



News for Louisiana



CHARTER SCHOOLS

January 5, 2022

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Important Dates for School Systems

Office Hours	
Office Hours Title	Zoom Link
Career and College Readiness Office Hours	January 6 at 3 p.m.
P-EBT Data Managers Office Hours	January 11 at 10 a.m.
Early Childhood Lead Agencies Office Hours	January 11 at 3 p.m.
Assessment and Accountability Office Hours	January 11 at 3:45 p.m.
Data Coordinator Office Hours	January 13 at 1 p.m.
Monthly Calls*	
Monthly Call Title	Zoom Link
Data Coordinator Monthly Call	January 6 at 1 p.m.
System Leaders Monthly Call	January 7 at 9 a.m.
New Teacher of Year applicant call	January 10 or 12 at 4 p.m.
Charter Authorizers Monthly Call	January 12 at 11 a.m.
BESE Authorized Charter School Monthly Call	January 12 at 3 p.m.
CLSD UIN Communities of Practice	January 14 at 11 a.m.
Assessment and Accountability Monthly Call	January 18 at 3:45 p.m.

Student Well-Being Monthly Call	January 19 at 9:30 a.m.
Nonpublic Monthly Call	January 19 at 2 p.m.
Federal Support and Grantee Relations Monthly Call**	January 20 at 10 a.m.
Career and College Readiness Monthly Call	January 20 at 3 p.m.
Legislative and Policy Support Monthly Call	January 24 at 10 a.m.
Teaching and Learning Monthly Call	January 26 at 1 p.m.
Education Technology Monthly Call	January 27 at 9 a.m.
Nutrition Support Monthly Call	February 1 at 1 p.m.
<p><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></p> <p><i>**Achieve! Incentive Round 2 and Super App application office hours and Q&A will take place during this call.</i></p>	
Upcoming Deadlines	
Leader Evaluation Score Upload window in CIS closes	January 7
Vacancy Survey Due	January 7
New Teacher of the Year Application Due	February 18

Operations

Federal Support and Grantee Relations

Title I, Part A Excess Funds Waiver Application is Available in eGMS

Please share with District Federal Programs Directors, Business Managers, and Financial Officials.

Upon submission of the 9/30 Periodic Expense Report your school system may have received notification that it exceeded the 15% Title I, Part A carryover limitation, it can request a waiver via the [Electronic Grants Management System](#) (eGMS).

The Title I Waiver application is located with your FY 2022 applications in the Non Funded Section of the GMS Access Select page. The deadline to submit a Waiver Application is January 14.

As a reminder, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, LDOE can grant waivers to school systems even if a waiver has been granted in the last three years.

Please contact ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov with questions and comment submissions.

Quality Science and Math Grant Program

The Quality Science Math (QSM) Grant Program is funded annually by the Louisiana Legislature. Grants of up to \$1,500 are awarded to PK4-12 public school teachers in Louisiana for purchasing non-consumable materials and equipment for standards-based, effective, innovative, and high-quality mathematics, science and STEM course instruction.

Teacher applicants must show the grant materials will enhance the quality of instruction for regular education students who are enrolled in mathematics, science or STEM classes within the normal school day.

The second round of 2021-22 QSM grants has \$89,600 to award. The submission window will open Monday, January 24 and close Monday, March 7, 2022. After-school, Talented & Gifted, and Special Education (SPED) programs are not eligible. Awardees from Round 1 are NOT eligible for a Round 2 grant.

Information and resources for completing a submission are available at the grant portal lsu.edu/qsm

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

2021-22 School District Boundary Review & Verification Survey

Please share with Data Coordinators, District Mapping Coordinators, and Federal Programs Coordinators.

Annually, the Census Bureau requests review and update of school district boundaries through the [School District Review Program](#) (SDRP). The updated school district boundary information submitted through this program, estimates of the number of children aged 5 through 17 in families in poverty for each school district. These estimates are the basis of the Title I allocation for school districts in each state. It is important that each school system review and verify boundaries due to the impact on Title I allocations.

