselor Institute</a>	<a href="#">October 19 at 9 a.m. &amp; October 20 at 1 p.m.</a>
<a href="#">Principal Webinar Series</a>	<a href="#">October 25 at 2 p.m.</a>
<a href="#">Interests and Opportunities Principals and School System Leaders Webinar</a>	<a href="#">October 27 at 2 p.m.</a>
<b>Important Deadlines</b>	

<a href="#"><u>Nonpublic Schools (NPS) Annual Data Reporting Due</u></a>	<b>October 15</b>
<a href="#"><u>High Cost Services Application Due</u></a>	October 29
<a href="#"><u>Mentor and Resident Funding Data Template Due</u></a>	October 29
<a href="#"><u>Louisiana Scholarship Program Notice of Intent (NOI) Due</u></a>	<b>October 30</b>
<a href="#"><u>School Choice Program Notice of Intent (NOI) Due</u></a>	<b>October 30</b>
<a href="#"><u>BESE School Approval Due</u></a>	<b>October 30</b>
<a href="#"><u>Act 419 Dyslexia Report Due</u></a>	October 31
<a href="#"><u>2021 Governor's Outstanding Leadership in Disabilities (GOLD) Awards &amp; Inclusive Art Contest Nominations Due</u></a>	November 1
<a href="#"><u>School Plan Family Engagement Survey</u></a>	December 1

# Nonpublic Schools Annual Data Reporting

## Portal Access

Annual Data Reporting-Deadline is **October 15<sup>th</sup>**

The Nonpublic Schools portal (NPS) is now open for annual submissions –the final deadline for all submissions is **October 15<sup>th</sup>**. You are encouraged to have your submission completed by October 12th.

- To complete your submission please log in to the [LEADS portal](#). The link to access the portal is [here](#). Once you have logged into the LEADS portal, please click on the NPS tab to begin the annual submission process.
- If you cannot remember your password or your password has expired, use this link to change your password: <https://password.doe.louisiana.gov>
- Please remember to turn off pop-up blockers when trying to access the LEADS portal. <http://www.wikihow.com/Disable-Popup-Blockers>.
- To complete the Nonpublic School Annual Data Submission, follow these steps or consult the [Nonpublic Annual School Report User Guide](#)
- *If your contact information (ex. Principal name, email address, etc) needs to be updated in the portal, please send an email to [studentscholarships@la.gov](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov) with the information that needs to be updated. This information will have to be updated by our team at a later date. **You can still move forward with submitting your annual data report and DO NOT need to wait for this information to be updated.***
- **When requesting assistance, please include your username with each request sent via email.**

## Notice of Intent (NOI): Deadline is October 30th

Schools must complete the Notice of Intent (NOI) by **October 30th**. To submit your school's Notice of Intent to participate for the 2022-2023 school year, click or copy and paste the links below for the into your browser and to complete the short survey for the respective programs. You must use Google chrome to complete the jotforms. If you encounter any issues with the jotforms or have questions, please contact us directly at [scholarshipschools@la.gov](mailto:scholarshipschools@la.gov) for assistance.

- **Louisiana Scholarship Program-NOI**
  - Important notes for continuing Scholarship schools: If you only wish to keep your current Scholarship students, you must **STILL** complete this NOI but mark that you would not like to accept new students.
  - Please note that due to recent legislation, the 20% enrollment cap for new schools is no longer in place. Additionally, schools must be accredited or provisionally accredited by: Southern Association of Colleges and Schools accreditation organizations, the Cognia accreditation organizations, the National Association of Independent Schools accreditation organizations, the Louisiana Montessori Association, and the diocese or archdiocese in which the school is located.
  - Additional information regarding provisional accreditation will be provided in the coming months.
  - The link for the Louisiana Scholarship Notice of Intent can be found [here](#): <https://form.jotform.com/212694690529163>

- **School Choice Program-NOI**
  - The link for the School Choice Program Notice of Intent can be found [here](https://form.jotform.com/212705523376151): <https://form.jotform.com/212705523376151>

## BESE School Approval: Deadline extended October 30th

The Nonpublic Schools Seeking BESE Approval process began on October 1st. The deadline for submissions has been extended to **October 30th**. If you have any questions regarding the school approval process please contact our office at [nonpublicschools@la.gov](mailto:nonpublicschools@la.gov).

- The link to the Nonpublic School Approval Checklist can be found [here](#).
- The link to the jotform can be found here: <https://form.jotform.com/212735851056153>

## Tuition & Fees

Tuition and Fees Certification Worksheets will be distributed soon to all participating schools to confirm tuition and fees. Please sign and return the worksheets via email to [studentscholarships@la.gov](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov) within the determined timeframe. This is an important part of the auditing review at the end of the year.

