

Louisiana Gateway Port and Global Trade

By Louisiana Gateway Port

Editor's note: Louisiana Gateway Port, known previously as the Plaquemines Port Harbor and Terminal District, was established in 1954. Please see their notification below this article, and visit <https://louisianagatewayport.com>.

Moving cargo is one thing. Moving it efficiently, reliably, and with real options is something else entirely. Louisiana has ports, railroads, roads, and waterways that come together to form one of the most comprehensive and efficient logistics systems in North America.

Louisiana sits where the Mississippi River meets the Gulf of Mexico, creating one of the world's most powerful trade gateways. When cargo arrives, it doesn't hit a dead end; it's connected to roads, rails, and a river system that moves over 500 million tons annually. Other ports handle ships; Louisiana handles the whole continental supply chain.

If you're managing supply chains or trade routes, Louisiana's position gives you something

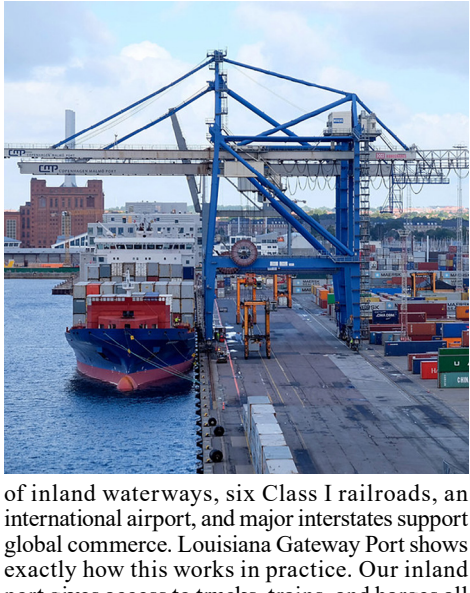
other locations can't: options. Louisiana's unique geography makes it more than just a point on the map. It's a launch pad for commerce.

Building Blocks of Trade

Louisiana's resilience comes from three essentials: its geography, its infrastructure, and its people. Combined, they give the state a strong position in global trade.

Geography: Louisiana has earned its nickname, "The Gateway to North America." The Mississippi River meets the Gulf of Mexico here, creating a natural crossroads for trade. This geography connects ocean shipping lanes with the interior of the United States, giving businesses direct reach into more than 30 states. Plus, Louisiana connects to over 25,000 miles of inland waterways, which provides direct access to America's heartland that few locations can match. When shippers use the Louisiana Gateway Port, they can move goods in and out quickly without the barriers that slow other ports.

Infrastructure: Across the state, a network of six deep-draft ports, more than 25,000 miles



of inland waterways, six Class I railroads, an international airport, and major interstates support global commerce. Louisiana Gateway Port shows exactly how this works in practice. Our inland port gives access to trucks, trains, and barges all

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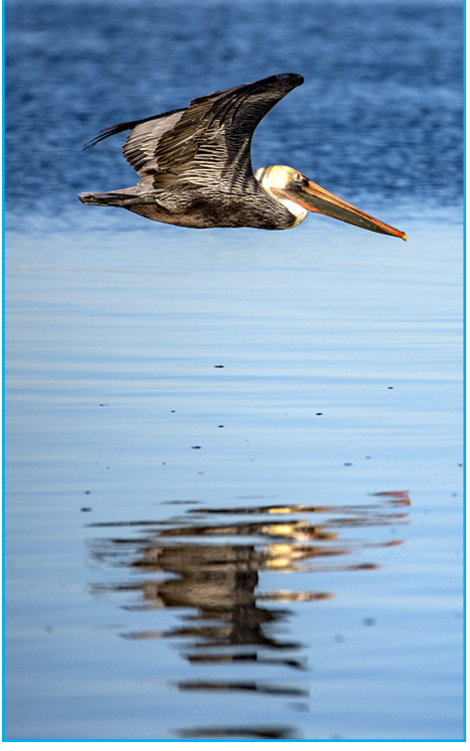
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VIRTUAL EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS



2025

Federal Contracting: Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Certification Program Webinar
Tuesday, September 16, 2025, 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-1123668515779>

8(a) Orientation and SAM Registration Webinar
Wednesday, September 17, 2025, 9:30–11:00 am CDT Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
Contact: SBA Illinois District Office, 312-353-4528, 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/65214>

Selling to the Federal Government Webinar
Thursday, September 25, 2025, 12:00–3:00 pm CDT Online
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration
Contact: George Tapia, 610-382-3086, 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.

CERTIFICATION

Small Business Exchange, Inc.
is DBE certified by the Louisiana UCP.



