

# LED Business Development Roundtables

By Louisiana Economic Development

BATON ROUGE—Louisiana Economic Development has launched recruitment for its 2025–2026 Small and Emerging Business Development (SEBD) Roundtables, a yearlong peer-to-peer learning initiative designed to support the growth and development of Louisiana’s small businesses.

SEBD Roundtables connect small and emerging business leaders in facilitated sessions that emphasize collaborative learning, strategic problem solving, and peer support. The program uses the Edward Lowe Foundation’s PeerSpectives™ Roundtable System, a nationally recognized model for small business development. Cohorts will begin meeting in July and August and will convene ten times over the course of a year.

Participation is open to both current and prospective SEBD program participants.

“SEBD Roundtables offer an invaluable opportunity for small business owners to build community while gaining new perspectives to

address common challenges,” Louisiana Growth Network Director Stephanie Hartman said. “This program empowers entrepreneurs with the tools, strategies, and peer support they need to sustain and grow their businesses in an ever-changing marketplace.”

Each session provides a structured, confidential environment where participants can share challenges, explore solutions, and develop leadership and management skills.

“The SEBD Roundtable has connected me with an incredibly diverse group of business leaders who lift each other up to celebrate success and share business challenges,” NOLA Wood Windows owner Valerie Vides said. “I’ve learned to be a better business owner by focusing on the things within my control and being reminded I am not alone. This is a community I lean into for support. Being part of the roundtable has helped my business grow thoughtfully and strategically by learning from others who’ve faced similar obstacles.”

SEBD Roundtables are facilitated by certified SEBD Intermediaries who provide technical and



managerial assistance to ensure a consistent and high-quality experience. Business owners interested in participating should contact their local SEBD intermediary for information on eligibility and the application process:

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

Click to read more

# Opportunities

LOUISIANA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Public notices and participation activities

Click for details

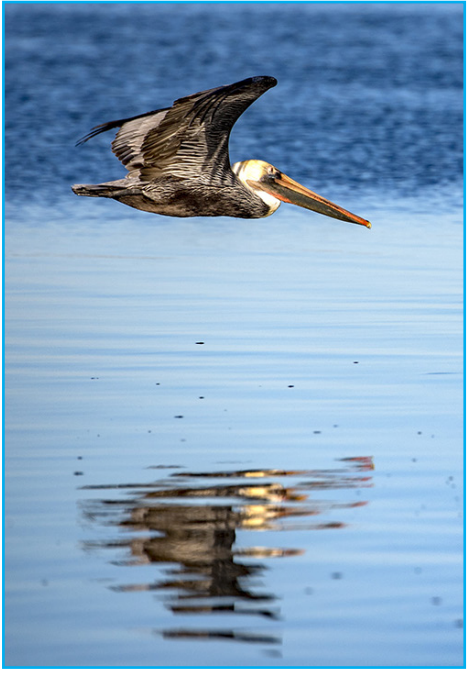
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Vendor Outreach Event with Veolia

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WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Meet Veolia. Discover Opportunities.  
Grow Your Business.

Delgado Community College invites **Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs), small business owners, and community members** to learn how to partner with Veolia and access workforce training programs to strengthen your team.

Veolia is actively seeking to do business with firms certified through the **SLDBE (State and Local Disadvantaged Business Enterprise) Program**.

Certification is administered by the **Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO), City of New Orleans Office of Supplier Diversity**, and the **Louisiana Department of Transportation**.

If your business is not yet certified, we encourage you to apply if eligible. Certification increases your visibility and access to public and private contract opportunities.

To learn more or begin the certification process, visit:

- SWBNO at [tinyurl.com/bdzk7789](https://tinyurl.com/bdzk7789)
- City of New Orleans Supplier Diversity at [tinyurl.com/25hawmjw](https://tinyurl.com/25hawmjw)
- Louisiana Department of Transportation at [tinyurl.com/ms9hu2m6](https://tinyurl.com/ms9hu2m6)

The Veolia outreach event is open to certified DBEs, small businesses, and the general public. Join us at one of our two opportunities to attend:

**Thursday, June 27, 2025 at 10 a.m. – 12 noon**  
Delgado Community College | River City Site | Main Lobby  
709 Churchill Parkway, Avondale, LA 70094

**Thursday, July 18, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.**  
Delgado Community College | City Park Campus  
Student Life Center | Dolphin Den | 1st Floor  
615 City Park Ave, New Orleans, LA 70119

Please RSVP at [tinyurl.com/2ub9tscl](https://tinyurl.com/2ub9tscl) or scan QR code.