## Louisiana Scholarship Program

### Hurricane IDA Updates

### Displaced Students

- Do not exit any students that have been displaced until you have been able to confirm if any students have left their system. We will verify any duplicate enrollments within the quarter 2 enrollment verification phase (12/1-12/3 for LSP and 11/3 - 11/5 for SCP).
- If a student has been displaced due to Hurricane Ida, and they will be returning to your school prior to the first date of the Quarter 2 enrollment verification date of 12/1 for LSP and 11/3 for SCP, please keep them on your roster unless they have been a confirmed drop.
- If the student does not intend to return to your school by the first date of the Quarter 2 verification date.
- Please contact the family to see if they would like to request a transfer to another participating scholarship school. Follow the student transfer process outlined below.
- If the family does not wish to transfer the student and will not be returning to your school prior to the Quarter 2 date, you may drop the student following the procedure below.
- If the family is experiencing a displacement that will likely continue past the Quarter 2 enrollment verification window, please contact your Portfolio Opportunities point of contact with the details of the situation and they can make a determination of if the student is able to maintain their scholarship for the remainder of the year.

## **Student Transfer Process**

- Transfer [Forms](#) must be completed and emailed to studentscholarships@la.gov.
- Please allow 5 business days for confirmation of processing before contacting studentscholarships@la.gov with questions.
- Schools will be notified of approval or denial of requests once they have been processed. Schools will be required to notify the parents of the outcome of the request.
- Transfers are only allowed to schools that meet accountability standards and who have Department approved available scholarship seats.

## **Student Drop Process**

- When requesting to drop a student, please submit one of the following documents in order for the request to be approved.
- Documentation in writing from the parent that their student no longer wishes to participate in the scholarship program OR
- Attendance documentation indicating five consecutive days of absence from the beginning of the school year. Quarantine would NOT count as an absence OR
- A request for student records from another school for the scholarship student OR
- Notification from the parent (can be an email or text)

## **Operations**

### **Federal Support and Grantee Relations**

#### **FY 2021-2022 Education Excellence Fund (EEF) Application**

The FY 2021-2022 Education Excellence Fund (EEF) Application is now available in LDOE's Electronic Grants Management System (eGMS). The submission deadline is **October 21**. Please review the EEF Application information (EEF Slide Deck) under the Announcements section on the eGMS logon page. In addition, the EEF presentation can be retrieved by using the link to navigate to the [FSGR Library](#).

**Non-Public applicants must complete the EEF Contact Information and Assurances sections of the LEA Central Data before the EEF Application Create tab will be populated by the system.**

Please contact [ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov) with questions

## **School System Financial Services**

### **Scholarship Audit Engagement Letters**

Pursuant to Section 1303 of Bulletin 133, State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education requires the Department to audit the financial performance and capacity of Scholarship schools as a criterion for continued participation in the Scholarship program.



Beginning **Monday, October 11th**, the audit firms conducting the financial audits will begin contacting schools via an engagement letter. The letter will include audit dates and an in-depth description of the process and school responsibilities.

The audit firm assigned to your school is based on the district in which your school is located. Please click [here](#) for the list of districts covered by each firm.

If your school has not been contacted by the assigned audit firm by October 15th, or if you have any questions, please contact [staudit@la.gov](mailto:staudit@la.gov) .

### **Scholarship Audit – Internal Control Questionnaire**

Participating Scholarship schools are required to complete the [Internal Control Questionnaire](#). This information is provided to assist in evaluating that financial operations are effective and efficient and that schools have a reliable financial reporting system and comply with applicable laws and regulations. The completed questionnaire is due by **Friday, October 22, 2021** via e-mail to [staudit@la.gov](mailto:staudit@la.gov) .

### **2021-22 Scholarship Financial Audit Information**

The School System Financial Services state audit team has prepared a presentation on the financial audit which include instructions on how to ensure your school is prepared for this year's financial audit.

You can access a copy of the PowerPoint [here](#).

You may contact [staudit@la.gov](mailto:staudit@la.gov) with audit-specific questions and [studentscholarships@la.gov](mailto:studentscholarships@la.gov) with Scholarship program-specific questions.

### **Scholarship Program Budget**

The initial Scholarship Program budget is due Friday, October 22, 2021. Schools should provide specific details in this budget demonstrating how the total estimated SSEEPP revenue will be allocated and spent for the 2021-2022 school year.

Items to note:

1. No actual expenditures should be reported in the expenditures column at this time.
2. The total enrollment on the budget should exclude Pre-K students.

Submit your [budget form](#) via e-mail to [staudit@la.gov](mailto:staudit@la.gov).

Please reach out to [staudit@la.gov](mailto:staudit@la.gov) with any questions or concerns about the audit process.

## **Finance Strategy, Policy & Leadership Professional Learning Opportunity**

Earlier this year, LEAs indicated their interest in receiving Strategic budgeting and planning support. We are excited to offer our LEAs targeted budget planning support, through participation in Georgetown University Edunomics Lab - [Certificate in Education Finance](#).

The Certificate in Education Finance is hands-on and practice-based with the goal of equipping participants with skills they need in strategic fiscal management, finance policy analysis, and financial leadership to leverage dollars to do the most for students. Participants are not required to have finance experience in order to register. Download [program flyer](#).