Traditional public school systems are asked to complete the [School District Boundary Review and Verification Survey](#) and submit changes to LDOE by **January 14, 2022**. Charter schools or other state special schools are not required to verify school district boundaries.

Please contact crystal.wilkinson@la.gov with questions regarding school district boundary verification.

Career and College Readiness

Spring 2022 Counselor Institutes

Please share with middle and high school counselors.

Each fall and spring, the Office of Career and College Readiness hosts regional Counselor Institutes, which are an opportunity for the Department to engage school counselors across the state. Our Spring Institutes are taking place on February 8-10th during National School Counseling Week.

	8-11 a.m.	1-4 p.m.
February 8	Ouachita Parish	Bossier Parish
February 9	Rapides Parish	Lafayette Parish
February 10	TBD	Livingston Parish

Please contact leslie.gilliland@la.gov with questions.

Child Welfare and Attendance (CWA) Call

Please share with CWA directors, supervisors, and attendance specialists.

Child Welfare and Attendance directors, supervisors, attendance specialists, and all attendance stakeholders meet every first Wednesday of the month. The next monthly call will be Wednesday, January 12 at 8 a.m.

Date: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 8 - 9:30 a.m.

Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92924999619>

Phone: 312-626-6799

ID: 929 2499 9619

Passcode: 451491

Please contact shelneka.adams@la.gov with questions.

School System Relations

Teacher and Principal of the Year Informational Webinars

State-level Teacher and Principal of the Year (TPOY) applications are due on **January 12, 2022**. All applications and materials may be found in the [resources library](#) on the [Awards page website](#).

To assist with the Teacher and Principal of the Year process office hours will be held January. On these calls, information will be shared about the timeline/process, as well as steps for using the online portals and there will be time for questions. See [here](#) for information regarding the times and dates of these informational calls.

Please contact excellenteducators@la.gov with questions

Louisiana Exemplary Educator Recognition Program

The Louisiana Department of Education recognizes that great teachers and school leaders are critical to student success. Therefore, the Louisiana Exemplary Educator Recognition Program was created to acknowledge, honor, and spotlight exceptional teachers, teacher specialists, and school leaders who exemplify Louisiana's education profession. If selected as an Exemplary Educator, the educator will receive a certificate of recognition and may be invited to participate on advisory boards and task forces, as well as be considered for recognition programs. Your recommendations will identify educators who will be of great value to your community and state because of their expertise.

To learn more about this exciting new opportunity for educators and your school system, two informational Zoom sessions will be held. Please select the date/time that works best for you and save the call details to your calendar.

- [January 13 at 1 p.m.](#)
- [January 14 at 10:30 a.m.](#)

The Nomination Portal for the Louisiana Exemplary Educator Recognition Program will be open January 18, 2022-February 18, 2022.

Please contact ExemplaryEducator@la.gov with questions.

Teaching and Learning

Educator Development

Louisiana New Teacher of the Year

This program will recognize the outstanding contributions of a *first year* teacher. Therefore, on the application deadline, *the new teacher must have less than one year of full time teaching experience.*

All school systems are encouraged to select up to three overall *New Teacher of the Year* finalists, one per division (elementary, middle and high), to send to the state-process. Once those district level winners are chosen, those candidates will submit their applications in an online application portal.

The Department will host two optional calls to support teachers as they prepare their state-level application and navigate the online application portal.

Webinar Date and Time: January 10 or January 12 at 4 p.m.

Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93874533969?pwd=cmZ0Sm5OeGV3UTc1UjhcSjBSL0VyZz09>

Meeting ID: 938 7453 3969

Passcode: 240876

Phone: 1-312-626-6799

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

Reminders

- **Operations**
 - ***Communications***
 - ***Federal Support and Grantee Relations***
 - ***Nutrition Support***
- **Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics**
- **Equity, Inclusion, and Opportunities**

Operations

Communications

Ochsner Anywhere Care Holiday Social Media

Please share with your school's Communications Team and Social Media Managers.

While the holidays are the most wonderful time of the year, they can also be the most stressful. That's why LDOE would like to remind educators that there are resources available to help prioritize mental health this holiday season. LDOE has partnered with Ochsner Health to offer four free mental health virtual visits to all public school educators and staff through Ochsner Anywhere Care.

