



LDOE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

October 12, 2021

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Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours	
Office Hours Title	Zoom Link
Education Technology Office Hours	October 14 at 9 a.m.
Data Coordinator Office Hours	October 14 at 1 p.m.
April Dunn Act Office Hours	October 14 at 4:30 p.m.
Science of Reading Implementation Office Hours	October 18 at 3:30 p.m.
P-EBT Data Managers Office Hours	October 19 at 10 a.m.
Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours	October 19 at 3 p.m.
Assessment and Accountability Office Hours	October 19 at 3:45
K-2 CLASS® Pilot Office Hours	October 26 at 12 p.m.
AE Leadership Community of Practice	October 27 at 10 a.m.
Career and College Readiness Office Hours	November 4 at 3 p.m.
School System Planning Office Hours	November 12 at 10 a.m.
Monthly Calls*	
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Charter Authorizers Monthly Call	October 13 at 11 a.m.
BESE Authorized Charter School Monthly Call	October 13 at 3 p.m.
SPED Leader Monthly Call	October 14 at 2 p.m.
System Leaders Roundtable	October 15 at 9 a.m.
Legislative and Policy Support Monthly Call	October 18 at 10 a.m.
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	October 19 at 3:45 p.m.
Nonpublic Monthly Call	October 20 at 2 p.m.
Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call	October 21 at 10 a.m.
Preparation Providers Monthly Call	October 27 at 10 a.m.

Academic Content and Educator Development Monthly Call	October 27 at 1 p.m.
Education Technology Monthly Call	October 28 at 9 a.m.
Nutrition Support Monthly Call	November 2 at 1 p.m.
Literacy Monthly Call	November 4 at 10 a.m.
Data Coordinator Monthly Call	November 4 at 1 p.m.
System Leaders Monthly Call	November 5 at 9 a.m.
CLSD UIN Communities of Practice	November 12 at 11 a.m.
Teaching and Learning Roundtable	November 12 at 11 a.m.
Career and College Readiness Monthly Call	November 18 at 3 p.m.
<i>*Monthly call presentations are available in the School Improvement Library. View the School System Support Calendar to access a complete schedule of events.</i>	
Upcoming Events	
Event Title	Zoom Link
Teacher and Principal of the Year Process: Informational Zooms	October 13 at 9:30 a.m.
Fall Virtual Counselor Institute	October 19 at 9 a.m. & October 20 at 1 p.m.
Principal Webinar Series	October 25 at 2 p.m.
Interests and Opportunities Principals and School System Leaders Webinar	October 27 at 2 p.m.
Important Deadlines	
High Cost Services Application Due	October 29
Mentor and Resident Funding Data Template Due	October 29
Act 419 Dyslexia Report Due	October 31
2021 Governor's Outstanding Leadership in Disabilities (GOLD) Awards & Inclusive Art Contest Nominations Due	November 1
School Plan Family Engagement Survey	December 1

Operations

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 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 with questions and comments submissions, and place “HCS Fund Application” in the subject line.

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 login page. In addition, the EEF presentation can be retrieved by using the link to navigate to the [FSGR Library](#).

Please contact ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov with questions, and place “EEF 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. For questions related to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), please contact 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.*

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 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 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.
- 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.
- 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 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 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 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 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.

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 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 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 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.

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 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.

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

Please contact 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 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 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 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 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 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 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 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.

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 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 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 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.

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 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 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 with questions.