

Office of Teaching and Learning

Pathways to Partnerships Grant Project: Louisiana Center for Effective Transitions

The Disability Innovation Fund (DIF) Grant is a federally funded program that supports state agencies in developing a cohesive transition system that facilitates partnerships between state vocational rehabilitation agencies, state and local educational agencies, and centers for independent living to ensure individuals with disabilities seamlessly and successfully transition to life after high school.

Our application, to establish the Louisiana's Center for Effective Transitions (LCET), was accepted and fully funded for \$10 million over the course of the next five years. LCET will develop a cohesive transition framework that supports local school systems in assisting students and families in bridging the gap between the K-12 educational system and postsecondary career opportunities in local communities.

LCET will focus its work in key areas that provide intensive technical assistance to partner LEAs in the north central regions of the state and universal support to LEAs and businesses across the state through resource dissemination and training. It is through this intensive technical assistance and universal support, that LCET can leverage an innovative approach to transition services that harnesses existing and emerging economic opportunities that will benefit from a workforce that is inclusive of fully prepared individuals with disabilities.

Project Partners:

- Caldwell Parish School District
- Catahoula Parish Schools
- Lincoln School District
- Louisiana Delta Community College
- Louisiana Rehabilitation Services
- New Horizons Center for Independent Living
- Union Parish School District

For more information about this project, please contact the program director at <u>Lauren.Wells@la.gov</u>.

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