### **Registration Details:**

[Ace Hotel](#) - New Orleans, LA

November 9-10, 2021

8 a.m.- 4 p.m. CT each day

All interested participants must [register in advance via this link](#) and use the nomination code **RC-KNLA**. Through the support from our Regional Comprehensive Center partner, we will be sponsoring the tuition of the first 65 registrants. Additional registrants will be provided a reduced tuition rate.

Please contact [Jordan.Tollefson@georgetown.edu](mailto:Jordan.Tollefson@georgetown.edu) with questions.

## **Federal Support and Grantee Relations**

### **2021 – 2022 High Cost Services (HCS) Fund Application**

The Department has established a High Cost Services (HCS) grant to support Louisiana school systems and schools in providing high cost special education services for students with disabilities. The 2021-2022 High Cost Services Round 1 Application is now open in the eGMS system. The deadline to submit the HCS Round 1 Application in the eGMS system is Wednesday, November 3.

Please contact [ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov](mailto:ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov) with questions and comments submissions, and place “HCS Fund Application” in the subject line.

### **Consolidated Monitoring Schedule for 2021-2022 SY**

The Department conducts annual monitoring of school systems to ensure compliance with federal and state requirements. To assist school systems in thoughtful planning and preparation for a scheduled monitoring event, the Department is releasing the [first quarter monitoring schedule](#)\*. The full schedule will be released at a later date.

Additionally, the assigned Program Monitoring Team Leader will send a more detailed monitoring notification reminder, along with any necessary planning documents or instructions, directly to Superintendents and Federal Program Directors of each school system appearing on the monitoring schedule.

If you have any questions about the monitoring schedule or program monitoring related to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), please contact [tasha.anthony@la.gov](mailto:tasha.anthony@la.gov). For questions related to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), please contact [cindy.hilton@la.gov](mailto:cindy.hilton@la.gov).

*\*If your school system has been severely impacted by a hurricane and is currently listed on the schedule, please contact [tasha.anthony@la.gov](mailto:tasha.anthony@la.gov).*

## Nutrition Support

### **2021 National School Lunch Program (NSLP) Equipment Assistance Grants**

USDA has awarded Louisiana \$604,377, provided by the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, to be distributed to School Food Authorities (SFA's) participating in the NSLP to purchase equipment to serve healthier meals, improve food safety, and to help support the establishment, maintenance, or expansion of the School Breakfast Program. Only those entities that participate in the NSLP will have access to the online grant application for these funds. Schools approved for participation in the NSLP that participate(d) in Seamless Summer Option (SSO) and/or the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) as part of COVID-19 flexibilities are eligible to apply for the grant opportunity. Priority will be given to schools where the greatest percentage of enrolled students are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Applicants may access the [2021 NSLP Equipment Assistance Grants](#) document for additional information. Online applications will be accessible at the Child Nutrition Programs [website](#). The application period opened October 1, 2021 and will close on November 2, 2021.

Please contact [childnutritionprograms@la.gov](mailto:childnutritionprograms@la.gov) with questions.

### **Emergency Operational Cost Grants and P-EBT Local Level Funding for CNP Operators**

The Division of Nutrition Support has posted additional information for Child Nutrition Program (CNP) operators regarding the funding made available to operators, by USDA, for activities related to [FY 2021 State Pandemic Electronic Benefit Transfer \(P-EBT\)](#) and [Emergency Operational Cost Grants](#).

Please contact [childnutritionprograms@la.gov](mailto:childnutritionprograms@la.gov) with questions.

## Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

### **Interests and Opportunities**

- Resources for 2021-2022 I&O are now available on the website in the [Accountability Library](#).
  - [2021-2022 Interests and Opportunities Accountability and Reporting FAQ](#)
  - [2021-2022 Interests and Opportunities Principal Survey Fillable PDF Template](#)
- Interests and Opportunities Principals and School System Leaders Webinar: October 27 at 2p.m.
  - LDOE is hosting a webinar about Interests and Opportunities for Principals and School System Leaders. Join us to hear more about the Menu Based Approach and the policy implications for 2022-2023 and beyond. This webinar will be recorded and posted to the Accountability Library.

## **LEAP 2025**

- October 1-31: School systems will verify grade 3-8 enrollment and indicate their selection of paper-based or computer-based testing for grade 3 in the Enrollment function of DRC INSIGHT. There is no paper-based testing option for grade 4 in spring 2022. Paper tests will remain available in grades other than 3 as a unique accommodation that will require department approval.
  - All grade 3 subject tests taken with paper will have accommodated forms this year. It is very important that students who have TRA, TTS, braille, communication assistance scripts, transferred answers, and large print use only the appropriate accommodated forms.
- October 25: Window A (November 30-December 17) high school testing schedules due to [assessment@la.gov](mailto:assessment@la.gov).
- October 25: Manuals posted and DRC test setup opens for high schools testing in Window A
- October 31: All testing accommodations are recorded on IEP, IAP or EL checklist for Window A (November 30-December 17)
- November 8: Materials delivered to school systems testing in Window A
- November 9: Window A additional materials request available in DRC INSIGHT