Please help LDOE spread the word about Virtual Therapy through Ochsner Anywhere Care via your school's social media platforms. To assist, Ochsner has provided customizable [Holiday Social Copy](#) along with accompanying images to post:

- [New Year Post 1](#)
- [New Year Post 2](#)
- [New Year Post 3](#)

Please contact rachel.bunch@la.gov with questions.

Federal Support and Grantee Relations

2021-22 Super App Final Allocations

Please share with Superintendents, Federal Program Directors, and Curriculum Supervisors.

Final allocations for formula funding (ESSA, IDEA, Carl Perkins) in the 2021-22 Super App will be loaded in eGMS on Wednesday, December 22, 2021. If your Super App application is in an "Approved" status, you will need to create an amendment to see the additional funding.

Please contact ldoe.grantshelpdesk@la.gov with questions and comment submissions.

Nutrition Support

Louisiana to Participate in USDA Medicaid Demonstration Project

Please share with District Child Nutrition Program Directors, Federal Programs Directors, and Data Management Coordinators.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service Southwest Region announced that Louisiana is one of eight states selected to participate in the expansion of a demonstration project to evaluate the impact of using Medicaid eligibility data to directly certify students for free and reduced-price school meals, beginning in school year 2022-2023. Technical assistance and support regarding this process will be provided to district child nutrition program staff. Please refer to Division of Nutrition Support [Memo SFS-22-52](#) for additional information.

Please contact childnutritionprograms@la.gov with questions.

Assessments, Accountability, and Analytics

Growth to Mastery Rosters

Please share with district test coordinators and accountability contacts.

- High school growth to mastery student rosters are now available on the ftp. Grade 3-8 growth to mastery rosters that were provided in summer have been updated with new site codes for applicable students.

LEAP 2025

Please share with district test coordinators.

- Due Now: Window B testing schedules
- December 22: Window B test setup opens
- January 5: Window B LEAP 2025 high school test administration begins

ELPT

Please share with district test coordinators.

- January 5: Exemption requests for listening and speaking domains due
- By January 15: Student data uploaded to TIDE
- New trajectory targets have been shared on the post data certification rosters that were posted to the ftp on Friday, December 31

Innovative Assessment Program

Please share with district test coordinators in school systems that participate in the Innovative Assessment Program.

- The department will host the *Innovative Assessment Program Winter Administration* webinar on Monday, January 10 at 2:00 pm for district test coordinators in school systems that are participating in the Innovative Assessment Program grade 7 operational, field, or pilot assessments.
 - <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/95612887528>
 - Meeting ID: 956 1288 7528
 - One tap mobile
 - +14703812552,,95612887528# US (Atlanta)
 - +13126266799,,95612887528# US (Chicago)
 - Dial by your location
 - 1 470 381 2552 US (Atlanta)
 - 1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
 - 1 470 250 9358 US (Atlanta)
 - 1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Equity, Inclusion, and Opportunity

Student Well-Being Calls Resume and Contact Information Requested

Please share with District Leaders, Student Well-Being Leadership Team members, Counselors, and Social Workers.

The Office of Student Well-Being is resuming the monthly call this January 19 at 9:30 a.m. With that in mind, Student Well-Being is requesting the contact information of the district's appointed Well-Being Leadership personnel. Use the [SWB Leaders Contact Survey](#), to submit the name and contact information of who should be contacted concerning webinars and calls for the district's Student Well-Being work.

Please contact rachel.bunch@la.gov with questions.

Coupon Code for Employee's Access to Ochsner Telehealth

Please share with District Leaders, Principals, Student Well-Being Leadership Team members, Counselors, and Social Workers.

With the New Year, it's the perfect time to remind employees of the free telehealth services available to all personnel working in birth to 12th grade education. Marketing messages direct educators to contact their local districts to receive the Coupon Code allowing them to book with the service provider of their choice for free. This code is TEACH. LDOE has distributed [flyers](#) and [FAQs](#) that you can share with your employees to encourage participation in this important healthcare service.

Please contact rachel.bunch@la.gov with questions.