

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION **PREPARATION PROVIDER MONTHLY EMAIL**

Dear Believe and Prepare Community,

Happy Fall!

As a state, we have a strategic plan and budget that is aligned to five priorities that will help us reach our six critical goals. Our six critical goals follow a child's educational journey: students enter kindergarten ready; students achieve mastery on third and eighth grade content; and students graduate high school on time, with a credential, eligible for TOPS.

Louisiana's Educational Priorities

1. Ensure every student is on track to a professional career, college degree, or service.
2. Remove barriers and create equitable, inclusive learning experiences for all children.
3. Provide the highest quality teaching and learning environment.
4. Develop and retain a diverse, highly effective workforce.
5. Cultivate high-impact systems, structures, and partnerships.

The Division of Educator Development is focused on our priority four. We are committed to an ambitious, yet attainable, [comprehensive recruitment and retention strategy](#) developed by the Teacher Recruitment, Retention, and Recovery Task Force created by the Louisiana Legislature.

I want to highlight some of the progress we have made this calendar year.

- The pre-educator pathway has expanded from 20 school systems to 46 school systems this year, and is being offered in over 90 high schools in the state. LDOE allocated \$1,204,000 to school systems to support this work for the 2022-2023 school year.
- Legislation and policy was passed removing Praxis I (Core) from both entrance into a teacher preparation program and for certification.
- The para-to-teacher model has been expanded. Over 600 paraprofessionals are enrolled in Reach University, and 36% of the 2022-2023 students enrolled are candidates of color.
- The Geaux Teach Fund was instituted to provide financial aid for aspiring teachers, and the legislature allocated \$5,000,000. This fund will be administered by LOFSA and can be used for both traditional and alternative certification programs.
- The legislature approved a \$1500 pay increase for teachers, \$750 for support staff, and the inclusion of a \$2000 stipend for Mentor Teachers in the MFP.
- A statewide compensation and incentives study of all school systems has begun, and the study will conclude this fall.

- LDOE is contracting with a vendor to support the application process for getting teaching as a registered apprenticeship approved by the US Department of Labor.
- 50 aspiring school leaders have been selected for the state's Aspiring Principals Fellowship where they learn best practices for school leadership, meet with regional experts, complete school visits, and build a strong network of lifelong colleagues.
- 18 school system human capital leaders have been selected to participate in the 2022-2023 Recruitment and Retention Fellowship where they learn best practices to design a strategy for their school system. This brings the total Recruitment and Retention Fellows to 50 participants from 35 different school systems across the state.
- An educator survey and listening sessions have been conducted across the state to provide the opportunity for stakeholders to describe their experiences and perceptions as well as offer suggestions on issues related to teacher recruitment, recovery, and retention.
- LDOE released a survey and conducted focus groups regarding the current educator evaluation system to help understand what educators like about the current system and what they would like to see in the future. These findings will help inform decisions about how the evaluation system should evolve.
- The New Teacher Experience, a comprehensive induction program for new teachers, launched this summer. Through this program, beginning teachers will be provided the experience they deserve and need to be successful in their first years. The program includes professional learning modules and follow up support, affinity groups, mentoring, the Ne Teacher of the Year award program, and school systems supports.

The progress we have made is exciting, and our team remains committed to ensuring we have a diverse, highly effective workforce. There is a lot more work to do, and we believe this comprehensive plan will lead to improvements for our educators and kids, so that those six critical goals are attained.

We believe in you and your programs. We have the best of the best here in Louisiana, and I would put our preparation providers up against any others in the country. Your expertise, commitment, and leadership is unmatched.

Em Cooper, Deputy Assistant Superintendent of Educator Development

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 17: Certification monthly [webinar](#)

October 26 : Preparation provider monthly [webinar](#)

October 28: [Office Hours](#) on Literacy

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

October 26: Deadline for school systems to submit resident/Mentor data in Ed Link

November 4: Title II reporting site closes at 4:00 pm CST

December 9: Application deadline for spring program approvals

NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Preparation Provider Monthly Webinar

Please join the monthly webinar on October 26.

Webinar Details:

- Webinar Date and Time: Wednesday, October 26 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.