## **Birth-Grade 3 Assessment Guidance**

- The Birth-Grade 3 Assessments has a [suite of resources](#) available to help school systems (and early learning centers) with assessment administration for the 2021-2022 school year. School systems who were severely impacted by Hurricane Ida and will not be able to submit data on time should email [assessment@la.gov](mailto:assessment@la.gov).
- Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA)
  - OCTOBER 29 (NEW DATE): Reporting due from one of two approved [Kindergarten Entry Assessment \(KEA\)](#) options: [DRDP-K](#) and [TeachingStrategies GOLD KEA](#)
  - Administer within the first 30 operational school days (exclude days closed for hurricane from the count)
- K-3 Literacy Screener
  - OCTOBER 29 (NEW DATE): Reporting due from one of four approved [K-3 Literacy Screener](#) options: [Acadience Reading](#) (formerly DIBELS Next), [DIBELS 8th Edition](#), [STEEP](#), and [STEP](#).
  - Administer within the first 30 operational school days (exclude days closed for hurricane from the count).
- GOLD (Birth-Age 5)
  - OCTOBER 31: Reporting due from administration of TeachingStrategiesGOLD®. This administration should include all children, ages birth-5, enrolled in public and nonpublic pre-K, Head Start, and child care centers that receive public funding and all children, ages 3-5, with an Individual Education Program (IEP), including children who receive speech services only.

## NAEP

- The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) will proceed with administration of the mandated mathematics and reading assessments. For 2022, at the state level, the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) will be administered in mathematics and reading at grades 4 and 8. The NAEP 2022 school sample will represent the 2022 student population while also maximizing overlap with the NAEP 2021 school sample. Maximizing the overlapping school samples between NAEP 2022 and 2021 opens up the possibility of studying student performance, as measured by NAEP, within the unique context provided by the two NAEP studies that were administered in the 2020–2021 school year.
- The NAEP 2022 administration will include three assessment programs:
  - **January 10 to March 18, 2022:**
    - National long-term trend mathematics and reading assessments: age 9
  - **January 24 to March 4, 2022:**
    - State-level mathematics and reading assessments: grades 4 and 8
    - National civics and U.S. history assessments: grade 8
- Superintendents of selected school systems will receive a letter through email in September.
  - School systems will play an important role by supporting participation.
  - NAEP will continue to adapt to new processes and procedures as the situation with COVID-19 continues to evolve.
  - As in previous years, NAEP representatives will provide significant support to schools by administering the assessment and bringing all necessary materials and equipment, including sanitized tablets, on which students take the assessment.
  - NAEP representatives' top priority is to protect the health and safety of students and school staff.

## Assessment and Accountability Office Hours

- The next Assessment and Accountability Office Hours will be Tuesday, October 19, 2021 at 3:45 p.m. See information below to join:
  - **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/202189164>
  - **Webinar Phone Number:** 646-876-9923
  - **Meeting ID#:** 202 189 164

## Career and College Readiness

### **2021-2022 School Year IBC Training Catalogue**

**Please share with CTE Supervisors.**

The [2021-2022 Jump Start Training Catalogue](#) provides a list of Career and Technical Education professional development and training opportunities available throughout this school year. This list is not comprehensive and will continue to be updated as additional training options are confirmed. School systems can submit training opportunities and/or training requests to [jumpstart@la.gov](mailto:jumpstart@la.gov) for review.

Recently added training opportunities include: CTTIE, Quest for Success and Welding.

Registration costs for the sessions are paid directly to the provider. Carl Perkins and Career Development Funds are eligible funding sources for registration.

Please contact [jumpstart@la.gov](mailto:jumpstart@la.gov) with questions.

### **Child Welfare and Attendance Monthly Webinar**

**Please share with Child Welfare and Attendance (CWA) directors, supervisors, and all attendance stakeholders.**

The Louisiana Department of Education and the LSU Social Research and Evaluation Center hosts a monthly webinar for CWAs every first Wednesday of the month. These webinars provide resources, support, and updates to ensure CWAs have the most up to date information to better serve students and families in Louisiana. The next scheduled webinar is November 3.

- **Webinar Date and Time:** Wednesday, November 3 at 8:30 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/91874541673>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 470-381-2552
- **Meeting ID:** 918 7454 1673
- **Passcode:** 763433

Please contact [shelneka.adams@la.gov](mailto:shelneka.adams@la.gov) with questions.

### **Counselor Institute Updates**

**Please share with school counselors and school system supervisors .**

The Office of Career and College Readiness is offering two virtual options for attendees who are not able to attend one of the four in-person Fall 2021 Counselor Institutes. **No registration is required.**

Fall 2021 Virtual Counselor Institute: Morning

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 21 at 8 a.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96546682086>
- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID:** 965 4668 2086
- **Passcode:** 487856

Fall 2021 Virtual Counselor Institute: Afternoon

- **Webinar Date and Time:** October 21 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95565108440>

- **Webinar Phone Number:** 312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID:** 955 6510 8440
- **Passcode:** 626460

The topics covered during the in-person and online events are identical:

- IGP updates and funding opportunities
- High School Planning Guide updates for 2021-2022
- FAFSA updates
- Fast Forward
- Youth Challenge Program
- US Army

Please contact [leslie.gilliland@la.gov](mailto:leslie.gilliland@la.gov) with questions.

