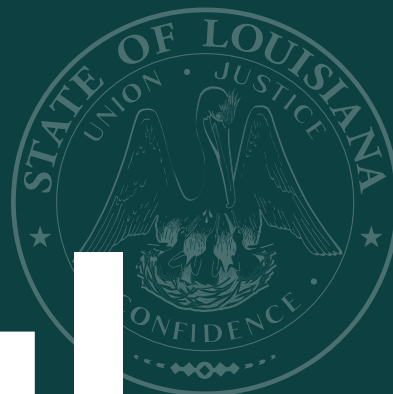
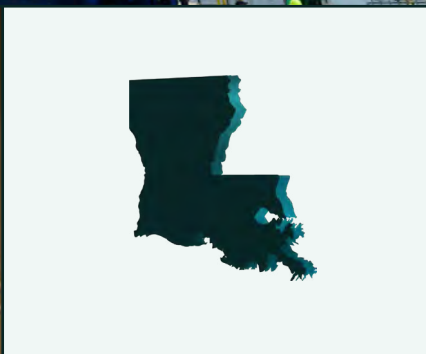


LOUISIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Annual Report 2021

Louisiana: Building for tomorrow, today



2021 was a milestone year for business investment and job creation in Louisiana.

It was also a year when the state's economic versatility was on full display. Business success in Louisiana is powered by global access to international markets, an engaged system of colleges and universities, abundant natural resources, critical

infrastructure and a world-class workforce. While businesses succeed, Louisiana leads, forging a new model for a sustainable future that will drive equity, diversity and additional investment.

64

Project wins

31

Parishes with project wins

\$20.5 Billion

Capital investment

6,720

New direct jobs

9,780

Retained jobs

11,485

New indirect jobs



Dig Deeper Online

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Annual Report digital edition.



LED overcame historic challenges to deliver exceptional results for our state.”



Louisiana’s 2021 economic successes proved yet again that when our state meets challenges head-on, exceptional opportunity results.

We can all be proud of Louisiana Economic Development’s determination to light the way for our prosperity, securing over \$20.5 billion in capital investment and tens of thousands of new jobs for our citizens in 2021. In step with partners across the state, nation and world, LED overcame historic pandemic- and weather-related challenges to deliver exceptional results for our state.

This annual report outlines these many accomplishments, including initiatives that are driving a cleaner energy future and innovative advancements that further define us as an important global hub of commerce. It also highlights LED FastStart, recognized

as the top workforce training program in the nation for 12 consecutive years.

As we’ve pledged through our climate and community initiatives, we are preparing ourselves for a long, sustainable future that creates economic opportunity for all Louisiana residents, no matter what their background or what part of the state they live in.

I salute all the owners and employees of Louisiana businesses large and small whose hard work and ingenuity are the foundation of our state’s long-term economic development success.

John Bel Edwards

GOVERNOR, STATE OF LOUISIANA



The more than 18,000 new jobs created are among the most ever in a single year.”



2021 was a remarkable year for Louisiana Economic Development and a clear signal that local, regional and state efforts to strengthen our business climate are accelerating our growth.

Proof of Louisiana’s numerous business advantages can be found in multiple investment announcements across a wide range of industry sectors. It can be found in the multi-billion dollar energy investments made by major global corporations, and in the hundreds of entrepreneurs participating in business empowerment programs for veterans, women and minorities and rural communities.

The influx of thousands of new jobs for Louisiana residents across the state stands as our proudest achievement from 2021. The more than 18,000 new direct and indirect jobs

created are among the most ever in a single year for LED.

None of this would be possible without the leadership of Gov. John Bel Edwards, the collaboration of our economic development partners across the state, the commitment of statewide political leaders, the creativity of our education partners and the unwavering resilience of the citizens of our state. We thank you for your partnership, which produced the transformational accomplishments of 2021, and look forward to building on that momentum in 2022 and for years to come.

Don Pierson

SECRETARY, LOUISIANA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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Louisiana's Foundational Business Strengths





Sector Diversity: A stalwart for energy, diversified through advanced manufacturing, software development, information technology, agribusiness and entertainment

Natural Resources: Advantages in natural gas, timber, salt and rare earth materials

Higher-ed Partnerships: Tomorrow's workforce preparing today

Modern Innovation: Advances in life sciences, digital media, cutting-edge port technology and "America's Rocket Factory"

Commitment to Environmental Sustainability: An "all of the above" energy transition strategy that increases investment while reducing emissions

Infrastructure Advantages: Superior logistics and the gateway to the Gulf of Mexico

Regional Highlights

Northwest

- \$200 million Amazon facility to locate on LED Certified Site
- \$98 million investment from steel manufacturer Ternium USA
- \$550 million blue methanol plant planned by Bio Energy

1

Northeast

- \$700 million renewable diesel refinery announced by Louisiana Green Fuels
- Lamb Weston completes installation of potato products packaging line
- Biomedical Research and Innovation Park announced for ULM campus

2

Central

- Avant Organics launching manufacturing site at Central Louisiana Port
- USDA grant to expand Louisiana Central's Farmer Training Program
- 250 regional AFCO Industries employees celebrate company's 75th anniversary

3

Southwest

- \$10 billion LNG, CCUS facility being developed by Venture Global
- \$160 million lumber mill announced by Canfor
- \$170 million chlorine manufacturing plant being built by BioLab

4

Acadiana

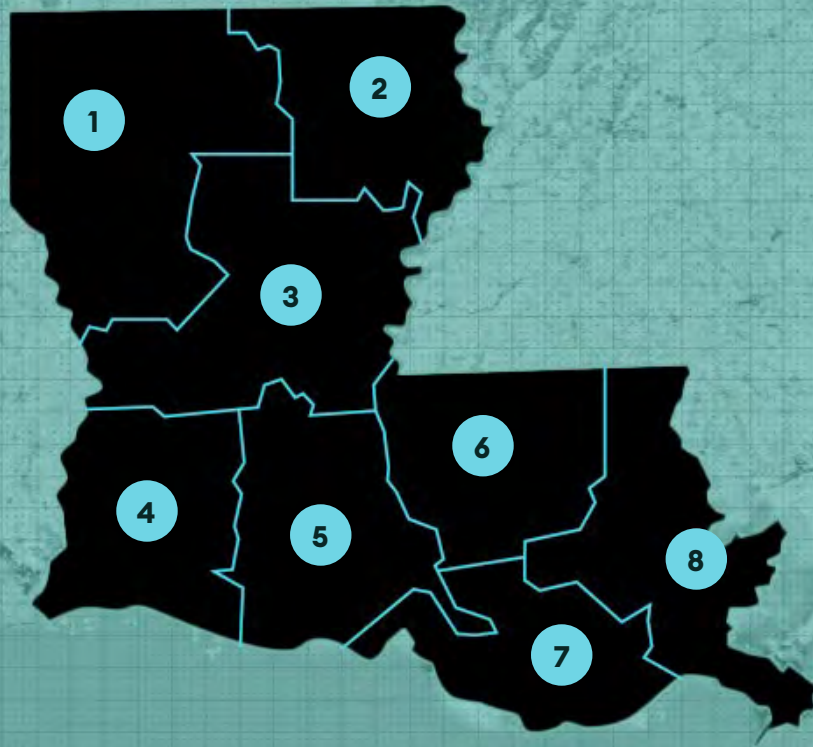
- \$70 million renewable fuel plant announced by Delta BioFuel
- Over 1,200 new direct jobs through SafeSource Direct and Ochsner Health PPE production facilities
- \$3.5 million acquisition and expansion by Coastal Plains Meat Company

5

Capital

- \$4.5 billion clean energy complex announced by Air Products
- \$200 million Amazon facility to create over 1,000 full-time jobs
- \$1.3 billion Shintech expansion to result in 159 new direct, indirect jobs

6



Bayou

- Alexander/Ryan Marine & Safety invests in Houma logistics hub
- Nicholls receives award for filmmaker training through LED's Entertainment Development Fund
- Innovative virus genome sequencing by Thibodaux-based BioInfoExperts leads virus research

7

Southeast

- Possibility Space video game studio to create 75 new direct jobs with \$100K average salary
- \$800 million rare earth elements project announced by ElementUS
- Intralox investing \$60 million, creating 425 direct jobs in major expansion

