

Louisiana Special School District



Teacher Shortage Data Update

Dr. Heather Laine
Ms. Melanie Brenckle
Dr. Shirley Lewis

Louisiana School for the Deaf

Dr. Heather Laine



Education Without Limits

Louisiana School for the Deaf

How many certified teachers do you have at your schools? How many non-certified teachers?

- 25 of 26 teachers are certified
- 15 of 25 teachers have Deaf certificates
- 3 teachers have IBC certificates to teach CTE
- 1 teacher with CTTIE Level 1
- 1 teacher with CTTIE Level 2
- There are no non-certified teachers



Louisiana School for the Deaf

Is there a shortage of certified teachers in any subject areas? If so, how many and what subjects? Are there non-certified teachers serving in any core subject areas? If so, how many?

Special Education and Deaf Education

- Elementary – 2 4th/5th Grade Math/Science - 2nd/3rd Grade – All Subjects
- Middle School – 2 – Social Studies and LeapConnect Teacher
- High School – 2 – English and Math
- Assistant Principal for Elementary
- Para-educators – 2
- Instructional Coach – 1
- School Librarian – 1
- Literacy Coach -1
- There are no non-certified educators teaching in any subject areas.



Louisiana School for the Deaf

Are there job postings for positions without certified teachers? If so, what is the response for applications on these positions? (Are people applying?)

- The job postings have been posted online through SSD and shared via social media. Pending interviews for potential applicants for the teaching positions, instructional coach, school librarian, assistant principal, literacy coach, and para-educators since the week of Jan 19.
- People are applying but we screen to ensure their qualifications and signing skills are being met for the current vacant positions. We are looking for applicants who can communicate in ASL with students.



Louisiana School for the Deaf

Has COVID caused an impact on the number of certified teachers in the classroom? If so, how are you managing having someone teach the class?

Yes, COVID has impacted keeping teachers in the classroom. We utilize our list of substitute teachers, instructional employees, administrators, and support staff to cover the classes of these vacant positions until we fill these positions.



Louisiana School for the Deaf

Do you have any other information to share regarding your reported teacher shortage data or teaching during the COVID pandemic?

Teachers' workload for the classes are heavy when doing both in person and virtual learning for the students as well as class coverages. Virtual students are struggling with the virtual learning and communications with parents are documented to encourage them to have their child return to school for in person learning for best academic results.



Louisiana School for the Visually Impaired

Ms. Melanie Brenkle



Education Without Limits

Louisiana School for the Visually Impaired

How many certified teachers do you have at your schools? How many non-certified teachers?

- Content Certified: 21
- Practitioner: 3
- TAT: 2
- VI Certified Staff: 18 total



Louisiana School for the Visually Impaired

Is there a shortage of certified teachers in any subject areas? If so, how many and what subjects? Are there non-certified teachers serving in any core subject areas? If so, how many?

There is a shortage of teachers in math and science.

- Math: 1 teacher on a TAT and 1 on a practitioner. We did have a small number of certified candidates apply, but they declined the position due to higher pay elsewhere.
- Science: 1 teacher on a TAT and 1 on a practitioner.



Louisiana School for the Visually Impaired

Are there job postings for positions without certified teachers? If so, what is the response for applications on these positions? (Are people applying?)

The positions were posted prior to the start of the school year, but the applicant pool was very limited. We had to seek out teachers who were currently enrolled in ALT cert programs due to the few certified staff declining, citing low pay as the reason.



Louisiana School for the Visually Impaired

Do you have any other information to share regarding your reported teacher shortage data or teaching during the COVID pandemic?

It is very difficult to find certified, highly qualified math and science teachers. Finding individuals working on certification and growing them into strong teachers seems to be the most effective way to fill these vacancies. New teachers require a lot of support to be successful.

Having content leaders and instructional coaches is critical to their success. Currently, we have one instructional coach to support pk-12 all subjects. We would like to allocate one of our vacant positions to hire a math and science coach to support these new teachers, but this has not been approved yet.



Special School Programs

Dr. Shirley Lewis



Education Without Limits

Special School Programs

How many certified teachers do you have at your schools?

All SSP teachers are special education certified.



Special School Programs

Is there a shortage of certified teachers in any subjects?

- Special Education and regular education (ELA)

If so, how many and what subjects?

- Special Education-8 (1-CLSSC; 2-ACY-Bunkie; 1-ACY-SM; 1-DCI; 1-EHCC; 2-BCCY); Regular Education-1(ELA)-RHY



Special School Programs

Are there job postings for any positions without certified teachers?

- Three positions have been posted- BCCY; CLSSC, ACY-SM (WAE position).
- One qualified applicant applied and has been interviewed. Pending interviews of potential applicants for WAE position at ACY-SM and CLSSC position.



Special School Programs

Has COVID caused an impact on certified teachers in the classroom?

No



Special School Programs

Do you have any other information to share regarding your reported teacher shortage data or teaching during the COVID pandemic?

- Student learning is inconsistent when we have to utilize itinerant teachers for class coverage. In addition, virtual learning does lessen the impact; however, it is not ideal for most special education students' academic growth as studies have noted.