### **Fall NCCER ICTP/Core Instructor Training Opportunities**

**Please share with school counselors, principals, and CTE supervisors.**

NCCER ICTP/Core teacher certification will be held either in-person or virtually. Fall Training dates for ICTP/Core include:

- October 18 - 22
- November 1 - 5
- December 13 - 17

The cost of the certification class for ICTP/Core is \$650.00. Registration costs will be paid directly to the trainer. Perkins and/or CDF funds can pay for training costs. Prior to registering for the training all potential craft instructors are required to submit documentation of skill. Upon verification, instructors will be provided a registration link.

For more information, please contact [troy.borne@la.gov](mailto:troy.borne@la.gov).

## Teaching and Learning

### Academic Content

#### **Social Studies Standards Review Update**

**Please share with social studies supervisors, administrators, and K-12 social studies teachers**

Louisiana's social studies standards are currently under review. The Social Studies Standards Review Steering Committee endorsed a draft of the Social Studies Standards in a public meeting that was held on September 25. An agenda for this meeting along with a copy of the draft standards is posted in the [Standards Review Committee Library](#). All stakeholders have the opportunity to comment on individual standards using an online [Public Comment Form](#) in the [Standards Review Committee Library](#) throughout the month of October.

Please contact [classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov](mailto:classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov) with questions.

### Assessment Content

#### **Assessment Development Educator Review Committees**

The Division of Assessment Content will convene committees for LEAP 2025 Science and LEAP Connect assessments.

LEAP 2025 Science Stimuli Review Committees:

- convene in person in Lafayette on selected Saturdays in December for grades 4, 6, and 8; and in January and February for Biology
- review proposed stimuli to ensure that the content aligns to the Louisiana Student Standards for Science, the selections are clearly worded with grade-appropriate language, and the selections are appropriate for all Louisiana students by being free of bias and sensitivity concerns
- participants will receive a half-day stipend and will be reimbursed by the vendor for mileage to and from the meeting
- **Deadline to Apply: October 24**

LEAP Connect Content and Bias Review Committees:

- convene in January (math and science) and March (ELA) in a virtual platform
- review new item development to ensure that the content aligns to the Louisiana Connectors, is clearly worded with grade-appropriate language, and is appropriate for all Louisiana students by being free of bias and sensitivity concerns
- schools may receive appropriate substitute reimbursement, as needed
- **Deadline to Apply: November 28**

Interested educators should access the Assessment Development Educator Review Committees document for information on exact dates, meetings details, and links to apply to participate. Please share this announcement with teachers, school and school system supervisors, and school administrators – all are encouraged to apply.



## Educator Development

### **Teacher Leader Lagniappe Podcast: Episode 12 Released**

[Teacher Leader Lagniappe](#) offers a little something extra for Louisiana educators. As educators, we are leaders - leaders of our families, classrooms, schools, teams, and systems. Host Em Cooper shares inspiring stories from leaders in Louisiana and across the country. You'll hear from innovators, change agents, and experts that will empower you to grow in your profession. Educators can subscribe to the [podcast](#) and listen to the latest episode.

**Episode 12 Summary - Addressing the Literacy Crisis with Dr. Kymyona Burk:** Dr. Burk talks about the literacy crisis across the country and the high-leverage strategies to improve literacy rates. Ashley Comeaux-Foret from Norco Elementary and St. Rose Elementary made Em smile this week with her students' self-portraits.

Share Your Stories: Educators can submit [pictures](#) of the great things happening in your school and system for our What's Making Me Smile segment.

Please contact [em.cooper@la.gov](mailto:em.cooper@la.gov) with questions.

### **Acceleration Professional Development**

The recent weather event has further disrupted the education of students throughout Louisiana. As school systems continue with instruction, they must address the unfinished learning their students experienced as a result of the pandemic, as well as Hurricane Ida. As part of our work to provide continuous guidance and support to our educators, we will continue to offer professional development to school systems as they work to address unfinished learning through acceleration.

All educators have free access to the 2021-2022 [Louisiana Acceleration Series](#) to support their efforts to accelerate learning. The [Louisiana Acceleration Series](#) includes 6 trainings that are designed to help educators target their instruction and coaching on the most effective strategies.

This month's Louisiana Acceleration Series session is Maximizing Collaborative Structures to Support Acceleration. During this session, participants will unpack the role of the leadership team in supporting teachers to accelerate learning and will learn how administrators and teacher leaders can strengthen their capacity to support accelerated learning. The target audience for this session is school and district leadership teams. Educators can receive a certificate upon completion of each training.

Please visit the [Acceleration Professional Development Sessions document](#) for all training dates and session formats.

Please contact [Jenee.Robins@la.gov](mailto:Jenee.Robins@la.gov) with questions.