Teacher Preparation Office Hours

On Friday, October 28 from 10-11a.m. the Department will host our first Teacher Prep office hours for the 2022-2023 school year. The topic of this first call is Literacy. Join the call to hear from LDOE literacy staff about the most recent resources, how K-12 is addressing the science of reading, and share your own best practices around literacy courses. Call details are below. Please share this information with any literacy instructors at your program.

Date/Time: October 28 from 10-11 a.m.

Webinar link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/91390614934?pwd=cGhqTm9IS1ZyVHpaa2p0RWo5UWlrUT09>

Meeting ID: 913 9061 4934

Passcode: 442362

Phone: 1-470-381-2552

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

2021-2022 Title II Reporting Site Open

The ETS Title II Reporting Services website is now open for entry of your 2021-2022 student data. ETS collects this data in order to prepare and make available pass rate reports to satisfy Section III of the Institutional and Program Report Card on the Quality of Teacher Preparation (IHE Report Card).

Please contact emily.smiley@la.gov with questions.

Science Collaborative Application Extended

The Science Collaborative application deadline has been extended until **Thursday, October 13**. This Science Collaborative is designed to bring together the best minds from both teacher preparation and K-12 to design teaching methods syllabi for elementary and secondary science courses that, in turn, will be available for public use. This collaborative will be led by [BSCS Science Learning](#).

Who should apply?

- Higher education faculty who teach science methods courses
- Higher education faculty who teach science courses for education majors
- Strong K-12 educators who help support science instruction (e.g., science curriculum coaches, current science content leaders, district science supervisors)

Interested applicants should submit the [application](#) to believeandprepare@la.gov by 5:00 p.m. October 13, 2022.

Contact believeandprepare@la.gov with questions.

2022-2023 Mentor/Content Leader Training Provider Effectiveness Measures Pilot

There is still time to join the pilot! We are continuing to pilot tools that would create additional data points to be included in future Mentor/Content Leader Training Provider Effectiveness reports.

During the 2022-2023 school year, the LDOE is looking to work with 15 approved training providers (10 Mentor & 5 Content Leader) to pilot these tools and provide feedback on the future development and implementation. Pilot participants will contract with the Department for \$2,000.

To be considered for pilot participation, email the following information to believeandprepare@la.gov.

- 2022-2023 Training Schedule
- Including pathway, delivery method/location, estimated number of participants, and
- List of partner districts for Fall 2022, Spring 2023
- Main contact for coordinating the pilot work

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

2022-2023 Mentor/Content Leader Training Provider Effectiveness Report

Approved Mentor and Content Leader training providers will receive an updated list of training and assessment completion by participant. Providers will verify participant training completion and assessment passage status and return the data to the LDOE to be included in the October 2023 effectiveness report to BESE.

Expected Timeline

October 14: Training providers receive initial data for verification

October 17-31: Training providers verify data and submit verification file to LDOE

late November: LDOE releases updated training provider effectiveness report

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

ELA Content Leader Module Updates

To support the redesigned ELA Guidebooks 3-5 (2022), the LDOE has worked with Schoolkit to revise the Content Leader training materials. These updates include:

- Asset-based language instead of deficit-based language;
- Updated ELA Guidebooks images;
- A new anchor unit (Shutting Out the Sky, Grade 5);
- Infusing and highlighting updated resources, lesson structure, and activities;
- The Writing Revolution© approach and strategies;
- Decreasing the number of Content Leader modules from 3 to 2; and
- Focusing the learning around leading effective teacher collaboration.

Currently approved ELA Content Leader training providers will receive access to these revised material and guidance on how to incorporate into their ELA CL training in the late fall.

Please contact believeandprepare@la.gov with any questions.

Teacher Leader Lagniappe: New Episode Released

LDOE's podcast, [Teacher Leader Lagniappe](#) provides *a little something extra* for educators to stay inspired, motivated, and connected in the work with students.

Season 2, Episode 6: Legislative Lowdown with Ethan Melancon

Ethan Melancon is the Executive Director of Governmental Affairs and leads all legislative strategy for the Louisiana Department of Education. We chat with Ethan about his passion for his job, the legislative

process, impactful workforce bills, and all the excitement happening from the last session. Also featured are new Teacher Hacks focusing on apps that make a huge difference in the classroom!

