



— October 2024 Education Bulletin —

Welcome to the October 2024 edition of the **Luzerne Intermediate Unit (LIU) Office of Professional Learning's (OPL)** monthly education bulletin. This special edition of the OPL Education Bulletin is exclusively for administrators that require Act 45 credit in order to maintain their certification.

ACT 45 OF 2007

WHO DOES ACT 45 INFLUENCE?

According to the PA Department of Education (PDE), “All certified school and system leaders who serve in the following positions in a commonwealth public school...must complete 180 hours of Act 45 [approved] professional education every five years.”

- ⇒ **Assistant or Vice Principal**
- ⇒ **Principal**
- ⇒ **Assistant Superintendent**
- ⇒ **Superintendent**
- ⇒ **Assistant Intermediate Unit Executive Director**
- ⇒ **Intermediate Unit Executive Director**
- ⇒ **Director of a Career and Technology Center**

Administrators in these roles can check in on their progress via PDE's Professional Education Record Management System ([PERMS](https://perms.pde.pa.gov)). This is the same portal where educators can check the status of their Act 48 reported credits.

This issue of the OPL Bulletin dives into some of the changes in administrator options to earn these necessary hours.



HOW CAN I EARN ACT 45 CREDIT?

PDE SAS: Users that attain a free account with PDE's Standards Aligned Systems website have access to online coursework that can provide Act 45 credit. Go to <https://pdesas.org>, create an account, and access the PD Center. This can be found under your “Username's” SAS Tools dropdown. On this page, find the button entitled “View Catalog”.

The catalog is separated into two categories: Act 48 and Act 45. This site hosts over dozen opportunities to earn credit that includes topics like Act 13, Artificial Intelligence, Team Leadership, and Mental Health for School Leaders.

PA Inspired Leadership (PIL) Courses: As of May 13, 2024, access to PIL courses directs users to the PDE catalog for Act 45. Courses from this catalog are still authorized for use by administrators to earn credit. However, the traditional PIL program is undergoing some changes that have yet to be approved as of the date of this publication. Beginning this month, October of 2024, PDE is releasing Principal induction courses to the PDE SAS Catalog page. “All administrators who have started their induction program will be able to transfer hours and credits to the new induction program...”



Approved Non-PIL Continuing Education Courses: Your local Intermediate Unit can also provide Act 45 hours in several ways. The Luzerne Intermediate Unit is an authorized provider of both Act 48 and Act 45 credit. Presently, the LIU has facilitated courses for administrators during both the Fall and Spring semesters of the 2023-2024 school year. We are doing so again this school year. These courses are:

- Acceleration of Learning: Use of Data Inquiry Teams to Promote High-Quality Academics, facilitated by Dr. Richard Mackrell
 - Developing Understanding for Leading a Trauma Sensitive School, facilitated by Dr. Jessica Jacobs
 - Leading for Excellence: Empowering School Leaders in School Improvement, facilitated by Dr. Deanna Mennig
 - Transformative Leadership for Diverse Learning Populations, facilitated by Dr. Tara Bruza (currently running)
- We hope to continue offering a course each semester pending adequate participation. Courses run virtually and allow participants the opportunity to earn **30 hours** of Act 45 credit for each title completed. If you are interested in beginning a cohort of participants, please reach out to Dr. Rich Mackrell (rmackrell@liu18.org).

SACs, PACs, & SCHOOL SAFETY

ADDITIONAL WAYS TO EARN ACT 45 CREDIT

The Luzerne Intermediate Unit has consistently been a provider of collaborative events for different job-alike groups. Superintendents, Curriculum Coordinators, Special Education Directors, Principals, and many more meet regularly with LIU staff to learn about updates and opportunities related to their position. Beginning in the 2024-2025 School Year, Superintendents and Principals can earn Act 45 for their time participating in these events.

Superintendent Area Collaborative (SAC) Meetings: These occur monthly and are facilitated by Dr. Anthony Grieco, our Executive Director. SAC meetings generally occur on the first or second Tuesday of each month.

Principal Area Collaborative (PAC) Meetings: These occur six times throughout the school year and are facilitated by members of the LIU Office of Professional Learning. Below are the remaining dates of the 2024-2025 meeting schedule: October 10, 2024 | December 19, 2024 | February 21, 2025 | April 24, 2025 | June 24, 2025.



