

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PREPARATION PROVIDER MONTHLY EMAIL

Dear Believe and Prepare community,

Below are important updates and events for the month of February. As always, please reach out with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,
Nicole Bono

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 23: Preparation Provider [monthly webinar](#)

March 11: Educators Rising [State Conference](#)

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

March 1: Early Bird [Registration](#) deadline for Teacher Leader Summit

NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Preparation Provider Monthly Webinar

Please join the next monthly webinar on February 23, 2021.

Webinar Details:

- Webinar Date and Time: Wednesday, February 23 from 10-11 a.m.
- Webinar Link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/440246097>
- Webinar Phone Number: 646-876-9923
- Meeting ID#: 440 246 097

Please contact nicole.bono@la.gov with questions.

Literacy Training

Registration for Literacy foundations training for preparation providers through the Department has ended. Anticipated start dates for training will begin by March based on the approved providers. All participants will be contacted by the approved providers with a start date and next steps. [Click here](#) for more information on Act 108 and the approved literacy foundations training providers.

Please contact phaedra.early@la.gov with questions.

Accountability Workgroup

The Department reconvened the Teacher Preparation Quality Rating workgroup to discuss various adjustments and recommendations to the accountability system based on feedback and learnings from the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 learning phase. Based on the workgroup's recommendations, the Department will request that BESE approve the following policy revisions and waiver.

- Given that the calculations for the 2020-2021 performance profiles will not include value-added data from the 2019-2020 or 2020-2021 renewal cycle, LDOE will request a performance profile public release waiver. However, if the waiver is granted, the Department will calculate the performance profiles and meet with each provider to discuss their results and recommendations this summer.
- Due to COVID 19 and the lack of individual value added data for teachers, adjust the date to make program renewal decisions from winter 2023 to winter 2025.
- To ensure programs have adequate time to implement recommendations and feedback from the onsite review process, shift all programs to a four-year accountability cycle. Additionally, programs with a performance profile rating below a level three during the biennial renewal periods will undergo progress monitoring. During the progress monitoring period, programs will develop improvement plans in partnership with the LDOE and engage in one or more interventions, including:
 - engaging in more frequent onsite reviews for one or more pathways
 - receiving low performing or at-risk labels
 - enacting improvement recommendations
 - limiting enrollment for certain pathways or programs
 - discontinuing the providers ability to recommend candidates for certification

Please contact Lydia.Hill@la.gov with questions.

Literacy Workgroup

To ensure BESE policy requirements align with legislative requirements, the Department convened a Teacher Preparation Early Literacy workgroup consisting of teacher preparation providers, school system leaders, and literacy experts to clarify expectations relative to the coverage of research-based literacy instruction and foundational literacy skills. Based on the workgroup's recommendations, the Department will request that BESE approve the following reading and literacy requirements to ensure the required literacy courses and requirements, at minimum,

- develop and assess candidates' mastery of applicable literacy competencies, which are found in Part CXXXI, *Bulletin 746 Louisiana Standards for State Certification of School Personnel*.
- systematically and explicitly address the foundational literacy skills of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Each course shall, at minimum, integrate
 - How to effectively teach the foundational literacy skills of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension;
 - How to administer literacy assessments and differentiate instruction for teaching students with advanced literacy skills and students with significant literacy deficiencies, including dyslexia;
 - How to implement effective literacy instruction using high-quality instructional materials;
 - Behavior management, trauma-informed principles and practices for the classroom, and other developmentally-appropriate supports to ensure that students can effectively access literacy instruction;
 - All five foundational literacy skills and include targeted instruction for each individual strand of reading;and

- Evidence-based content and pedagogical knowledge in reading.

Please contact Lydia.Hill@la.gov with questions.

Teacher Leader Summit

The 2022 Teacher Leader Summit will be held **Tuesday, May 31 - Thursday, June 2**. We are celebrating both “Making a Comeback” and our 10th year for this event. You can access the Summit Overview document and registration portal [here](#).

Our objectives for the Teacher Leader Summit are to improve the everyday practice of educators in Louisiana by building their knowledge and skill in key areas related to their role, provide opportunities for educators to collaborate and share best practices, introduce high-quality strategies, resources, and professional development aligned to the state priorities that can be adopted and scaled in schools and school systems across Louisiana and to foster a culture that celebrates and engages educators and empowers and inspires them to take on an even greater leadership role within their classrooms, schools, and school systems.

To enhance the experience of educators attending the Teacher Leader Summit, we have added:

- keynote speakers
- an expanded audience of attendees to include arts teachers, libraries, counselors, and other teacher roles
- an event app called Whova which allows attendees to register and schedule sessions within the same platform and use features such as being able to communicate with event managers and engage in multiple contests throughout the event
- networking opportunities will be made available throughout the event, including vendor sponsored morning and evening socials
- adjustments to the schedule so that days end earlier
- a two-day Education Expo to network with professional learning partners and non-profits

Early bird registration will remain open until **March 1**. To commemorate our 10 year anniversary, a Summit T-shirt and tote bag will be included in the registration.