### **Real-Time Early Access to Literacy (REAL) Grant**

School systems may now access the REAL Consolidated grant application in eGMS. [Real-time Early Access to Literacy \(REAL\)](#) provides early literacy support for students attending CIR/UIR-A schools in pre-K through grade 3 to make progress in their literacy development, with a focus on providing support for virtual learning. REAL provides devices, connectivity, and tutoring services to eligible students in pre-K through grade 3.

Funds may be used by school systems to authorize literacy tutoring microgrant accounts for eligible students with approved [Tutoring Service Providers](#).

The Department hosted a Real-time Early Access to Literacy webinar on August 18, 2021 to provide school systems with information about the Fall cycle of tutoring. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is linked [here](#).

Please email any additional questions to [Markecia.Barthelemy@la.gov](mailto:Markecia.Barthelemy@la.gov).

### **Continuous Learning Task Force**

During the 2020 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, Senate Concurrent Resolution 63 was enrolled to create a [continuous learning task force](#) to assist the state Department of Education in developing guidance for Louisiana educators to meet the immediate need of supporting learning outside of our normal practices.

Aligned with the focus of this task force and generated from feedback across the state, there are four key recommendation areas for continuous learning improvements.

- Family Engagement and Support
- Instructional Quality
- System and School Planning
- Technology

The LDOE will begin planning and implementing the recommendations this school year. These will be communicated to school systems over this school year, and all recommendations will be in place prior to the 2022-2023 school year.

Please contact [markecia.barthelemy@la.gov](mailto:markecia.barthelemy@la.gov) with questions.

### **Staffing and Scheduling Initiative**

School systems may need to make staffing and scheduling adjustments to accommodate for the unfinished learning that resulted from Hurricane Ida school closures.

The Staffing and Scheduling initiative launched in March provides system and school leaders robust [guidance](#) and implementation support on developing strong staffing and scheduling models aligned to the best practices below. School schedules should look different in the 2021-2022 school year in order to address unfinished learning.

1. High-quality core instruction is the foundation.
2. Effective literacy instruction is central to student success.
3. Students with unfinished learning and diverse learners need extra instructional time to catch up.
4. Both core instruction and acceleration must be provided by content strong staff.
5. Meeting the social, emotional, and behavioral needs of students supports academic achievement.
6. Equity should be at the forefront of all these strategies.

The final round in the series of [staffing and scheduling supports](#) will continue this fall. Participants must register to attend.

<b>Webinar</b>	<b>Date and Time</b>	<b>Link</b>
Best Practice Webinar	October 13 at 1 p.m.	<a href="#">Registration Link</a>
Job Alike Support Session for District Leaders	October 19 at 11 a.m.	<a href="#">Registration Link</a>
Job Alike Support Session for Diverse Learner Leaders	October 19 at 1 p.m.	<a href="#">Registration Link</a>
Job Alike Support Session for Counselors and Counseling Leadership	October 20 at 11 a.m.	<a href="#">Registration Link</a>
Job Alike Support Session for School Leaders	October 20 at 1 p.m.	<a href="#">Registration Link</a>

Please contact [markecia.barthelemy@la.gov](mailto:markecia.barthelemy@la.gov) with questions.

## Literacy

### **CLSD CIR/UIR-A Quarter 1 Reporting**

Quarter 1 reporting for the Comprehensive Literacy State Development (CLSD) CIR/UIR- A grant is due October 29, 2021. All submissions should be made through the [Quarter 1 Reporting form](#). [Guidance](#) for completing the form is available for schools.

Please contact [shanna.beber@la.gov](mailto:shanna.beber@la.gov) with questions.

### **Literacy Screener Reporting**

In accordance with the screening and reporting requirements outlined in [Act 438](#), the Literacy Division developed templates that [school systems](#), [schools](#), and [teachers](#) can use to track literacy screener data and [report results to families](#). Leaders and teachers can access the templates in the [Literacy Library](#) under the Literacy Goals section.

Please contact [louisianaliteracy@la.gov](mailto:louisianaliteracy@la.gov) with questions.

## Reminders

- **Operations**
  - *Federal Support and Grantee Relations*
  - *School System Planning*
- **Career and College Readiness**
- **School System Relations**
- **Teaching and Learning**
  - *Educator Development*
  - *Literacy*
- **Legislative Affairs, Policy, and Workforce Support**
  - *Healthy Communities*

## **Operations**

### **Federal Support and Grantee Relations (FSGR)**

#### **Parent and Family Engagement State Regional Trainings**

LDOE will host 3 State Regional Trainings for the District Parent and Family Engagement Coordinators and Early Childhood Providers. There will be an in-person and virtual training offered in each training location beginning Monday, October 18 – October 25, from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. The **registration** will open on Tuesday, October 5. See the detailed schedule below.

The **Be Engaged Trainings** are open to all Parent and Family Engagement Coordinators and Early Childhood Providers. The Be Engaged B-12 Framework will be explored and the Collective Impact Theory will be explained and aligned.

In addition, the **PimsPoints Trainings** are opened only to Parent and Family Engagement Coordinators in the K-12 system. The training will provide technical assistance on how to set up the LEAs portal and prepare for the November 1st launch.