Topics Include:

- Contracting opportunities with Veolia
- Wastewater Operator Certification Exam Prep Course
- Training programs to upskill your employees
- Limited scholarships available for select courses
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☐ Forklift Certification

Contact us for more information:

Patricia Marshall | Delgado River City Site  
504-342-3420 | [pmarshall@dcc.edu](mailto:pmarshall@dcc.edu)

Koren Thornton | City Park Campus  
504-671-6488 | [kt Thornton@dcc.edu](mailto:kt Thornton@dcc.edu)

Workforce Development

[www.dcc.edu/go/workforce](https://www.dcc.edu/go/workforce)

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5/15/2025

NEW ORLEANS REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

PUBLIC NOTICE  
OF  
PROPOSED OVERALL DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE  
(DBE) GOAL FOR FISCAL YEARS 2026 - 2028

The New Orleans Regional Transit Authority (RTA), in accordance with requirements of the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT), 49 CFR Part 26, as amended, hereby notifies the public that it is recommending an overall 34% DBE goal for participation in Federal Transit Administration (FTA) – assisted contracts during Fiscal Years 2026 – 2028.

The proposed methodology and its rationale used to determine the level of DBE participation will be available for public review for 30 calendar days from the date of this notice from 8:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., CST, Monday – Friday, Regional Transit Authority Administrative Facility located at 2817 Canal Street, New Orleans, La. 70119. Written comments on this goal will be accepted for 45 days from the date of this notice and may be sent to Adonis C. Expose\*, Principal DBE/SBE Liaison Officer, at the above address or submitted to [aexpose@rttaforward.org](mailto:aexpose@rttaforward.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](mailto:vvv@sbeinc.com)

SOUTHEAST EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

2025

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-1123665025339>

**8(a) Orientation and SAM Registration Webinar**  
**Wednesday, July 16, 2025, 9:30 am–11:30 am CDT Online**  
**Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration**  
**Contact: SBA Illinois District Office, 312-353-4528, [illinois.do@sba.gov](mailto:illinois.do@sba.gov)**  
**Fee: Free; registration required**  
Join the Small Business Administration (SBA) Illinois District Office for a virtual workshop providing an overview of the 8(a) Business Development program, eligibility requirements, and program benefits. Also learn how to increase your potential for federal contract opportunities through System for Award Management (SAM) registration, including information that you need for the registration process. SBA presenters will offer additional tips, address FAQs, give directions on where to get further assistance, and answer your other questions. For this and other events, one goal is to better address the needs of attending current and soon-to-be business owners. To register for this free webinar, visit <https://www.sba.gov/event/65169>

**Selling to the Federal Government Webinar**  
**Thursday, June 26, 2025, 12:00 pm–3:00 pm CDT Online**  
**Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration**  
**Contact: George Tapia, 610-382-3086, [george.tapia@sba.gov](mailto:george.tapia@sba.gov)**  
**Fee: Free; registration required**  
Did you know that the federal government is the largest purchaser of goods and services in the world? Interested in learning how your business can market your services or goods to the federal government? Register online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/how-to-sell-to-the-federal-government-tickets-21790713611> SBA helps to ensure small businesses get fair opportunities to share federal government prime contracts. Topics will include: How to Register, Small Business Certifications, Finding Opportunities, Marketing Your Firm, Federal Supply Schedules, Getting Paid, Tips to Prepare Your Offer, How to Seek Additional Assistance. All training sessions are held via Microsoft Teams Meeting.

**Federal Contracting: Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Certification Program Webinar**  
**Tuesday, July 15, 2025, 1:00 pm–3:00 pm CDT Online**  
**Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration**  
**Contact: Patrice Dozier, [patrice.dozier@sba.gov](mailto:patrice.dozier@sba.gov)**  
**Fee: Free; registration required**  
SBA is creating a space for Woman-Owned Small Businesses, via WOSB certification!

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New Orleans, Louisiana 70170

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