

## INTRODUCTION

### Middle School Cohort/ LSU STEM Pathways

We are excited to announce the addition of the middle school cohort for the LSU STEM Pathways Institute. First piloted in 2018-2019, this cohort brings challenging and rigorous classes into the K-12 setting that are project-based and standards-oriented. Designed to encourage exploration of the LSU STEM Pathways as well as provide early entrance to the Pathways and increase completion rate, the cohort has grown from 2 parishes at its onset in 2018 to 7 parishes in 2020 and is set to begin roll out into the rest of the state in 2021-2022 and beyond.

### CURRENT COURSE OFFERINGS 7th-8th Grades

#### 7th/8th Grade

- Introduction to STEM Pathways and Careers (1 year course)

#### 8th Grade Only

- Survey of Computer Science (1 year course)



## Why choose the Middle School Cohort for LSU STEM Pathways?

### Silver and Gold STEM SEALS

Students may apply for the Endorsement opportunity upon high school graduation from the program begun in middle school.

To learn more, visit: [www.louisianabelieves.com](http://www.louisianabelieves.com) and search for “STEM”.

### High School Credit Opportunity

Students can receive High School Credit for successful completion of courses during middle school. This allows students to complete high school requirements early, and also provides the opportunity for early college entrance, resulting in monetary savings for the families. Completing high school credit courses also improves the Yearly Performance Scores for participating middle schools.

### Universal Career Course

Intro to STEM Pathways and Careers counts as a “universal course” and fulfills the basic career readiness requirement for the JUMPSTART 2.0 Universal Courses and Graduations Pathways. The Survey of Computer Science course also fulfills specific pathway requirements in Jumpstart 2.0

### Certification Opportunities/ College Credit

Teachers can receive certifications and participate in micro-credentialing opportunities based upon the classes they teach.

### High Interest Project-based Classes

Encourages increased interest and participation in STEM related classes as students begin to choose their graduation paths. Allows exploration of various paths early on so students can make informed decisions for graduation.

### Funding Opportunities

Funding for class materials and training are available to some schools based on eligibility in various grants and programs. Contact [info@lsupathways.org](mailto:info@lsupathways.org) for more information.