



# Louisiana Comprehensive Literacy Plan

2021



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## Louisiana's Literacy Pillars

Literacy outcomes for students will improve when these four pillars of literacy are effectively implemented at the school, system, and state levels.



Student literacy outcomes will increase when schools create and monitor **LITERACY GOALS**.



Literacy outcomes will improve when students are provided high-quality core instruction together with **EXPLICIT LITERACY INTERVENTIONS AND EXTENSIONS** based on individual student needs.



**ONGOING PROFESSIONAL GROWTH** is an essential component of effective teaching and literacy development.



**FAMILIES** play an essential role in the literacy development of children at all ages and stages.



## Literacy Data from the Fall 2020 Assessment Reports

### Percentage of Students On and Above Level on Literacy (Fall 2020)



Asian	63%
Black	36%
Hispanic	35%
White	48%
ED	38%
EL	32%
SWD	28%

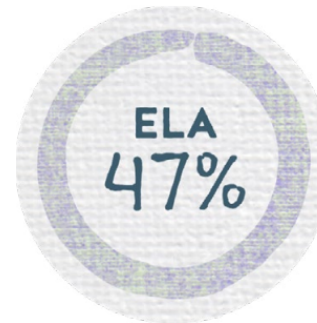


Asian	71%
Black	42%
Hispanic	38%
White	54%
ED	44%
EL	30%
SWD	30%



Asian	72%
Black	43%
Hispanic	36%
White	56%
ED	45%
EL	26%
SWD	29%

### PERCENTAGE OF GRADE 8 STUDENTS PERFORMING AT MASTERY AND ABOVE ON 2019 LEAP



Asian	72%
Black	32%
Hispanic	41%
White	60%
ED	37%
EL	8%
SWD	10%





**Literacy Mission:** Louisiana students will have improved literacy outcomes through high-quality instruction and interactions by an effective teacher who is supported by leaders and families.

**Louisiana's Literacy Goal:** Louisiana will improve by 10 scale score points on the 2027 NAEP 4th grade ELA assessment.

- This cohort will be the 2022-23 Kindergarteners.
- Increase by 2 points on 2023 NAEP (2021-22 3rd graders).
- Increase by 5 points on 2025 NAEP (2021-22 1st graders).
- Approximately 5% of the student population is included.

### **Early Literacy Commission (ELC) Recommendations**

1. Every teacher uses a high-quality curriculum to teach students the foundations of reading and language and literacy.
2. Every student who struggles to read receives timely research-based literacy interventions.
3. Every school has a culture in which all teachers are responsible for and equipped to deliver effective literacy instruction.
4. Every school leader maximizes the use of time and personnel through scheduling and collaborative planning.
5. Every teacher effectively uses evidenced-based practices to meet the literacy needs of all students.
6. Every educator preparation program emphasizes evidence-based literacy practices.
7. Every school system implements a comprehensive literacy assessment plan that includes valid and reliable assessment tools used for different purposes at different times during the school year.
8. Every teacher uses literacy assessment data to monitor students' progress and inform instruction.
9. Every school community expands opportunities for parents and families to be engaged in their children's literacy development.

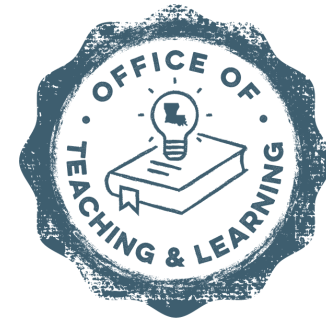


## Louisiana Believes We Can Achieve Improved Literacy Outcomes

Louisiana's [Believe to Achieve](#) plan includes the Department's belief statements, state data to help track progress toward Louisiana's six critical goals, and new priorities that will direct the LDOE's efforts as they work toward achieving the critical goals. Each priority outlines focus areas for the key actions and initiatives.

### Louisiana Believes...

- Children are our highest priority
- Families are our partners
- Educators are valued professionals
- Graduates must be ready
- Equity matters
- Choice expands opportunities
- Schools are invaluable to communities
- Our future is bright



### Critical Goals

- Students enter kindergarten ready
- Students will achieve Mastery level on third-grade assessments and enter fourth grade prepared for grade-level content
- Students will achieve Mastery level on eighth-grade assessments and enter ninth grade prepared for grade-level content
- Students will graduate on time
- Graduates will graduate with a college and/or career credential
- Graduates will be eligible for a TOPS award

### Educational Priorities

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





## Current Legislation Impacting Louisiana Literacy Updated from the 2021 Legislative Session

**Act 108 (SB216)** - This act requires early literacy training for K-3 teachers of reading, math, science, and/or social studies as well as principals and assistant principals of schools that include the K-3 grade levels. It also requires school systems to report on successful training completion to the Department.