8

Attracting New Business and Investment

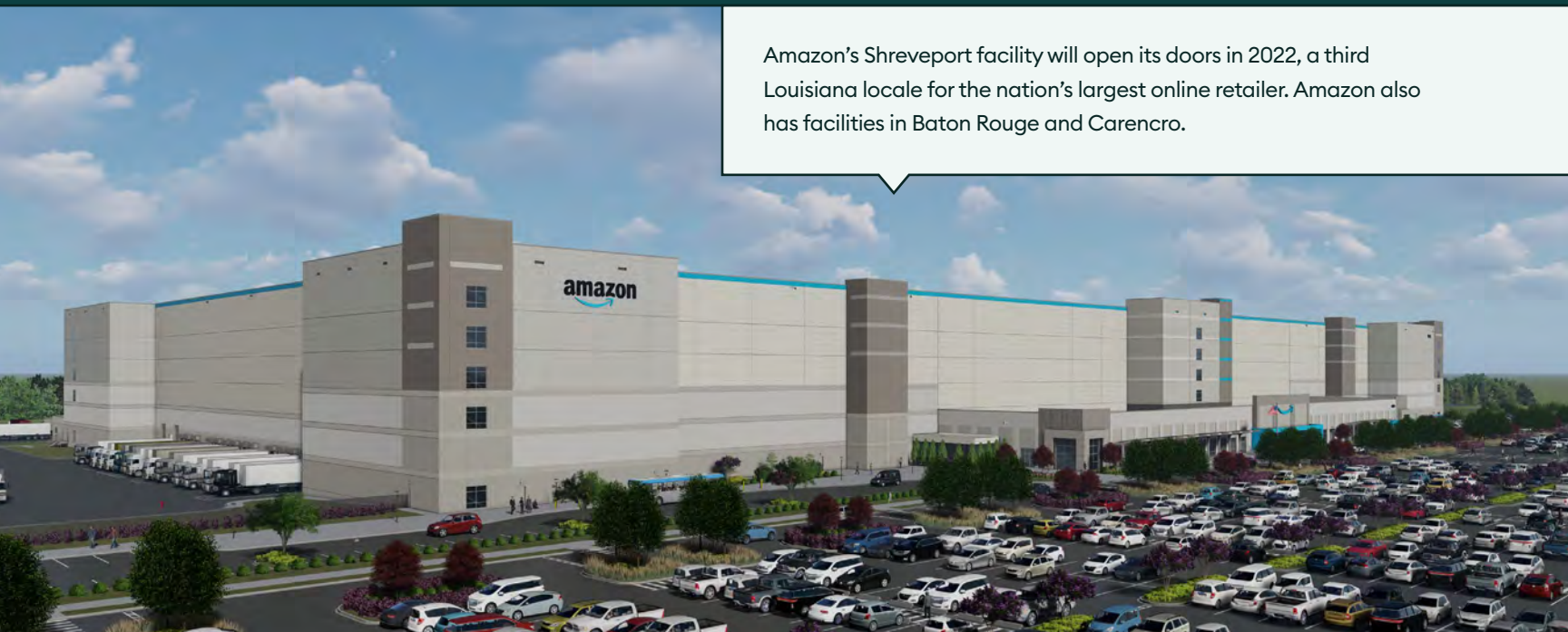
Companies are coming to Louisiana and investing across diverse industries

“

We are interested in Louisiana because it offers a readily available supply of raw materials, a highly skilled workforce and multiple seaports.”

John Forsythe
1,4GROUP Chairman

Amazon's Shreveport facility will open its doors in 2022, a third Louisiana locale for the nation's largest online retailer. Amazon also has facilities in Baton Rouge and Carencro.



New Business Development Projects in 2021

\$13.5 Billion

Capital investment

5,343

New direct jobs

“

We're so grateful for the support of Louisiana Economic Development and Louis Armstrong International Airport as we celebrate the arrival of Breeze in New Orleans.”

David Neeleman
Breeze Airways CEO

Companies are investing in Louisiana - and for good reason. Investments come from diverse business sectors, but all are drawn here by the same truth: Louisiana is their new home thanks to its unique advantages.

Breeze Airways, a new airline started by JetBlue founder David Neeleman, invested \$6.6 million to make the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport a major operations hub for the carrier. *Photo Credit: Breeze Airways*



2021 New Business Project Wins

Date	Company Name	CapEx	New Direct Jobs	Indirect Jobs	Parish	Region
1/15/2021	Arq Ltd.	\$40M	12	31	St. Charles	Southeast
2/12/2021	Avant Organics	\$4M	40	215	Rapides	Central
3/5/2021	ElementUS	\$800M	200	590	St. James	Southeast
4/23/2021	Strategic Biofuels, LLC	\$692.6M	76	412	Caldwell	Northeast
5/3/2021	SafeSource Direct, LLC	\$73.7M	245	199	Lafayette	Acadiana
5/3/2021	SafeSource Direct, LLC	\$77.5M	976	793	St. Martin	Acadiana
5/7/2021	Amazon.com	\$200M	1000	1118	Caddo	Northwest
5/21/2021	Breeze Airways Group	\$6.7M	261	877	Jefferson	Southeast
6/8/2021	Canfor Southern Pine	\$161M	130	386	Beauregard	Southwest
6/16/2021	Amazon.com	\$200M	1000	1139	East Baton Rouge	Capital
6/28/2021	Delta Biofuel (Tasso)	\$70M	126	149	Iberia	Acadiana
7/21/2021	1,4GROUP, Inc.	\$35M	34	126	Ascension	Capital
7/26/2021	Hunt Forest Products, Inc.	\$240M	130	387	Bienville	Northwest
8/6/2021	Interfor Corporation	\$8M	170	505	Beauregard	Southwest
10/13/2021	Possibility Space	\$0M	75	90	Orleans	Southeast
11/10/2021	Rural Sourcing	\$1M	150	166	East Baton Rouge	Capital
11/30/2021	General Dynamics Info Tech	\$5.5M	200	203	Orleans	Southeast
12/2/2021	Venture Global	\$10B	200	867	Cameron	Southwest
12/16/2021	Bia Energy Operating Company	\$550M	75	390	Caddo	Northeast
12/16/2021	Teal Jones Group	\$110.5M	125	369	Bossier	Northwest



Rendering of Venture Global's LNG project in Cameron, La.

“

We chose Louisiana because of its broad and diverse talent pool and more than 50,000 graduating students in the region. The focus and investment in STEM education at the middle and high school levels, as well as the state's overall investment in software development talent, make it a great location for us.”

Monty Hamilton
Rural Sourcing CEO



Expanding In-State Business

Economic development powered by business expansion



Fortune's Global 500 ranking lists ExxonMobil as the 12th largest company in the world by revenue. The company's Baton Rouge refinery is the fifth largest oil refinery in the nation and 13th largest in the world and it's only getting bigger, with \$240 million in capital improvements announced in June 2021. *Photo Credit: LED FastStart*



Coca-Cola Bottling Company UNITED is pledging a new \$42 million investment to expand its Baton Rouge location. The bottling facility, built in 2009, will add 120,000 square feet of additional warehouse space. With the expansion, the total size will increase to 900,000 square feet.



Business Expansion Projects in 2021

\$7.1 Billion Capital investment

1,377 New direct jobs

2,259 New indirect jobs

9,780 Retained jobs

In Louisiana, companies are expanding and taking on new business ventures. It's a sign of continued growth for the state's economy, and a signal that Louisiana businesses are committed to building a prosperous future for our state.

Playing a supporting role for in-state economic development, the LED Business Expansion and Retention Group (BERG) supports existing economic driver companies, which are typically mature companies in high-growth industries. These companies account for 60 to 70 percent of all new job growth in Louisiana. BERG meets with company leaders to build relationships, understand their challenges, and facilitate retention and expansion activities. In 2021,

LED's BERG team conducted over 400 in-person and virtual visits with economic driver companies across the state.

The breadth of companies choosing to expand is impressive, and so are the reasons they have chosen to invest. From energy leaders like ExxonMobil, the 12th largest company in the world by revenue according to Fortune 500's global rankings, to Intralox, a conveyor belt manufacturer supporting production lines, companies across the globe count on Louisiana's advantages: low business costs, competitive incentives, natural resources, superior infrastructure and logistics, and the best workforce training program in the country.

2021 Project Expansions

Date	Company Name	CapEx	New Direct Jobs	Indirect Jobs	Retained Jobs	Parish	Region
1/21/2021	International Paper	\$52.5M	0	0	492	Washington	Southeast
1/26/2021	Shintech Louisiana, LLC	\$45M	0	0	265	West Baton Rouge	Capital
1/26/2021	Shintech Louisiana, LLC	\$1.25B	30	129	265	Iberville	Capital
2/24/2021	Louisiana Fish Fry Products	\$1M	5	13	173	East Baton Rouge	Capital
2/25/2021	Jackson Hardwood	\$0.5M	5	14	31	East Feliciana	Capital
3/11/2021	International-Matex Tank Terminals	\$1.3M	42	47	45	Orleans	Southeast
3/19/21	Turner Industries Group, LLC	\$0M	0	0	415	Iberia	Capital
4/6/2021	New Orleans Cold Storage	\$48M	30	34	105	Orleans	Southeast
5/12/2021	Weyerhaeuser Company	\$157M	4	12	119	Livingston	Capital
6/3/2021	Swaybox Studios	\$0M	6	4	22	Jefferson	Southeast
6/15/2021	Intralox, Inc	\$0M	40	55	1794	Tangipahoa	Southeast
6/15/2021	Intralox, Inc.	\$0M	40	55	0	Jefferson	Southeast
6/24/2021	Chalmette Refining	\$550M	20	90	516	St. Bernard	Southeast
6/30/2021	BioLab	\$170M	82	231	19	Calcasieu	Southwest
7/7/2021	Continental Structural Plastics	\$13.3M	33	32	170	Webster	Northwest
8/20/2021	Coca-Cola Bottling Company	\$42M	15	27	558	East Baton Rouge	Capital
9/13/2021	Coastal Plains Meat Company	\$3.5M	13	21	19	St. Landry	Acadiana
10/5/2021	Premier Health	\$1.5M	50	7	500	East Baton Rouge	Capital
10/14/2021	Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.	\$4.5B	170	413	334	Ascension	Capital
11/4/2021	Big Easy Bucha	\$0.2M	50	119	47	Orleans	Southeast
11/10/2021	S&W Wholesale Foods, Inc	\$12M	30	45	76	Tangipahoa	Southeast
11/18/2021	Intralox, Inc.	\$60M	425	582	187	Tangipahoa	Southeast
12/17/2021	Ternium	\$98M	35	98	157	Caddo	Northwest