Please visit the [Parent and Family Engagement State Regional Trainings](#) document for all training times and links.

Please contact State Coordinator Dr. Antiqua Hunter at [antiqua.hunter@la.gov](mailto:antiqua.hunter@la.gov) with questions.

#### **Miscellaneous**

**FSGR Monthly Call:** October 21, 2021 at 10 a.m.

**Achieve! Incentive:** November 1, 2021 - LDOE will release the Achieve! Incentive ESSER III questions in eGMS

**2022-23 Super App:** November 1, 2021 - LDOE will release the 2022-23 Super App application (competitive planning portion only) in eGMS

### **School System Planning**

The Department hosted four informational sessions for school systems and created a [form for question submission](#). An [FAQ document](#) was created and released in the Pandemic Relief Funding and Guidance Library. School systems should continue to submit their questions using the form.

## ***Career and College Readiness***

### **Louisiana Manufacturing Week**

#### **Please share with Career and Technical Education Leaders**

Louisiana Manufacturing Week is a growing grassroots movement dedicated to overcoming the shared challenges facing manufacturers today. The most pressing issue facing manufacturers is a gap in skilled labor: 82% of U.S. manufacturers cannot find the qualified workers they need due to a gap between the job requirements and the skills of those who are applying for them – and the gap continues to widen. Manufacturers' ability to address this gap has been hindered by the public perception that careers in manufacturing are undesirable and by insufficient preparatory education. Both of these problems stem from a lack of understanding that present-day manufacturing environments are highly technical.

Louisiana Manufacturing Week gives manufacturers an opportunity to raise awareness of these issues and to begin to address them by providing local manufacturers, schools, community-based organizations, and other stakeholders with an easy and effective way to promote manufacturing as a top-tier career choice. [Louisiana Manufacturing Week, happening September 26 - October 2, 2021](#), includes tours at manufacturing facilities and education initiatives to change the perception of the industry and inspire next-generation workers to pursue manufacturing careers.

Please contact [jumpstart@la.gov](mailto:jumpstart@la.gov) with questions.

## ***School System Relations***

### **New: Louisiana's Teacher and Principal of the Year Application Process Opening Soon**

On Tuesday, October 12, the Teacher and Principal of the Year application process for the 2021-2022 school year will open. At that time, the application materials, and timeline will be available in the [Library](#) on the [Awards](#) page.

All school systems are encouraged to select up to three teachers and three principals, one per division (elementary, middle, and high) as their local-level honorees and submit these selections to the state process. School systems without a formal selection process in place may elect to send their candidates directly to the state-level process.

State-level applications are due by January 12, 2021 and must be submitted via an online application portal which will open in late 2021.

The Department will host two optional informational Zoom calls to share details regarding this year's Teacher and Principal of the Year process.

Interested stakeholders may click the link(s) below to join a call. Please save a date on your calendar.

- [October 13 at 9:30 a.m.](#)

Please contact [excellenteducators@la.gov](mailto:excellenteducators@la.gov) for more information.

## Teaching and Learning

### Academic Content

#### **Applications are Open for Accelerate Math Content Developers**

**Please share with math supervisors, administrators, and teachers.**

The Department is seeking expert pre-kindergarten through high school math educators interested in building resources for [Accelerate](#), Louisiana's statewide tutoring strategy. [Applications](#) will remain open until all positions are filled. Work will begin this spring and continue through the 2021- 2022 school year. Compensation will be provided.

Please contact [STEM@la.gov](mailto:STEM@la.gov) with questions.

#### **Social Studies Standards Review Update**

**Please share with social studies supervisors, administrators, and K-12 social studies teachers**

Louisiana's social studies standards are currently under review. The Social Studies Standards Review Steering Committee endorsed a draft of the Social Studies Standards in a public meeting that was held on September 25. An agenda for this meeting along with a copy of the draft standards is posted in the [Standards Review Committee Library](#). All stakeholders have the opportunity to comment on individual standards using an online form in the [Standards Review Committee Library](#) throughout the month of October.

Please contact [classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov](mailto:classroomsupporttoolbox@la.gov) with questions.

### Division of Diverse Learners

#### **Act 419 Dyslexia Reporting**

[Act 419](#) requires each public school governing authority to submit a report to the State Department of Education by October 31 annually relative to students identified as dyslexic. The report shall include numbers of students in all grade levels identified as dyslexic, and shall include, per grade, all of the following:

- For students identified as dyslexic through a Section 504 Plan:
  - The number initially identified during the preceding school year.
  - The total number [students identified as dyslexic through a Section 504 Plan].
- For students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) identified as having a specific learning disability, dyslexia:
  - The number initially identified during the preceding school year.
  - The total number [students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) identified as having a specific learning disability, dyslexia].

To satisfy this legislation, Local Education Agencies (LEAs) should submit, by 5 p.m. October 31, the jofform available at this [link](#). Refer to the [Marino Dyslexia Bill Reporting Guidance](#) for support reporting the data. Questions regarding this collection may be sent to [specialeducation@la.gov](mailto:specialeducation@la.gov).