**Act 438 (SB222)** - This act requires early literacy instruction for K-3 students, annual literacy assessment of certain students, literacy supports for certain students, professional development and teacher training around the science of reading, school literacy plans, and annual literacy reporting by schools.

**Act 415 (HB85)** - This act was established for the purpose of providing funds for supplemental educational services for eligible students.

**Act 419 (HB170)** - This act requires the reporting of students identified as having dyslexia.

**SR133** - This resolution requests the Department to recreate the Louisiana Early Literacy Commission to study and make recommendations on how best to develop and implement an aligned system that provides effective, evidence-based reading instruction for children from early childhood through third grade.

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### Literacy Library




The Department launched a [Literacy landing page](#) on the Louisiana Department of Education website that includes a [Literacy Library](#) full of resources for teachers and leaders to support their implementation of the four literacy pillars. Resources continue to be added to the library to build out a comprehensive toolbox aimed at creating and monitoring literacy goals; implementing explicit instruction, intervention, and extension activities; providing ongoing professional growth opportunities; and engaging families around their child's literacy development at all ages and stages.




## Louisiana State Literacy Actions

The actions outlined in this table are intended for implementation by birth-12 programs and are organized according to Louisiana’s Literacy Pillars, but many of them can connect across pillars to support multiple goals.


Pillar	State Actions	School System/Lead Agency Actions
<p><b>Literacy Goals:</b> <i>Increase student outcomes by creating and monitoring literacy goals.</i></p> 	Provide statewide literacy screeners and assessments.	Provide statewide literacy screeners and assessments to schools.
	Annually collect and analyze multiple data points of student data from a state-wide universal <a href="#">screener</a> and state and summative assessments.	Annually collect and analyze multiple data points of student data from developmental and literacy screeners, progress monitoring, diagnostic assessments, and formative and summative assessments at all grade bands.
	Provide technical assistance and guidance to school systems for using data to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● create and monitor literacy goals</li> <li>● inform instructional decisions</li> </ul>	Provide technical assistance and support to teachers and schools around <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● creating and monitoring literacy goals</li> <li>● informing instructional decisions</li> </ul>






Pillar	State Actions	School System/Lead Agency Actions
<p><b>Explicit Instruction, Interventions, and Extensions:</b>  <i>Improve student literacy skills by providing high-quality core instruction along with systematic, explicit intervention and extension activities based on individual student needs.</i></p> 	<p>Conduct an <a href="#">Instructional Materials Review (IMR)</a> to identify high-quality curriculum and resources for core instruction and interventions.</p>	<p>Provide teachers and students access to high-quality curriculum and resources for core instruction and interventions.</p>
	<p>Supply <a href="#">resources</a> and guidance on literacy schedules that include time for core instruction and intervention.</p>	<p>Develop a <a href="#">literacy schedule</a> that supports the implementation of explicit and literacy instruction including <a href="#">foundational skills</a>, high-quality interactions, and individualized interventions and support.</p>
	<p>Inform and support schools and early childhood programs about resources to build robust classroom and school libraries.</p>	<p>Provide resources and funds to schools to build classroom and school libraries with text to support high-quality curriculum, build rich and culturally-responsive learning environments, and provide students with opportunities to creatively read, write, speak, and listen in all content areas.</p>
	<p>Identify <a href="#">instructional best practices for literacy</a>, and provide guidance and resources on opportunities for tutoring and extended learning opportunities.</p>	<p>Implement instructional best practices for literacy, and coordinate opportunities for <a href="#">tutoring services</a> and extended learning opportunities.</p>