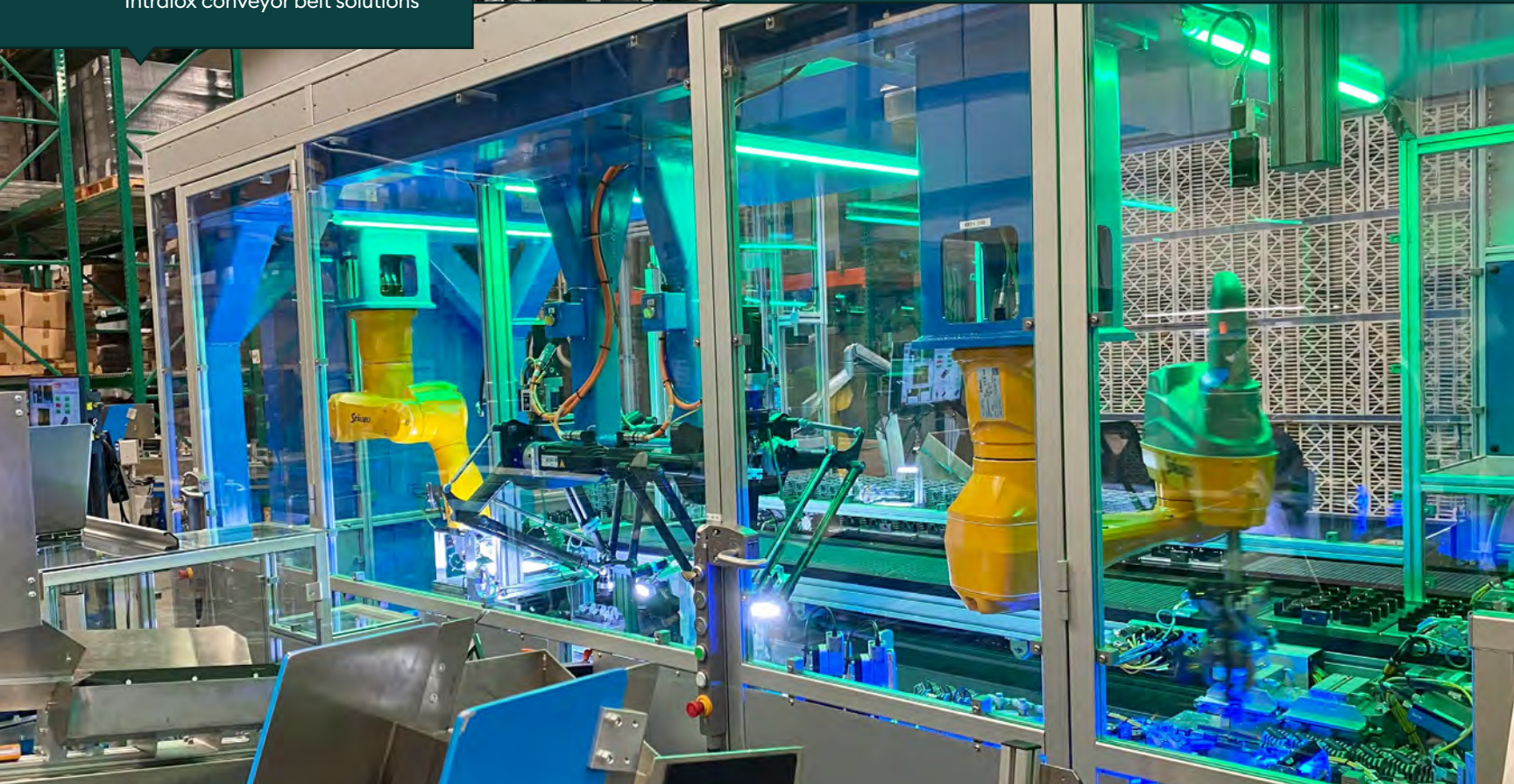


Intralox conveyor belt solutions

“

Our partnership with Louisiana Economic Development supports our immediate and long-term workforce needs. Their creative and impactful approach to workforce development has had a positive impact upon our business.”

Edel Blanks
Intralox President



Supporting Small Businesses

Award-winning suite of small business services is a Louisiana advantage



Endara Enterprises is a recipient of the newly launched Diversity in Entrepreneurship Initiative, which helps Louisiana's minority- and women-owned businesses succeed. *Photo Credit: Endara Enterprises*

Carmichael's Honey is one of 12 inaugural participants in the LED Rural Entrepreneurship Initiative, a partnership between LED and the Edward Lowe Foundation. *Photo Credit: Carmichael's Honey*



LED's award-winning suite of Small Business Services can be a game changer for small business owners looking to take their next steps to success. From business support for veterans and diversity initiatives to networking opportunities and educational programming, there's no shortage of ways for Louisiana entrepreneurs to get the support they need.

LED's Small Business Programs

Bonding Assistance Program

Offering surety-backed bonds

CEO Roundtables

Enabling peer-to-peer learning opportunities for small business executives

Hudson Initiative

Helping small businesses access state purchasing and contracting opportunities

Louisiana Contractors Accreditation Institute

Presenting seminars and courses for small and emerging construction firms

Mentor-Protégé Recognition

Connecting small and emerging businesses with industry experts

Pathway to Assist Veteran Entrepreneurs (PAVE)

Creating access to the tools Louisiana veterans need to start or manage a business

STEP Grant

Assisting small businesses to grow exports

Small Business Loan Guaranty Program

Driving small business development and expansion

Small and Emerging Business Development Program

Offering training for small business growth tactics

System for Integrated Growth

Customizing strategic research and technical assistance to boost growth

Veteran Initiative

Providing veterans with access to state funding

Veterans First Business Initiative

Certification for veterans, active-duty or reserve military, and Gold Star spouse businesses

4,256 Businesses counseled by Small Business Development Centers

2,620 Companies certified through the Hudson Initiative and/or Veteran Initiative

945 Companies certified through the Small and Emerging Business Development Program

802 Businesses receiving technical assistance through the Small and Emerging Business Development Program

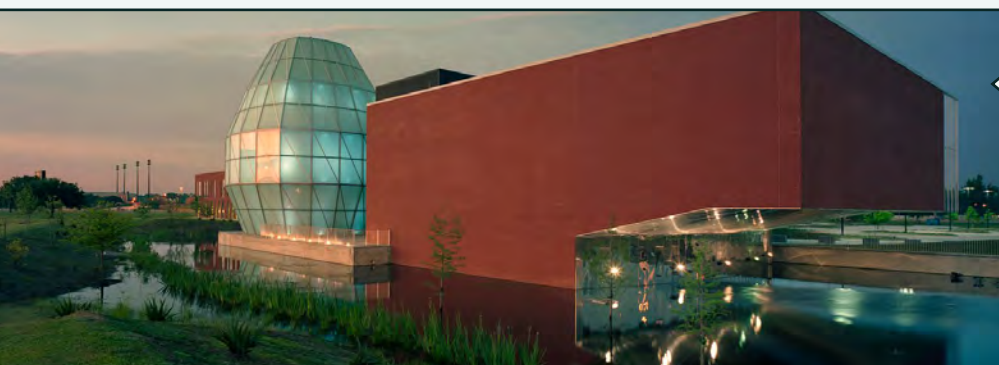
178 Louisiana Contractors Accreditation Institute graduates

64 CEO Roundtable graduates

57 Strategic Research engagements

54 Pathway to Assist Veteran Entrepreneurs graduates

\$1.6M Contract amounts supported by the Bonding Assistance Program



The Louisiana Immersive Technology Center in Lafayette hosts the Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), helping tech-driven small businesses grow.

Photo Credit: Opportunity Machine

Securing Foreign Direct Investment

LED supported \$7.3 billion of international investment in Louisiana in 2021



The forestry industry has a \$13 billion annual economic impact in Louisiana. In 2021 alone, more than \$600 million in capital investments were made in Louisiana's timber industry, including an investment from LaSalle Lumber.

“

In an era of increasing globalization, it is essential for us to show leadership and support of Foreign Direct Investment in Louisiana, in a positive, open and fair manner.”

John Bel Edwards
Governor, State of Louisiana



Taiwanese officials met with Gov. John Bel Edwards and LED Sec. Don Pierson in 2021. Foreign Direct Investment from Taiwan adds to Louisiana's diverse portfolio of international investment with the United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, Japan and France being among the most prominent trade partners.

Louisiana's economy is global in its scope, scale and attractiveness to foreign investors. More than 560 companies, hailing from more than 55 nations, are deploying record-breaking amounts of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) capital in Louisiana's economy, driving the creation of new jobs, new industries and sustainable growth. Investments made in our state's economy by non-U.S. companies demonstrate to the world that Louisiana is the place where global leaders begin, build and broaden their business success.

Indeed, Louisiana is a leader in the U.S., not just in the amount of FDI deployed into our

state's economy, but also in our ability to leverage federal investment to promote a diversified state economy positioned for sustained and long-term growth.