Season 2, Episode 7: Be Better Than Yesterday with Dr. David Schexnaydre, Louisiana's 2023 State Principal of the Year

We chat with Dr. David Schexnaydre, a Louisiana-born and bred award-winning educator, about transforming schools based on student achievement, student wellness, employee engagement, and community involvement metrics. We also dive deeper and discover more Teacher Hacks that every instructor should have on hand.

Educators can [submit pictures and stories](#) of the great work happening in their system to be highlighted on the podcast. Subscribe through [Apple](#) Podcasts, Google Play, [Spotify](#), or other apps.

Please email em.cooper@la.gov with any questions.

Certification Updates

New Applications. The Certification Office has updated all applications related to the recent legislation and policy changes. The new applications were posted and available on teachlouisiana.net on **September 15**.

There will be a little over a one-month grace period where either version of the application can be submitted. However, the new version of the application will be **required by November 1**. In the revisions we tried to simplify the requests and will be processing based on the documentation submitted.

Since policy was approved as **emergency rule** regarding these changes, any unprocessed application that is currently "unassigned" can have [additional supporting documentation uploaded via the "history" option](#) if needed. Please do not add documents to closed or assigned cases.

PL Application. Other than the removal of Praxis I Core, the major change to the Practitioner's License (PL) application is the removal of the GPA flexibility form, since this option was removed from the law.

The intent to employ form has also changed slightly. More guidance is provided around appropriate placement. The assigned teaching area section of the form only requires the inclusion of **subject, grade and if area includes special education**.

Initial Application. The significant changes to the initial application (IN) include:

- Removal of the private provider form
- New verification of meeting Reading requirements section
- Removed "higher" certificate option

If the experience verification form is included, the experience/evaluations may be considered for a higher level certificate even though the "higher" box has been removed.

TEP Application. Act [244](#) of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session expanded options for the Temporary Employment Permit (TEP). There are two options for issuance of a TEP:

- Educators possessing a graduate degree in the area in which he/she is seeking employment may be eligible for a TEP. ([Graduate Degree Option](#))
- Educators completing a teacher preparation program but lacking [required exams](#) by 10% only may be eligible for a TEP. ([Preparation Option](#))

The application includes dropdown menus from which to choose the TEP pathway and the TEP Certification area. Please note that not all certification areas are available for the TEP.

TEPs **will not be issued** in Special Education Areas or Agriculture at this time. Additionally, a TEP in an Elementary or Physical Education area is only available through the Preparation option.

The TEP application includes documents required for both options. The instructions include details about which forms are required for each option. Additional guidance documents are provided for each pathway:

[preparation pathway guidance](#) and [graduate degree pathway guidance](#).

Some of the forms required for the TEP include:

- Program Completion Verification (**must be completed by a BESE-approved teacher preparation program**)
- Pre-service Training Verification
- Exam Verification
- Mentoring Attestation

GPA Conditional Admittance and Pre-Practitioner License

Policy is being proposed to BESE today as a short term solution for the GPA requirement for entry into a teacher preparation program. The proposed policy allows for conditional or provisional admittance into a teacher preparation program for candidates having less than the 2.2 GPA required for entry. The proposed policy also creates a temporary (or provisional) certification for candidates provisionally admitted. Pending BESE's decision, the details of the conditions will be sent out via email from believenadprepare@la.gov.

Certification Monthly Call

The Certification Office will now have a monthly call devoted solely to certification. This call will begin in August. It will generally fall on the third **Monday** of each month at **10:30 a.m.** Any changes due to BESE meetings or holidays will be included on the [school system support calendar](#).

Certification Monthly Call details:

Webinar link: <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/97801045748?pwd=N1JobWlDU1gvNnNYQk40Wjl3YmpxUT09>

Meeting ID: 978 0104 5748

Passcode: 959091

If you have any questions, please contact Christy.Bellue@la.gov.

TEACHER PREPARATION PROGRAM APPROVAL

2022-2023 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 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)
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05/01/2022	6/1/2022	6/30/2022	07/01/2022 - 08/19/2022	09/12/2022	10/12/2022
09/01/2022	10/01/2022	12/09/2022	12/19/2022 – 02/17/2023	03/09/2023	04/19/2023
05/01/2023	06/01/2023	07/10/2023	07/17/2023 – 08/01/2023	9/12/2023	10/11/2023

If you have any questions, please contact emily.smiley@la.gov.