

Louisiana Veterans Small Business Services

By Louisiana Economic Development

Louisiana's Hudson and Veteran Initiatives are certification programs tailored to assist qualified small and veteran-owned businesses in Louisiana access purchasing and contracting opportunities at the state government level. State agencies are strongly encouraged to seek quotes from and engage Hudson and Veteran certified companies whenever possible. Upon certification, information about Hudson and Veteran certified companies becomes readily accessible to state purchasing agents and prime contractors seeking subcontractors.

State agencies can waive the requirement of getting additional quotes if a certified company submits a quote for purchases under \$25,000. Furthermore, certified companies stand to benefit from an additional allocation of evaluation points—ten percent for Hudson Initiative businesses and twelve percent for Veteran Initiative—on bids for Request for Proposals (RFPs). Prime contractors who enlist a certified

company as a subcontractor for an RFP bid may also be eligible for additional percentage points on their bid.

Louisiana Veterans First Business Initiative was established to pay tribute to the sacrifices made by Louisiana veterans, acknowledging businesses owned by veterans, active-duty or reserve military personnel, and Gold Star spouses.

This initiative offers an opportunity for veterans, active-duty or reserve military members, or Gold Star spouses with majority ownership in a business to apply for certification, thereby promoting and recognizing their businesses. Certified business owners will receive an insignia, decal, and certificate to use in promoting their veteran-owned business. Moreover, the program includes a searchable database for individuals seeking to support veteran, active-duty or reserve military, or Gold Star spouse businesses.

To certify your business, simply complete the online process at <https://laveteransfirst.org> or visit one of the Louisiana Department of Veteran Affairs Parish Service Offices and submit the required documentation.



Pathway to Assist Veteran Entrepreneurs (PAVE) offers an array of resources designed to support Louisiana veterans in launching and managing successful businesses. The program is a collaboration between Louisiana Economic

Small Business Exchange • Voice of Small, Emerging, Diversity-Owned Businesses Since 1984

Click to read more

Opportunities

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DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Public notices and participation activities

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• Private lessons from Queen Clarinet

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doreenja@bellsouth.net

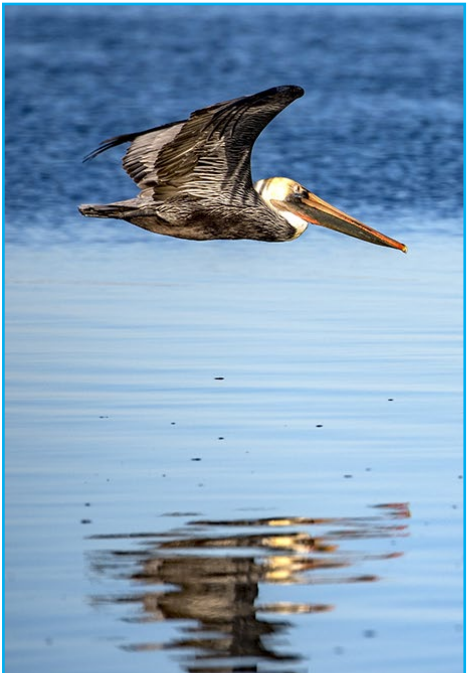
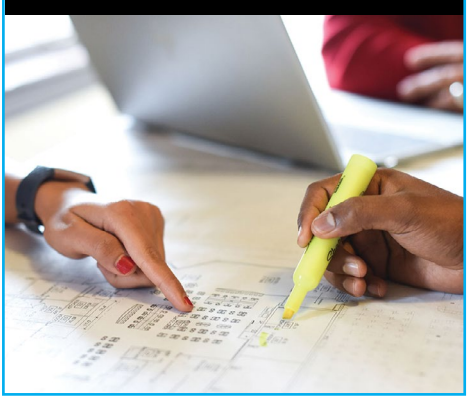
www.doreensjazz.org



Small Business Exchange Louisiana DEI

- Advertise
- ITB to Targeted (NAICS/SIC/UNSPSC) Certified Businesses
- Telephone Follow-Up (Live)
- Agency/Organization Letters
- Computer Generated Dated and Timed Documentation
- Customized Reports Available

For more info contact Valerie Voorhies at vvv@sbeinc.com



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Lagniappe BAKEHOUSE

Lagniappe Baking is a neighborhood bakehouse owned by pastry chef Kaitlin Guerin, a 2025 James Beard Award nominee. The one-of-a-kind assorted pastry boxes highlight the local, seasonal bounty of the Crescent City's agriculture. Each box challenges your taste buds with flavor combinations and leaves you anticipating the next.

www.lagniappebaking.com

Learn More

NMSDC

National Minority Supplier Development Council

VIRTUAL EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

2026

SBA 101: Introduction to SBA Programs Webinar
Monday, June 29, 2026, 9:00 am–10:00 am CDT Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration, Rhode Island District Office
Contact: Brian Hopkins, 401-528-4575, brian.hopkins@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required
This free workshop, presented by the Rhode Island District Office, is designed to help entrepreneurs understand the various SBA programs and services available to help them as they start, expand, grow, and recover their businesses. This overview presentation covers: Introduction to the SBA; SBA Resource Partner Network—Business Training and One-on-One Counseling; Selling to the Federal Government—SBA Contracting Certification Programs; Access to Capital—Loan and Surety Bond Programs; International Trade Assistance; Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Assistance Loans. Register online for the free workshop webinar at <https://www.sba.gov/event/85134>

Federal Contracting for Small Businesses Webinar
Tuesday, July 14, 2026, 11:00 am–12:30 pm CDT Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
Contact: Irene Gonzalez, 208-334-1673, irene.gonzalez@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required
Learn the essentials of federal contracting for

small businesses. This event will cover the basics of navigating the federal contracting process, as well as the various certifications available to help your small business succeed in the government marketplace. Certifications include: 8(a) Business Development Program, HUBZone Certification, Woman Owned Small Business (WOSB/EDWOSB), and Veteran Owned Small Business (VOSB). Don't miss this opportunity to gain valuable insights and resources to help your small business. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/federal-contracting-basics-and-certifications-for-small-businesses-tickets-1977729664666>

Federal Contracting: Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Certification Program Webinar
Tuesday, July 21, 2026, 1:00 pm–3:00 pm CDT Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
Contact: Patrice Dozier, patrice.dozier@sba.gov
Fee: Free; registration required
SBA is creating a space for Woman-Owned Small Businesses, via WOSB certification! Are you a woman owner of a small business? The federal government's goal is to award at least five percent of all federal contracting dollars to woman-owned small businesses each year. Join us for training on how to register for SBA's Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) program, which helps eligible small businesses to qualify for federal contracting opportunities. The monthly sessions include an overview of the self-certification process, and a discussion of the NAICS codes that qualify as WOSB or EDWOSB. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/woman-owned-small-business-wosb-certification-program-tickets-1986914400458>

CERTIFICATION

Small Business Exchange, Inc.

is DBE certified by the Louisiana UCP.