Through LED, foreign companies added \$7.3 billion in capital investment in Louisiana in 2021, creating 3,700+ new jobs. From 2003 to the present, more than 145 projects launched in Louisiana by international companies have generated over \$42.9 billion in FDI for Louisiana. Since 2008, Louisiana has attracted more FDI per capita than any other state in the nation.



While in the UK for COP26, a Louisiana delegation visited Drax Biomass, a renewable energy company with Louisiana investments. After the visit, Drax Chief Innovation Officer Jason Shipstone said, “We were very happy to welcome Governor Edwards to Drax so he could see for himself how sustainable biomass from Louisiana is helping keep the lights on for millions of UK homes and businesses.”

International Investment Highlights in 2021

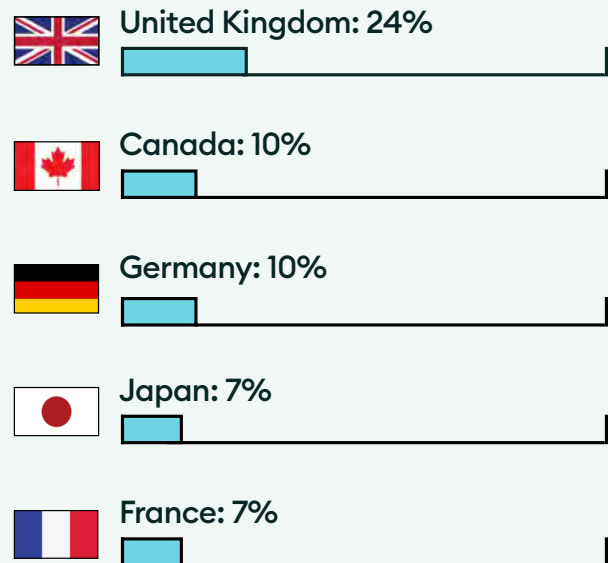
\$7.3 Billion

Capital investment from foreign companies through LED support

3,701

New jobs

Leading Foreign Investors by Nation





“

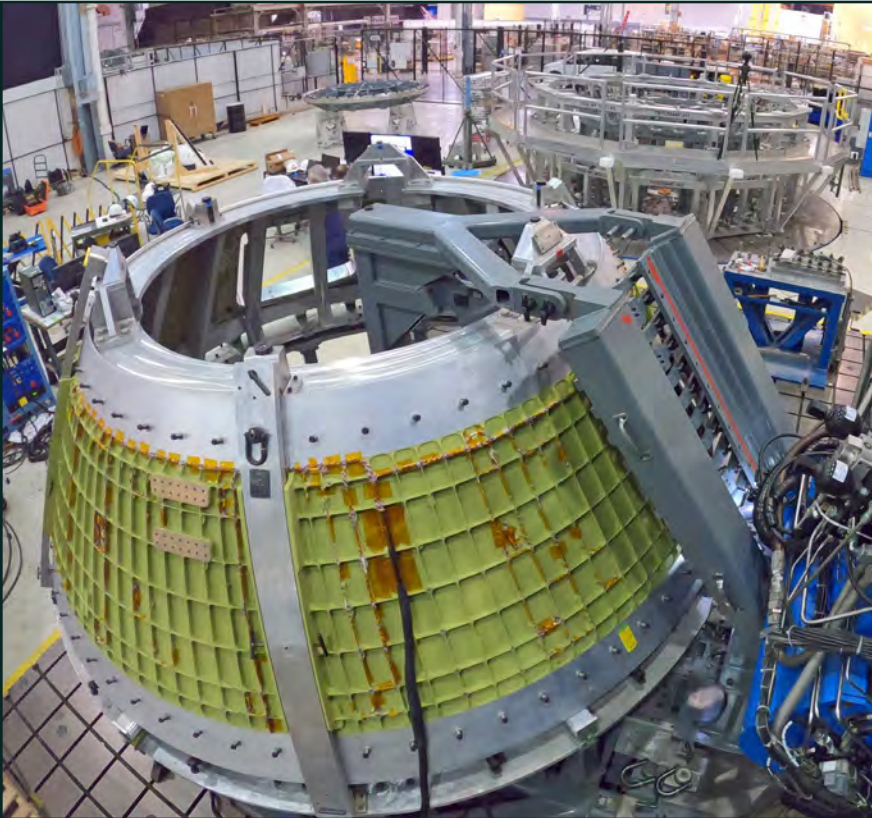
The jobs and infrastructure Shintech has built in Louisiana continues to create economic development opportunities in our communities. We are grateful for the support of neighbors and our community, and we work every day to continue our commitment to live locally, hire locally and buy locally as the company’s footprint grows.”

Danny Cedotal

Shintech Vice President of Manufacturing

Pioneering Innovation

Economic development powered by ports and reaching for the sky



“

From the days of the Apollo missions to the development of the Space Launch System and Orion spacecraft, we have long looked to Michoud for a glimpse at our destiny in space. The Louisiana Space Campus will help us fulfill that destiny.”

John Bel Edwards
Governor, State of Louisiana

Artemis is NASA's new manned space program that will bring astronauts – including the first women and the first person of color – to the moon by 2024. At NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans, Lockheed Martin is fabricating the Orion crew module for the Artemis III mission, and Boeing is assembling the core stage of NASA's Space Launch System (SLS) rocket. *Photo Credit: NASA*



SmartPort’s strategic application of analytics technology will help us all more fully and safely harness commercial opportunities.”

Brandy D. Christian

Port of New Orleans President and CEO

Louisiana has economic prosperity on land, on water and in the air – all part of a strategy capitalizing on Louisiana’s geographic location, its well-trained workforce and its spirit of innovation. Importantly, this strategy is leading business development in noted industries like aerospace, while also furthering the state’s standing as a global trade leader.

As proof of unique economic developments that are unlike any in existence, look no further than NASA’s Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans, where the rockets for the Artemis moon mission are being built along with the Orion Space Capsule. Then turn your gaze to the Mississippi River, where SmartPort’s leading-edge technology will soon help guide port logistics. In Louisiana, the future is now.



Jeff Guilott with Cooper T. Smith, Justin Ehrenwerth, president and CEO of The Water Institute of the Gulf, and Andrew Courtois, field geologist with The Water Institute of the Gulf, discuss how sensors measuring the Mississippi River depth are integrated into the tugboat’s systems. This groundbreaking technology is one of several digital strategies that will improve river logistics through Louisiana’s SmartPort program. *Photo Credit: Tim Mueller, Tim Mueller Photography*



The Water Institute of the Gulf is an independent, non-profit, applied research institution advancing science and developing integrated methods for sustainable environments and thriving economies. The institute is playing a major role in the development of SmartPort, a cutting-edge river logistics system bettering Louisiana’s position as a global trade leader. *Photo Credit: The Water Institute of the Gulf*

Climate Initiatives Drive Cleaner Future and Business Development

Louisiana’s ‘Net-Zero’ commitment combines with innovative thinking to create new investment



“

Louisiana is a national leader in fossil fuels, but it is busy preparing for a green future.”

Jack Rogers
Business Facilities Editor-in-Chief

LM Wind Power’s facility at the NASA Michoud Assembly Facility in New Orleans is the only wind engineering technology center in the U.S.

Gov. John Bel Edwards led a Louisiana coalition at the COP26 Glasgow Climate Change Conference in October and November. Louisiana has also joined the international Race to Zero campaign, which seeks to reduce net carbon emissions around the world to zero by 2050, and created a climate change task force that is forming a strategic plan for Louisiana to reach that goal.





Venture Global completed its Calcasieu Pass LNG export facility, above, and announced a more than \$10 billion investment in a new LNG export facility in Cameron.

2021 Projects Supporting Emissions Reduction Initiatives:

\$16 Billion Capital investment
7 Energy transition projects
2,500 New jobs

Louisiana has begun to realize the profound economic benefit of diversifying its energy sector in a way that supports global climate initiatives.

Speaking before the U.S. Senate and on the global stage at the COP26 summit, Gov. John Bel Edwards touted the state's unique solutions for serving existing fossil fuel markets while responsibly transitioning to a cleaner energy future.

In October, Gov. Edwards announced Louisiana's participation in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's Race to Zero campaign, a global effort of thousands of governments, higher education institutions and businesses committed to taking actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and avoid further worsening effects of climate change on the world's communities.



LouisianaNetZero.com



Air Products' \$4.5 billion blue hydrogen clean energy complex in Louisiana will be the world's largest permanent carbon dioxide sequestration endeavor to date. Photo Credit: Air Products

The Gulf of Mexico has the potential to generate over 500,000 megawatts of offshore wind energy per year. That's more than the potential capacity of the Pacific Coast and Great Lakes combined, and would cover two times the current energy needed by all five Gulf states.

Already, Louisiana has committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions to Net Zero by 2050, launched a Climate Initiatives Task Force and joined the U.S. Climate Alliance, a bipartisan coalition of governors committed to state-led action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Many of the state's advantages that have long made it a perfect fit for the oil and gas industry are now leading to investments in solar and wind power, carbon capture and sequestration, and alternative fuels.

Louisiana is helping lead climate initiatives that power the energy transition.

