

**Louisiana Department of Education  
Report to the Developmental Disabilities Council - January 2024**

SPED Leader Collaborative

The Department's special education team has hosted several in-person special education director/supervisor collaboratives already this year focused on networking and building connections, discussing instructional best practices, compliance needs and data analysis. The latest convening focused on leveraging funds to improve outcomes, a deep dive into special education data and a Gifted and Talented update. The Department will host additional professional development in the spring/summer and continues to prioritize in-person collaboration and networking among all special education supervisors across the state.

Teacher Leader Summit, May 2024

The 2023 Teacher Leader Summit will be held May 28 - May 30, 2024 at the Ernest N. Memorial Convention Center in New Orleans, LA. The theme this year is Leading the Next Level. The 2024 Teacher Leader Summit is an annual professional development conference which brings together Louisiana birth to grade 12 educators and content experts who inspire, innovate, and impact meaningful growth for every student. Educators participating in the event will share their knowledge, learn new skills, and prepare for the 2024-2025 school year. Sessions specific to special education will include dyslexia support, modifying and accommodating high quality instruction for students with significant cognitive disabilities, pupil appraisal support, panel sessions from top growth systems for students with disabilities, behavior supports, literacy supports, using evaluations to write high quality IEPs, and much more.

FFY24 IDEA Funding Application

Each year the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) submits a grant application to the U.S. Department of Education for funding through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). The LDOE will begin seeking feedback from members of various Special Education stakeholder communities in late January and February. This initial feedback will help the LDOE better understand what activities the public views as important as we develop the comprehensive IDEA grant application for the 2024-2025 school year. Another round of input and feedback will be gathered once a draft application is available.

SEAP Update

SEAP has met twice this school year already and provided valuable input and feedback. Upcoming meeting dates are as follows:

Meeting Date
January 24, 2024

March 20, 2024
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June 19, 2024
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