In order for the above job-alike meetings to “count” as Act 45 credit, aspects of each event must relate to the PA Leadership Core and Corollary Standards. The LIU Office of Professional Learning will also be providing “drop in” events that will be advertised as more spontaneous opportunities arise. Last month, the LIU offered an event entitled “Luzerne Learns to Work”. Eligible participants earned six hours of Act 45 credit since this event focused on “advocating for children” and increase their access to information regarding a host of career options.

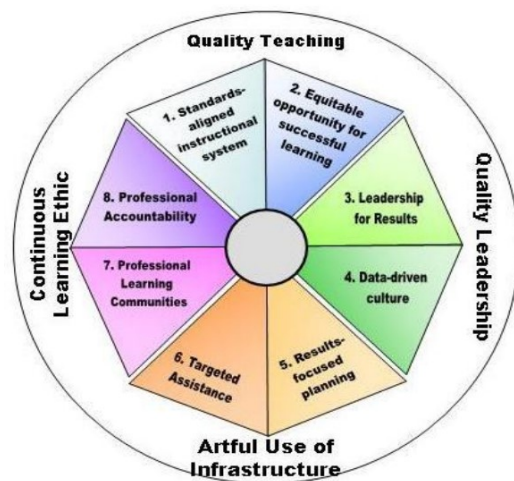
We are also putting together two days meant to support Principals new to their position. Presently, this offering does not count towards new Principal induction hours. However, these hours do provide Act 45 credit. The dates for these events are November 19 and February 13 of this school year. Keep an eye out for a message from the LIU for registration for these opportunities.

Please know, that the maximum amount of time that can be earned by attending SAC or PAC events is 25 hours annually. This is a new opportunity being offered and any updates to this program will be provide to administrative lists and future editions of the OPL Bulletin.

PA Office of Safe Schools: Act 55 of 2022 established new requirements for school safety and security. As a result



of the many training requirements brought about by this legislation, school leaders have the option of earning Act 45 credit for specific events focused on school safety. The School Safety and Security Committee (SSSC) has provided an online application for administrators (<https://www.safeschools.pa.gov/a45Submission.aspx>). To complete this form, you will be asked to submit the certificate provided by the training and complete a brief questionnaire.



NEED SUPPORT

LIU OPL NETWORK TRAININGS (OCTOBER 2024)

Did you know that the Office of Professional Learning regularly offers workshops at several locations? Areas of educator support include all core content areas, support for students with special needs, and classroom management.

All registrations are through MyLearning Plan. Visit our website at www.liu18.org and head to “Register for IU Events” to find out more about these opportunities and to register.

- **Grades K-2: LIU Math Elementary Teacher Collaborative:** September 30, 2024, 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM.
- **Grades 3-5: LIU Math Elementary Teacher Collaborative:** October 1, 2024, 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM.
- **Bootcamp for Teachers of Emotional Support Programming:** October 2, 2024, 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM.
- **AP Roundtable Event:** October 7, 2024, 11:30 AM - 3:00 PM at the Venue at Avoca.
- **Annual Health and Physical Education Training:** October 8th, from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM. We are honored to have Nicolas Slotterback, the Health and Physical Education Advisor from PDE, lead this training.

- **Transformative Leadership for Diverse Populations** - Act 45 course taught by Tara Bruza, from October 9 to November 20.
- **Assistive Technology in the IEP**: October 9, 2024, from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM at the LIU.
- **Intermediate Teachers' Network - Fall Session**: October 16, 2024, 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM.
- **LIU Curriculum Coordinators' Meeting**: October 16, 2024, 10:00 AM to Noon (virtual)
- **Reading Specialists' Network**: October 18, 2024, 9:00 AM to Noon.
- **ELD Coordinators Quarterly Meeting**: October 23, 2024, Noon to 2:30 PM.
- **Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA)**: October 30, 2024, 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

PAST OPL BULLETINS

WHERE CAN I FIND THEM?

All prior OPL Education Bulletins can be found on our LIU website. Our website address is www.liu18.org. From here, select "District Services" under the "Departments" dropdown. This space will provide you with information

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about our professional group. Select the "Office of Professional Learning" and then head down the page to "OPL Education Bulletin". Prior to doing so, feel free to look around any of the other informational items on this page like Assistive Technology, Career Development, the Guest Teacher Program and many more. See you next month.



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