- ✓ The Gulf of Mexico has been a hub for fossil fuels, but offshore wind opportunities await, with companies in Louisiana well equipped to supply infrastructure and needed manufacturers.
- ✓ Louisiana's sunny skies offer opportunities for solar power and harnessing energy from the sun represents a major economic development opportunity for the state's rural communities.
- ✓ Aside from new energy sources taking a larger role, major investments are being made in carbon capture, use and sequestration technology (CCUS), capturing carbon dioxide to further oil extraction or to trap it underground. Louisiana has natural advantages for carbon control because of its pipelines capable of transporting carbon and subsurface holding areas needed to sequester carbon.
- ✓ Louisiana is a leading agricultural state and industry and byproducts from the state's corn, sugar cane and soybeans are used to create renewable fuel. Louisiana's strong timber industry and its biomass byproducts – renewable fuel made from wood pellets – are also areas of investment.



Air Products is fully invested in and committed to projects that leverage our build-own-operate, technology, financial, and sustainability capabilities, and this project brings all of those core strengths together. We are very excited about the model this project represents in the broader energy transition and thank the state of Louisiana for its collaboration on the pore space to safely and permanently sequester the captured CO₂. We look forward to building on our long partnership with Louisiana and constructing a facility that will serve as a leading example of clean energy production around the globe.”

Seifi Ghasemi

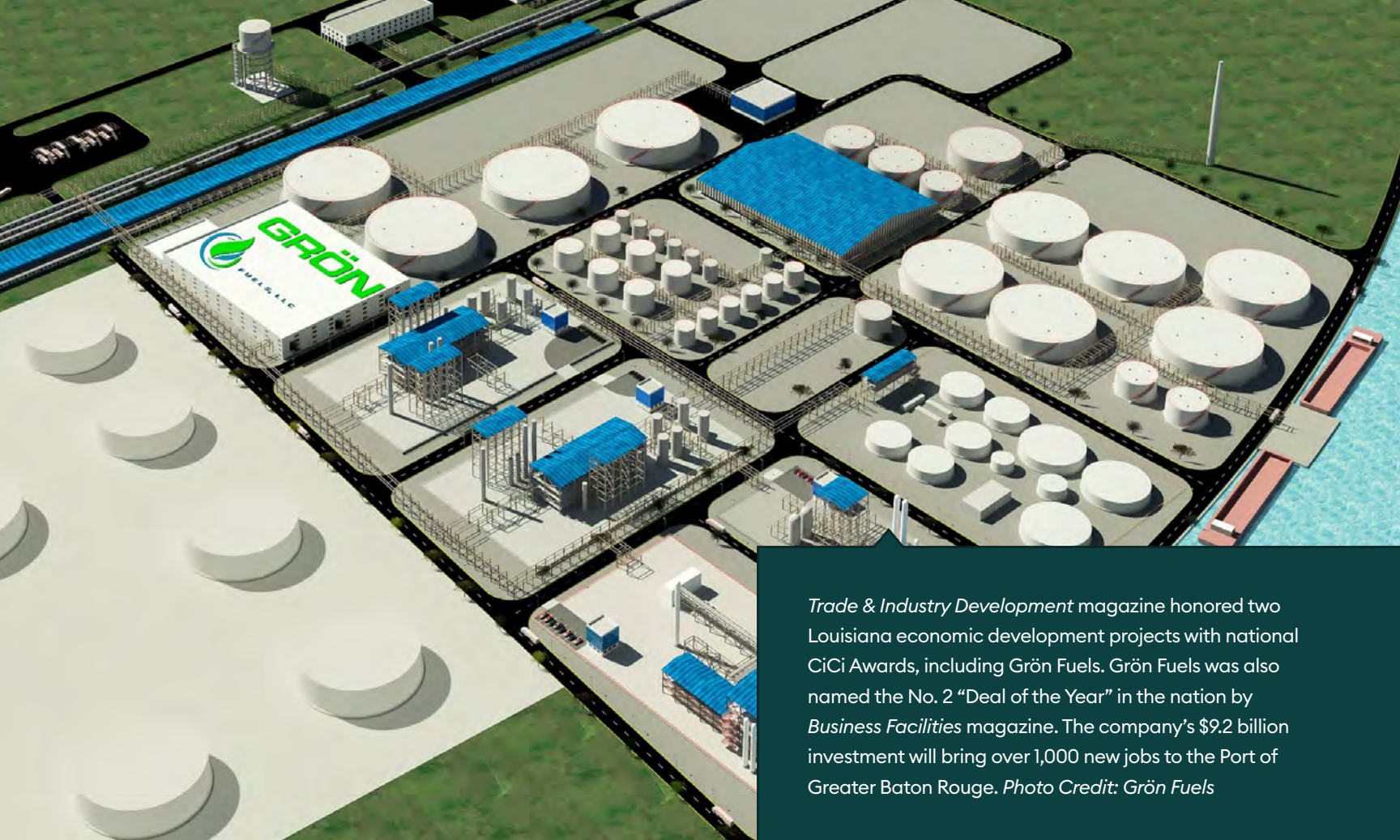
Air Products Chairman,
President and CEO

Award-Winning Economic Development

Louisiana continues to flex its economic development muscle



Epic Piping, a premier pipe systems manufacturer and distributor of pipe, fittings and flanges, had its fabrication facility in Lake Providence earn a CiCi Award in the community impact category.
Photo Credit: Epic Piping



Trade & Industry Development magazine honored two Louisiana economic development projects with national CiCi Awards, including Grön Fuels. Grön Fuels was also named the No. 2 “Deal of the Year” in the nation by *Business Facilities* magazine. The company’s \$9.2 billion investment will bring over 1,000 new jobs to the Port of Greater Baton Rouge. *Photo Credit: Grön Fuels*



Louisiana Economic Development remains the only state agency in the country that is an Accredited Economic Development Organization, or AEDO. In October, the International Economic Development Council conferred accreditation to the statewide economic development agency.



Louisiana continues to be a rock star of entrepreneurial support, especially when it comes to second-stage companies.”

Dan Wyant

Edward Lowe Foundation Chairman and President

LED Awards & Rankings

#1 Workforce Training | Talent Attraction program a record 12 straight years
(LED FastStart®) – *Business Facilities*, 2021

#1 Economic development results in the South – *Southern Business & Development*, 2020

#1 Small Business Services – *IEDC Gold Award in Entrepreneurship*, 2021

#1 First state to install 5-Axis CNC machines at **every community college**

#2 Deal of the Year – *Business Facilities*, 2020

#2 Partnerships with Educational Institutions (LED FastStart) – *IEDC*, 2021

#2 Neighborhood and Retail Development (Community Competitiveness) – *IEDC*, 2021

#2 Largest inventory of actively marketed sites – *LED Certified Sites*, 2021

#2 Silver Shovel Award for project performance – *Area Development*, 2021

#2 Manufacturing Output – *Business Facilities*, 2021

#2 Workforce Training Program – *Area Development*, 2020

#2 Infrastructure investment supporting economic development
– *Site Selection*, 2020 (*Global Groundwork Index*)

AEDO Only accredited state economic development agency in U.S. – *IEDC*

CiCi Awards Economic development community impact – *Trade & Industry Development*, 2021



LED's IEDC Gold Award-winning Small Business Services team.



Louisiana Economic Development displays the professionalism, commitment and technical expertise that is deserving of this honor.”

Jeff Finkle
IEDC President and CEO

Louisiana is no stranger to national and international recognition for economic development, having racked up awards from noted trade publications like *Area Development*, *Business Facilities*, *Site Selection*, *Southern Business & Development* and *Trade & Industry Development* in 2021.

The awards didn't stop there. The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) recognized LED's suite of small business services and community

competitiveness initiatives, as well as LED FastStart's education partnerships.

LED FastStart's No. 1 ranking as the best workforce training and development program by *Business Facilities* stands as one of the clearest examples of how Louisiana's award-winning economic development programs are national leaders. No other state has won the award since its debut, with Louisiana capturing the nod for 12 consecutive years.

The Nation's Best Workforce Training and Development

LED FastStart's unwavering focus: Recruit. Train. Sustain.



LED FastStart's custom training includes the use of virtual reality. Users get a hands-on experience without having to shut down on-site equipment. It's one of LED FastStart's many tools that make it the best in the nation.



Louisiana continues to set the standard for excellence in customized training.”

Jack Rogers

Business Facilities Editor-in-Chief



There is a reason why LED FastStart has been awarded the nation’s top workforce training and development program for 12 consecutive years by *Business Facilities*: There is simply nothing quite like it. Often imitated, but never replicated.

Announced in August, LED FastStart’s 12th consecutive top ranking makes LED FastStart the only program in the nation to be ranked No. 1 since the widely respected business trade publication introduced the Workforce Training Leaders category in 2010.