Please contact LDOEvents@la.gov with questions.

Teacher Leader Lagniappe Podcast

[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.

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.

Educators Rising Louisiana State Conference

Please join us at the 2022 Educators Rising Louisiana State Conference on Friday, March 11 from 8:30-4:00 in the UL Lafayette Student Union! Hear from an outstanding line-up of keynote speakers and breakout sessions by excellent Louisiana educators and aspiring educators on why teaching is a powerful

and prestigious career choice and how you can shape the future of education! There's power in teaching. Please join us as we inspire and ignite that power within the next generation of educators for Louisiana. [Click here](#) to find out more about how you can register to attend, register your middle/high school/ or college students to attend or compete in exciting competitions, or submit a presentation proposal. **We hope you will join us!**

The UL Lafayette Educators Rising Collegiate Chapter team

Southeastern University's Symposium and Shadow Day

Southeastern Louisiana University's College of Education will be hosting its first Symposium and Shadow Day on **Wednesday, April 13, 2022**. We will start check-in at 9:00 am and will end the event after lunch. The itinerary for the day includes a keynote by First Lady Donna Edwards, a tour of the Teacher Education Center, several judged events (more info to come), and a visit to the center of campus to experience our traditional spring activity, Strawberry Jubilee. Hosted by the Campus Activities Board, the Jubilee promises food, fun, and games.

If you would like more information about participating in the COE Symposium and Shadow Day, please contact Amy Prats at amy.prats@southeastern.edu.

TEACHER CERTIFICATION

Certification Updates

The waiver surrounding mentoring, holding a pre-service certificate for issuance of initial level certificates and/or practitioner renewals was extended to **June 30, 2022**. Policy was approved at January BESE to make the waiver unnecessary in the future. The approved policy revisions align Bulletin 996 and Bulletin 746. The updated requirements include that educators:

- Obtain a **pre-service certificate** while being prepared-either a Resident (R) or Practitioners License (PL)
- Are **mentored** as part of the pre-service preparation
- Comply with requirements for certification for both **in-state** and **out-of-state** residencies

It also requires that Practitioner candidates are required to be mentored during their **first** year on a PL, thus requiring mentoring to renew the PL.

With all of the policy and processing changes, please see application submission best practices below:

- **Do not** include parts of other applications with an application, i.e. including other requests (from the EV form) in the RH form or vice versa
- When scanning, please scan upright and in the order on the application checklist
- Please ensure that questions submissions are actually questions and application submissions are actually applications and not vice versa
- When submitting self-evaluations (now required), ensure that **course titles & course numbers** are included
- Beginning on **5/1/2022**, eligibility letters submitted for issuance of a certificate will also require a picture ID and copy of SS card
- **Choose** the appropriate category for the application that is uploaded when submitting
- Regarding duplicate submission and singles:
 - Additional documentation on a submission is only accepted via reply email if **explicitly** requested - usually only allowed for missing payment receipts.
 - For items requested via formal feedback letter, only submit the missing item and a copy of the feedback letter **as a new case**. DO NOT submit the entire application or add files

to a closed case. Additional documents are only accepted within 90 days of the original feedback.

- If advised via email that a case cannot be processed and to **resubmit** with corrections, the corrected application should be submitted as a new case with all supporting documentation, including payment confirmation. You do not need to reference the original case as it was not processed.
- If you are providing applicants copies of signed applications that will be submitted by your office, please stress with them that they should **not** also submit. Duplicate submissions create confusion and slow processing.
- Keep in mind the 90-day rules for submission & signatures

The certification team is currently processing application for the month of **November**. If you have received feedback from us on a previously submitted application and know it applies to other applications, we encourage you to review those submissions for accuracy. If an application is in the “**unassigned queue**,” you can use the history option to upload missing documents to correct the submission and preserve its place in line.

Please contact certification@la.gov with any questions.

TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM APPROVAL

2021-2022 Program Approval Applications

Teacher, early childhood ancillary certificate program, educational leader proposals for initial approval, and mentor and content leader training proposals are accepted and considered by BESE twice per year. Proposals that meet all initial submission requirements will be evaluated by a panel of reviewers to ensure proposals meet policy requirements. Additionally, the [Preparation Library](#) has program approval resources, including notices of intent and application rubrics. Programs submitting applications for review and use these materials to ensure their applications align with policy requirements.

Preparation providers seeking approval to offer new programs must first submit a [Notice of Intent](#) (NOI). The Department will send a link to the application following receipt of the NOI. The deadlines to submit notices of intent and applications are highlighted in the chart below. Note that providers may submit NOIs after the deadline. Applications must be received by the below deadlines in order for them to be reviewed during the below review cycles.

Application Portal Opens By	Notice of Intent Submitted By	Application Submission Deadline	Evaluation Period	Notification of Evaluation Results	BESE Considers (if recommended for approval)
11/01/2021	12/13/2021	1/07/2022	01/10/2022 - 02/18/2022	03/11/2022	04/13/2022
05/01/2022	6/1/2022	6/30/2022	07/01/2022 - 08/19/2022	09/12/2022	10/12/2022

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