

OFFSHORE EUROPE

SEPTEMBER 5-8, 2017 | ABERDEEN, U.K.

ABOUT OFFSHORE EUROPE 2017

Offshore Europe features over 56,000 attendees and offers Louisiana companies an opportunity to engage directly with international market leaders and innovative technology companies. As Europe's leading energy and petroleum event, the conference attracts global audiences of engineers, technical specialists and industry leaders. The 2017 conference will be held at the Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Center and is organized by the Society of Petroleum Engineers.

STEP GRANT OPPORTUNITY

LED's STEP Grant will offer travel expense reimbursements of up to 75 percent for new-to-export companies and up to 50 percent for market-expansion companies, for total assistance of up to **\$2,500 per company for attending Offshore Europe.**

LOUISIANA STEP GRANT INFORMATION

ABOUT LOUISIANA STEP GRANT:

STEP is a SBA Program which provides financial awards to state and territory governments to assist small businesses with export development. This program's mission is to increase the number of U.S. small business exporters and increase their export sales. Through a cooperative agreement with U.S. Small Business Administration, LED received funding in the amount of \$160,000 for the Louisiana State Trade Expansion Program (LA STEP) to provide grants to eligible Louisiana small business concerns that are new to export, as well as those businesses who currently sell their goods and services to other countries.

LOUISIANA STATE TRADE EXPANSION PROGRAM:

LED's STEP Grant will offer travel expense reimbursements of up to 75 percent for new-to-export companies and up to 50 percent for market-expansion companies, for total assistance of up to \$2,500 per company for attending an approved trade show. Companies may participate in two events during the funding cycle for a maximum benefit of \$5,000 (per company) during the 2016-2017 funding cycle. Only trade events from the pre-approved list are eligible for reimbursement.

ELIGIBLE TRAVEL EXPENSE INCLUDE:

- Reimbursement of coach class airfare that adheres to the Fly America Act
- Lodging up to the federal foreign per diem rate for international lodging and U.S. federal domestic per diem for domestic lodging.
- Ground transportation fees
- Meals up to the federal per diem rates for international and domestic travel
- Registration fees and booth fees

TO BE ELIGIBLE COMPANIES MUST:

- Have been in business for at least one year
- Operating profitably
- Be based in Louisiana
- Have a plan for exporting (strategy)
- Understand the costs associated with exporting (costs such as freight forwarders, customs brokers, shipping, etc.)
- Meet the SBA definition of a small business
- Not be debarred from doing business with the federal government
- Either be new to export or seeking market expansion

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND APPLICATION:

For additional information or to apply for a grant, companies can visit www.opportunitylouisiana.com/stepgrant or contact Sheba Person directly at 225-342-2537. Applications are accepted via email at sheba.person@la.gov or U.S. mail.



Funded in part through a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration.