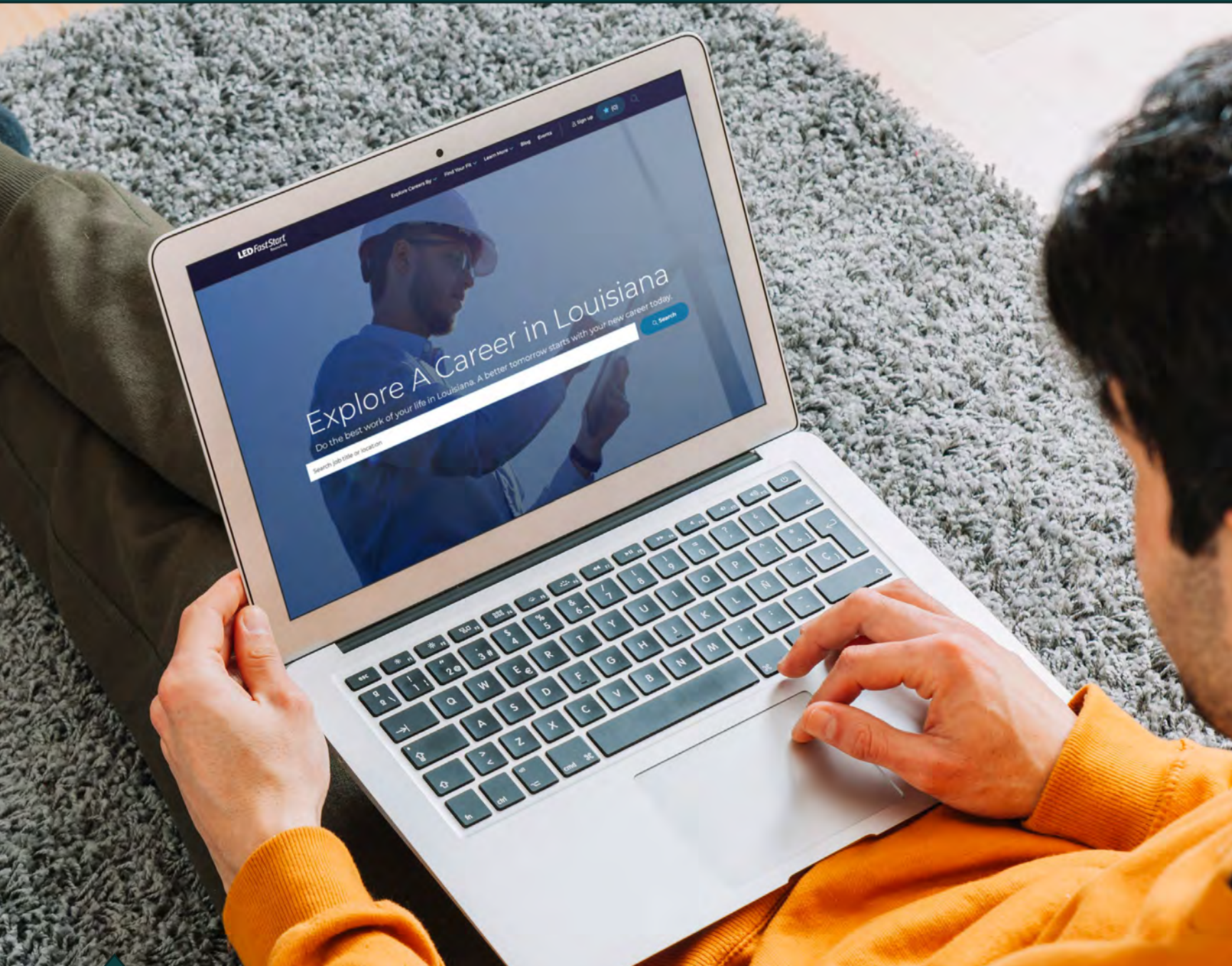
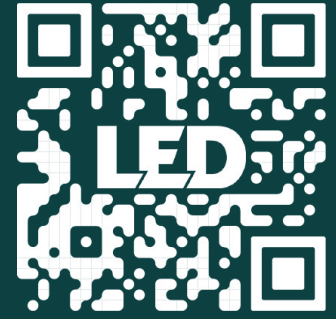
LED FastStart customizes employee recruitment, screening, training development and training delivery, all delivered at no cost to participating employers. LED FastStart team members have developed and managed hundreds of customized workforce solutions for clients that include a variety of Fortune 500 companies.

LED FastStart’s virtual career fairs took off in 2021. Louisiana’s IT sector was an early participant in these efficient and results-oriented events, but manufacturing and process industry companies joined as well.

Collaboration with Louisiana’s higher education partners continues to be a key to the program’s success. LED FastStart has guided millions of dollars in state workforce support to higher education initiatives that support talent growth and skills training, helping to ensure that colleges and universities – including HBCUs – have the tools necessary to prepare Louisiana’s talent pool for new careers. LED FastStart also facilitated the installation of new Haas 5-Axis CNC machining centers – considered essential for aerospace, automotive and other advanced manufacturers – at every college in the Louisiana Community and Technical College System.

Learn more about LED FastStart

and its award-winning *Recruit. Train. Sustain.* approach to workforce development at [Opportunities.LEDFastStart.com](https://opportunities.LEDFastStart.com).



At LEDFastStart.com, job seekers get a personalized experience – guiding them through the site, making recommendations and assisting with the application process. LED FastStart clients are provided their own unique landing pages, customized with vivid content about their company.

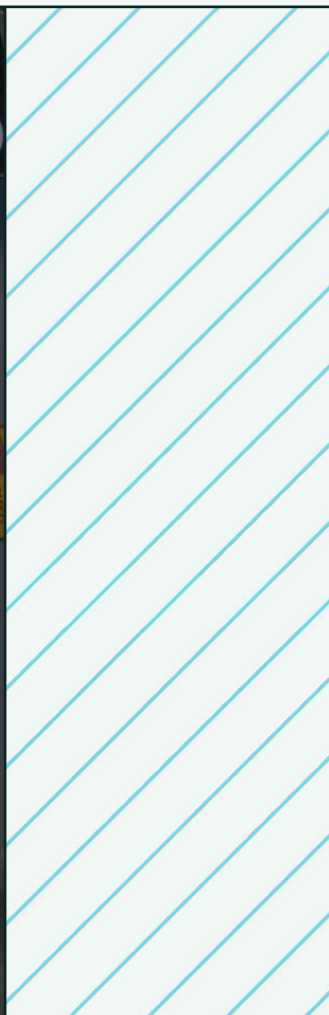


6,000+

hours of LED FastStart training for 32 companies in 2021

LED FastStart's virtual career fairs offer an easy way for companies to connect with candidates.

LED FastStart facilitated the installation of new Haas 5-Axis CNC machining centers – considered essential for aerospace, automotive and other advanced manufacturers – at every college in the Louisiana Community and Technical College System.

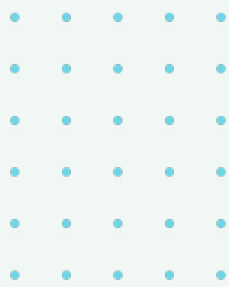


Entertainment Thrives in Louisiana

World-class incentives and educational funding continue Louisiana's creative legacy



Louisiana's Motion Picture Production Program continues to draw film productions, covering a portion of the costs for a broad range of production needs, including equipment rentals as well as cast and crew salaries.



“

We are thrilled to be a part of, and help to grow, the incredibly deep and talented community of Louisiana-based artists and storytellers.”

Theresa Andersson
Swaybox Studios Co-Founder and Co-CEO



The Digital Media Institute at InterTech, a division of Shreveport-based BRF, will receive a \$500,000 award through the Louisiana Entertainment Development Fund to prepare the state's college students to work as professional digital artists.

Louisiana's history in the entertainment industry is prodigious, and there's no stopping in sight. The state has consistently recognized its importance, backing the industry to keep the spotlights on.

Louisiana is an innovator in film production. Its pioneering Motion Picture Production Program was the first of its kind in the nation when it debuted in the early 2000s, and it continues to be a draw for film productions in the state, covering a portion of the costs for a broad range of production needs, including equipment rentals as well as cast and crew salaries for work performed in Louisiana. LED also created the unique Entertainment Development Fund. EDF awards provide financial support for Louisiana's content creators, while supporting education, training and job opportunities across the state's film industry.

In addition to aiding the future digital media and film production workforce, Louisiana offers the Digital and Interactive Media and Software Program, providing tax credits for payroll and production expenditures. The program has helped secure multiple digital entertainment and software companies through the years, including the recent announcement of Possibility Space, a video game development studio launching in New Orleans.

The state's entertainment outcomes continue to be recognized on the world stage, with 2021 seeing six Louisiana acts scoring Grammy wins and two Louisiana-made movies earning a total of four Academy Award nominations. Four additional Oscar nods went to other Louisiana-based artists.

Program	Active Applications	Qualified In-State Expenditures	Qualified Resident Payroll
Motion Picture Production	65	\$290,684,498	\$103,526,583
Live Performance Production	10	\$5,320,734	\$4,133,305
Sound Recording Production	6	\$265,041	N/A
Interactive Media/Software Development	33	\$70,225,703	\$62,833,948



Apple TV+'s "Greyhound," starring Tom Hanks, was shot at Celtic Studios in Baton Rouge. The studio also hosted production of Disney+'s "Crater," with one of the film's producers calling Celtic a "slam dunk." Photo Credit: Apple TV+

“

After two decades of building successful video game studios, I'm delighted to be starting my next company at home in Louisiana. This great state has a joy and a strength to it that makes it the perfect place to both raise my family and build my business.”

Jeff Strain

Possibility Space Founder and CEO

The Louisiana Prize Foundation, an organization promoting education, workforce development, film festivals and mentorship programs, received \$203,050 to expand its annual Louisiana Film Prize event and develop a film training program in Louisiana high schools through Louisiana's Entertainment Development Fund.