Pillar	State Actions	School System/Lead Agency Actions
<p><b>Ongoing Professional Growth:</b>  <i>Provide ongoing professional growth opportunities to support effective teaching and literacy development.</i></p> 	<p>Identify high-quality <a href="#">professional development vendors</a> to provide literacy foundations training and annually report on completion rates.</p>	<p>Facilitate ongoing <a href="#">professional development</a> for school leaders and teachers aimed at building knowledge and capacity around the science of reading and how to integrate <a href="#">best practices</a> and evidence based strategies into classrooms, including instruction for diverse learners and <a href="#">engaging families</a>.</p>
	<p>Use regional literacy specialists to build a cadre of site-based literacy coaches.</p>	<p>Offer training and resources for teachers and leaders to effectively implement observation tools, facilitate communities of practice, and provide reflective feedback to improve instructional practices.</p>
	<p>Implement the <a href="#">School Support Institutes</a> (SSI) for CIR/UIR-A/UIN leaders.</p>	<p>Ensure that CIR/UIR-A/UIN leaders participate in the <a href="#">School Support Institute</a> (SSI), and provide assistance to schools with an established literacy coaching program.</p>
	<p>Ensure that teacher prep programming and accountability measures align with the science of reading and literacy initiatives.</p>	<p>Support preservice interns with resources and training that aligns with the science of reading and literacy initiatives.</p>





Pillar	State Actions	School System/Lead Agency Actions
<p><b>Family Literacy Engagement:</b> <i>Engage families around their child's literacy development at all ages and stages.</i></p> 	<p>Provide access to resources for families to <a href="#">provide literacy support</a> for their children.</p>	<p>Engage families in providing literacy supports for their students by providing them with strategies and resources compiled from educators, families, and advocates across Louisiana.</p>
	<p>Create a <a href="#">family literacy engagement support guide</a> to assist schools with increasing engagement and communication with families, including utilizing community partners.</p>	<p>Utilize the tools and resources in the <a href="#">family literacy engagement support guide</a> to increase engagement and communication with families.</p>
	<p>Create <a href="#">reporting templates</a> to promote educator-to-family communication on individual student literacy development and progress.</p>	<p>Report student literacy development and progress data to families including universal screening results, school supports and interventions, and activities to do at home to promote literacy skills.</p>



## School System Literacy Guidance

The Department offers two resources for school systems to build their framework for implementing literacy action steps.



## Local Literacy Plans

To support school systems and schools with creating and sustaining their own literacy plans to set goals for improving literacy outcomes for students, the Department released a [local literacy plan template](#). The template is not a mandatory document, but it can provide a framework for school and system leaders to develop specific, targeted, actionable goals and steps to increase literacy achievement.

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## School System Literacy Roadmap

The [School System Literacy Roadmap](#) breaks down monthly tasks and considerations, based on the four pillars of the Department's Literacy Division, for networks and schools to assist in planning and implementing successful literacy programs and practices.





## References and Resources

Comprehensive Literacy State Development (CLSD) CIR/UIR-A [Grant Overview](#)

[https://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/district-support/clsd-cir-uir-a-webinar-\(may-2021\).pdf](https://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/district-support/clsd-cir-uir-a-webinar-(may-2021).pdf)

Comprehensive Literacy State Development (CLSD) UIN [Grant Overview](#)

<https://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/webinars/clsd-uin-webinar-may-2021.pdf>

Early Childhood Child Care [Curriculum Initiative](#)

<https://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/early-childhood/child-care-curriculum-initiative-packet.pdf>

[Guide to Early Childhood Curriculum, Assessments, and Professional Development](#)

<https://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/early-childhood/guide-to-early-childhood-curriculum-assessments-and-professional-development.pdf>

LDOE's [Believe to Achieve](#) Educational Priorities

<https://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/louisiana-believes/believe-to-achieve-educational-priorities.pdf>

Louisiana's [Birth to Five Early Learning Standards](#)

<https://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/academic-standards/early-childhood---birth-to-five-standards.pdf>

Louisiana Literacy [Key Initiatives](#)

<https://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/key-initiatives/louisianas-key-initiatives---louisiana-literacy.pdf>

Louisiana Literacy [Landing Page](#)

<https://www.louisianabelieves.com/academics/louisiana-literacy>

Louisiana Literacy [Library](#)

<https://www.louisianabelieves.com/resources/library/literacy-library>

Pre-K to 3rd Grade Assessment Guidance:

<https://www.louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/teacher-toolbox-resources/pre-k-to-3rd-grade-assessment-guidance.pdf>

Updated November 2021