## **2021 Governor's Outstanding Leadership in Disabilities Awards & Inclusive Art Contest**

The Governor's Office of Disability Affairs is continuing its tradition of hosting both the Governor's Outstanding Leadership in Disabilities (GOLD) Awards and the Inclusive Art Contest.

The GOLD Awards recognizes extraordinary individuals and organizations who have contributed their time and talents to benefit the lives of persons with disabilities in Louisiana. Multiple award [categories](#) are included. [Nominations](#) are due by November 1, 2021.

The [Inclusive Art Contest](#) enables participants to increase awareness of the importance of inclusion in today's society through visual and written artistic expression. Entries should illustrate or describe ideas related to this year's theme: "Accessibility of the Future." The contest is open to any resident of Louisiana, with and without disabilities of any age. Entries must be received by November 1, 2021.

Please contact [disability.affairs@la.gov](mailto:disability.affairs@la.gov) with questions.

## **Louisiana Accessible Education Materials Center's Annual Click or Treat Conference**

[The Louisiana Accessible Educational Materials \(LA-AEM\) Center](#) is hosting its 3rd annual virtual Click or Treat Conference October 26-28. Conference information and registration can be found at this [link](#). Each day has a different focus area:

- Tuesday - Assistive Technology
- Wednesday - Vision
- Thursday - Deaf/Hard of Hearing

Please contact [administrator@ssdla-aem.org](mailto:administrator@ssdla-aem.org) with questions.

## Educator Development

### School Improvement Best Practices

The [School Improvement Best Practices](#) strategy is designed to support schools in adopting the essential components that drive professional and student growth and will continue during the 2022-2023 school year. LDOE has partnered with the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching (NIET) to develop, implement, and support five [School Improvement Best Practices](#). The five best practices are:

- instructional leadership team support,
- teacher collaboration support,
- teaching standards support,
- principal standards support, and
- career pipeline support.

All schools in Louisiana can participate in this [opportunity](#) to support implementation of these essential practices through training sessions during Summer 2022. Educators in all schools can benefit from these best practices, no matter what the current school performance might be. Through these practices, all educators and their students reap the awards of strong leadership practices, teacher collaboration, teaching standards, and career opportunities.

Educators may use this [link](#) to learn more about the [School Improvement Best Practices](#) strategy training sessions, what's new for Summer 2022, and the requirements for CIR and UIR-A schools.

School systems may apply for funds through their Achieve! application or use other funding sources for schools without an intervention label.

Please contact [Jenee.Robins@la.gov](mailto:Jenee.Robins@la.gov) with questions.

### Evaluation Updates

**CIS Turnover:** Due to Hurricane Ida, Teacher Evaluation score entry for the 2020-2021 school year closed September 14. The CIS system is now available for 2021-2022 roster entry. For assistance, please see the CIS resources in the [Compass Library](#).

**Leader Evaluations:** Leader evaluation scores will be entered from the 2020-2021 school year later this fall when SPS scores become available.

**Rater Reliability Training:** The required 2021-2022 [Rater Reliability training](#) can be found in the Compass Library. This annual training must be completed by new and returning evaluators prior to any formal evaluations. The survey at the end of the training should be completed to mark attendance. Timestamps are available upon request at [compass@la.gov](mailto:compass@la.gov).

**Professional Practice Scores:** Current policy requires that teachers and administrators be observed twice per year. Pending BESE approval in the upcoming October meeting for the 2021-2022 academic year only, only one formal observation for the 2021-2022 academic year is required for those who earn a rating of "Highly Effective" or "Effective: Proficient" (score of 2.5 or higher) on the first formal observation. Any teacher or administrator who earns an observation rating of Ineffective or Effective: Emerging (2.4 or lower) will require two observations.

Please contact [compass@la.gov](mailto:compass@la.gov) with questions.

## Literacy

### **Family Literacy Engagement Support Added to SELL Guide**

The [Supporting Early Learning and Literacy \(SELL\) Guide](#) provides school systems with information on vetted vendors who offer training, supplemental screeners, programs, and resources that promote literacy at all stages. Several vendors have been added to the guide recently with a focus on support for involving families in their child's literacy development. Many of the resources listed, especially the ones promoting family literacy engagement, are appropriate for all grade levels and ages. School systems and school leaders are encouraged to explore the updated guide for potential literacy partnerships.

Please contact [louisianaliteracy@la.gov](mailto:louisianaliteracy@la.gov) with questions.

## ***Legislative Affairs, Policy, and Workforce Support***

### ***Healthy Communities***

#### **Senate Concurrent Resolution 50**

In response to Senate Concurrent Resolution 50 ([SCR 50](#)) of the 2021 Regular Legislative session, the Department is required to identify training providers for students currently being utilized by school systems regarding social inclusion, violence prevention and suicide prevention.

To assist the Department in identifying training providers being utilized, and their capabilities, this brief [survey](#) deadline has been **extended to October 22**.

Please contact [Michael.comeaux@la.gov](mailto:Michael.comeaux@la.gov) with questions.