We appreciate the creative resources and the business-friendly environment that Louisiana has to offer our industry. We know we can count on a skilled crew base and excellent studio facilities whenever we bring a film project to Louisiana.”

Mary Ann Hughes

The Walt Disney Company Vice President, Production & Investment Planning

2021 Entertainment Investment Produced:

\$170 Million

Resident payroll (all entertainment programs)

\$355 Million

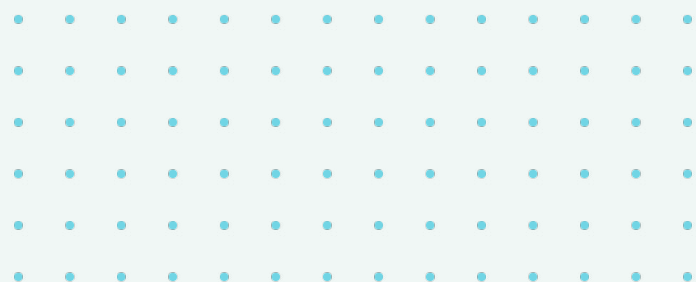
In-state expenditures (all entertainment programs)

\$2.5 Million

Entertainment Development Fund awards



LouisianaEntertainment.gov



Revitalization Efforts and Natural Resources Power Rural Communities

Forging a future filled with economic investment and progress



Hunt Forest Products and Tolko Industries have partnered to build a \$240 million sawmill in Bienville Parish. It's their second partnership, having built a \$115 million lumber mill in Urania in 2018.



The Louisiana Rural Revitalization Council issued its strategic plan for Louisiana's rural communities. The council comprises 37 key stakeholders appointed by the governor.



In July, Continental Structural Plastics announced a \$13.3 million expansion project of the company's industrial and commercial plastic manufacturing facility in Webster Parish. The facility manufactures plastic undercarriages, bumpers and other car and truck parts.

Rural Louisiana enjoys a proud history as the proving ground for many of our state's best-known and most profitable industries.

From agriculture and wood products to rapidly expanding entrants in the renewable energy sector, rural Louisiana's nearly 750,000 residents contribute their talents and tenacity to help emerging and established enterprises expand their operations, while also driving the creation of new jobs, revenue and economic growth that benefits every region of our state.

Louisiana takes a proactive approach, supporting and expanding rural Louisiana's role as a hub of economic and community development that is broad-based, sustainable and accessible to all people.



Delta Biofuel is evaluating Iberia Parish for a planned \$70 million renewable fuel plant to produce biomass fuel pellets made from residual sugarcane fiber, known as bagasse.



A Louisiana Veterans Certified business, Coastal Plains Meat Company announced a major expansion at its Eunice facility, tripling its output. Headquartered in Kaplan, Coastal Plains focuses on growing, sourcing and buying local sustainable beef.

Rural Economic Development in 2021:

\$11.6 Billion

Investment in rural communities

5,962

New jobs



LaRuralEvolution.com

Life Sciences Leaders

Louisiana is building a thriving bioscience ecosystem, bolstering healthcare and the state's economy



New Orleans native Dr. Trivia Frazier cofounded Obatala Sciences in 2017 after the National Science Foundation awarded a grant to commercialize “fat-on-a-chip” technology. Obatala is the first minority female-owned biotechnology enterprise in Louisiana to raise over \$1 million in institutional funds, including a funding round from Harvard University in June. *Photo Credit: Obatala Sciences*

At the New Orleans BioInnovation Center, entrepreneurship, science, innovation, technology, academia, commercialization and economic development come together to improve global health outcomes. *Photo Credit: NOBIC*



From advanced radiopharmaceutical development and breakthrough diabetes treatments to innovative genome sequencing, Louisiana's life sciences sector is impacting lives across the globe and strengthening the economy at home.

The state's commitment to scientific solutions in pharmaceutical, biotech and health makes Louisiana the ideal habitat for life sciences investment.

BRF, a diverse business incubator that helps fuel the economy of Shreveport and surrounding areas, hosts a number of life science facilities, including the Center for Molecular Imaging and Therapy, which is opening a \$14.2 million state-of-the-art facility that expands CMIT's capabilities to include applications in prostate cancer, Alzheimer's disease, hyperinsulinism and pancreatic cancer. *Photo Credit: BRF*

Welcoming its first class in 2020, the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine Louisiana campus features a 4,100-square-foot anatomy lab, high-tech simulation center and a 3,300-square-foot lab for osteopathic manipulative medicine training. The institution joins the recently announced ULM Biomedical Research Park as evidence of a commitment to rural healthcare outcomes and economic development in Northeast Louisiana. *Photo Credit: Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine*



LouisianaLifeSciences.com



Setting the Stage for Community and Business Growth

Proactive development initiatives drive success



Four Louisiana communities were tagged as Louisiana Development Ready Communities with Algiers, Broussard, Harahan and St. Bernard Parish earning this important signal that they are business ready. *Photo Credit: Jefferson Parish Historical Society*

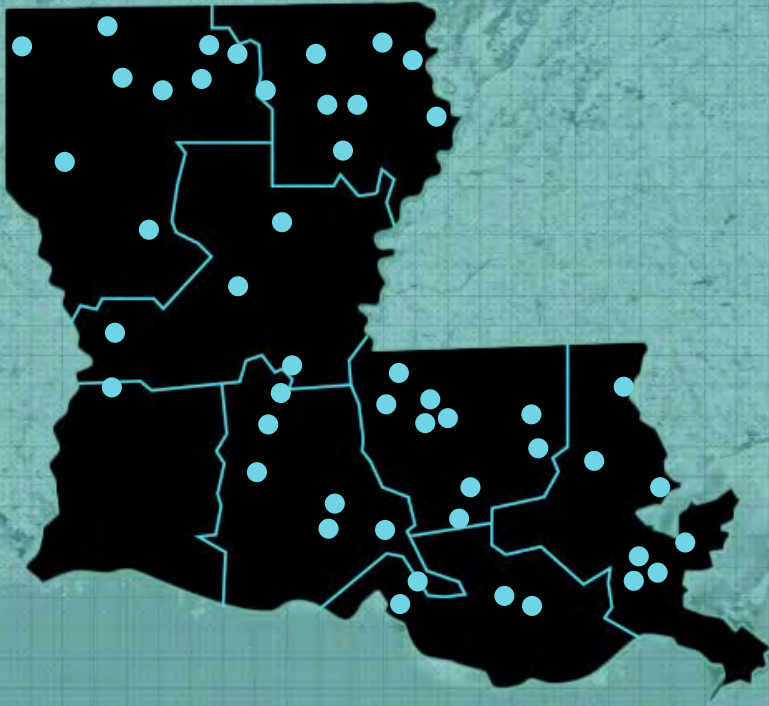
Louisiana Development Ready Communities Program

Communities meeting “development ready” criteria gain advantages with site selectors

The LDRC program supports communities committed to creating strategic development plans that improve competitiveness and success in the site selection process. Since launching in 2011 with eight communities, the program has expanded to almost 50.

From establishing leadership to assessing the community’s strengths and weaknesses,

the LDRC program helps local leaders develop a vision, goals and action steps. They implement a plan that takes into consideration the sustainability of the community economic development effort. Algiers, Broussard, Harahan and St. Bernard Parish were tagged as LDRCs in 2021.



4 New Louisiana Development Ready Communities in 2021

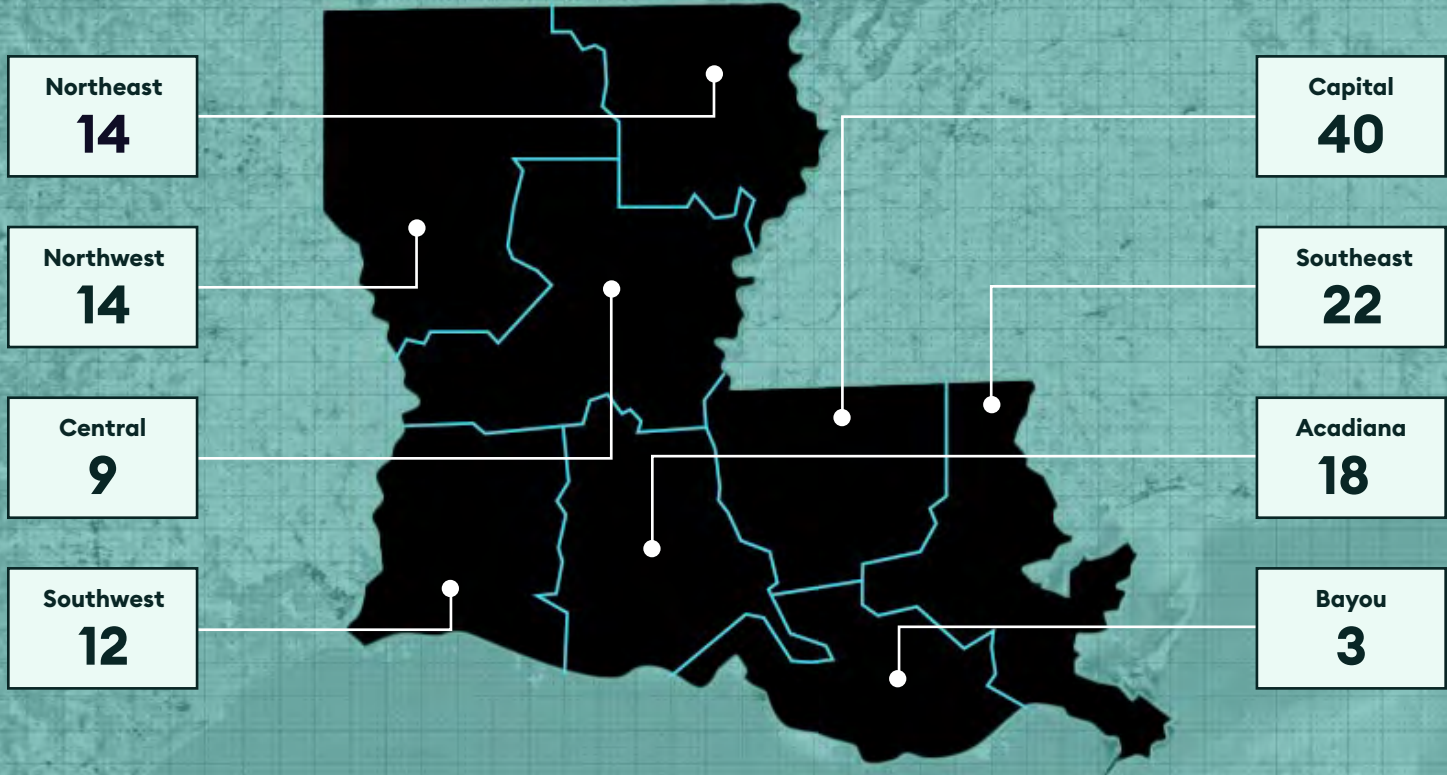
48 LDRC communities across the state

Louisiana Development Ready Communities

*Certified in 2021

- | | | | |
|------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| *Algiers | DeRidder | Leesville | Springhill |
| Amite | Delhi | Minden | *St. Bernard |
| Arcaadia | Donaldsonville | Morgan City | St. Martinville |
| Baker | Eunice | Natchitoches | Stonewall |
| Bastrop | Farmerville | New Iberia | Tallulah |
| Bernice | Gonzales | New Roads | Berwick |
| Bogalusa | Gretna | Oak Grove | Ville Platte |
| *Broussard | Hammond | Patterson | Vivian |
| Bunkie | *Harahan | Pineville | West Feliciana Parish |
| Central | Houma | Rayville | West Monroe |
| Covington | Jena | Ruston | Winnsboro |
| Crowley | Lake Providence | Slidell | Zachary |

Certified Sites By Region



The LED Certified Sites Program outlines critical information for developers, including maps outlining site boundaries, pipelines, telecommunications infrastructure and transportation access. View more at LouisianaSiteSelection.com/LED.

LED's community initiatives drive economic development and enhance quality of life and place. The planning for these programs is strategic, establishing business-friendly opportunities across the state.



LouisianaSiteSelection.com

LED Certified Sites Program

Certified Sites in Louisiana save businesses time and money

9 New Certified Sites in 2021

132 Certified Sites in 36 Louisiana parishes

While site certification is part of the economic development portfolio in almost every state, no state can boast a stronger commitment to shovel-ready business investment – or a more rigorous prequalification process – than Louisiana.

Louisiana’s high bar for certification is an advantage for potential investors. Amazon, ElementUS and a partnership between Ochsner Health and SafeSource Direct are among the major national and international companies that recently took advantage of the program.



Amazon’s Shreveport location sits on an LED Certified Site.
Photo Credit: North Louisiana Economic Partnership (NLEP)/
Ryan Companies

Federal Partnerships and Funding

Louisiana makes the most of federal programs that promote state and local prosperity



Through U.S. Department of Defense funding, Fort Polk is receiving \$111 million for two major construction projects: a \$56 million barracks building to house service members, and a \$55 million Joint Operations Center.

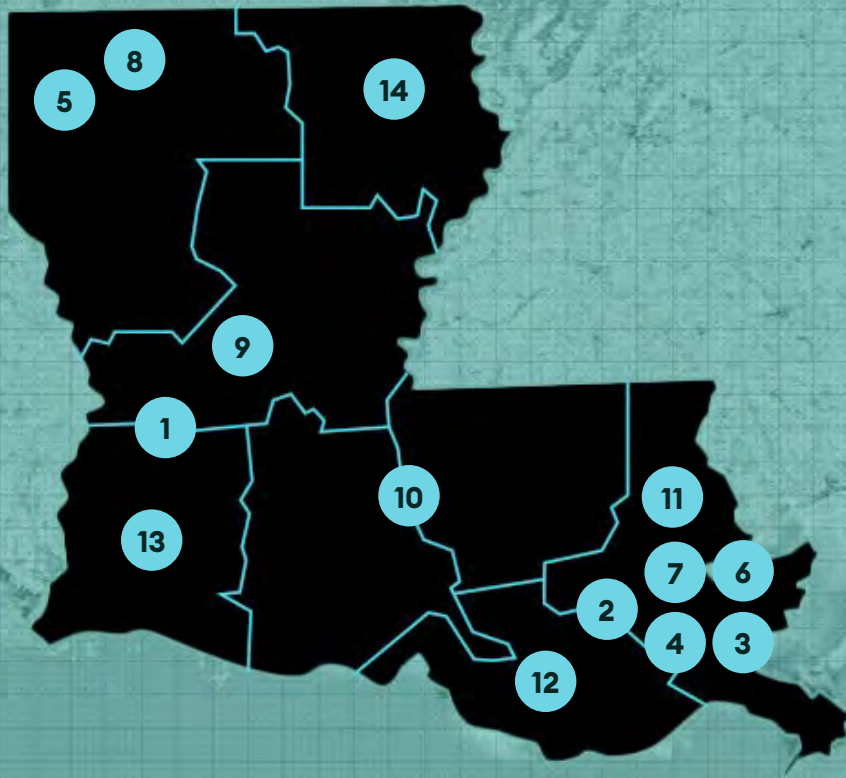


Barksdale Air Force Base in northwest Louisiana contributes nearly 9,000 jobs and more than \$570 million in payroll to the economy. A proposed defense budget will dedicate \$36 million for the construction of a new gate and entrance complex at the base.

The partnership that Louisiana has forged with key federal agencies plays an important role in the state's continued economic development. These strategic investments in Louisiana – executed with the support of state and local and regional economic development agencies – reflect the diversity and dynamism of Louisiana's economy.

State-federal partnerships create the revenue streams, jobs and opportunities

for new private sector companies that benefit every region of the state. Programs take many forms, from deploying capital to developing resiliency initiatives such as the Paycheck Protection Program, to the long-term and sustainable funding of defense preparedness, education, housing, technology, aviation, job training and other vital sectors.



Louisiana Military Installations

Army

- 1 Fort Polk
Vernon Parish
- 2 377th Theater Sustainment Command
New Orleans

Navy

- 3 Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base
Plaquemines Parish
- 4 Naval Information Warfare Center (NIWC)
New Orleans

Air Force

- 5 Barksdale Air Force Base
Bossier Parish

Marine Corps

- 6 Marine Forces Reserve
New Orleans

Coast Guard

- 7 U.S. Coast Guard, 8th District
New Orleans

Louisiana National Guard

- 8-14 Multiple installations throughout the state

2021 Federal Partnership Highlights

EDA and the Build Back Better

Challenge:

The Economic Development Administration (EDA), a division of the U.S Department of Commerce, has invested millions of dollars to help the state increase employment within tourism, oil and gas, retail, agriculture and other sectors, as well as supporting the expansion of broadband internet to underserved areas of the state. In December 2021, the EDA named the New Orleans BioInnovation Center's Gulf Coast Health Sciences Corridor proposal, and GNO, Inc.'s H2theFuture green hydrogen energy corridor proposal, as two of 60 finalists for up to \$100 million final awards in the EDA's \$1 billion "Build Back Better Regional Challenge."

Defense:

Direct spending by the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) in Louisiana generates approximately \$9.64 billion in economic impact. DOD's investments within its Louisiana-based infrastructure helped create more than 77,000 jobs, while also generating \$348.7 million in state and local tax revenues. The 2022 National Defense Authorization Act has helped Louisiana begin the new year with congressional authorization for \$219 million in military construction projects.

Resiliency/Pandemic Response:

Louisiana secured \$29.6 million in federal support through the CARES Act and American Rescue Plan. In addition, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provided \$454 million to address the unprecedented challenges to public health and safety created by the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding enabled Louisiana to provide vital equipment to healthcare and other frontline workers, including:

- 4.5 million N95 masks
- 9.3 million surgical masks
- 632,000 face shields
- 3.5 million gowns/coveralls
- 277 million gloves

Housing:

Louisiana received \$45.4 million in federal housing assistance through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The CDBG Program helps municipalities provide affordable housing and supports a broad range of community development initiatives.



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This public document was published at a total cost of \$3,752.10. Four hundred copies of this public document were published in this first printing at a cost of \$3,752.10. The total cost of all printings of this document, including reprints, is \$3,752.10. This document was published by Louisiana Economic Development to market Louisiana for new business investment under authority of R.S. 36:101 (B). This material was printed in accordance with the standards for printing by state agencies established pursuant to R.S. 43:31. Printing of this material was purchased in accordance with the provisions of Title 43 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.



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