

## Hudson and Veteran Initiative Programs

Louisiana's Hudson and Veteran Initiatives are certification programs designed to help eligible Louisiana-based small businesses, Veteran-Owned small businesses, and Service-Connected Disabled Veteran-Owned small businesses gain greater access to purchasing and contracting opportunities that are available at the State government level. Both programs are race and gender neutral; State agencies and their contractors are encouraged to use small entrepreneurs whenever possible.

### Benefits

- 10% of the total evaluation points can be added to a certified Small Entrepreneurship's bid on a Request for Proposal (RFP)
- Prime contractors who use certified Small Entrepreneurs as a subcontractor on a bid for an RFP are also eligible to receive additional percentage points on their bid
- Business and contract information will be accessible to State purchasing officials and prime contractors looking for subcontractors
- For small purchases of less than \$15,000, State agencies can waive the requirement of getting additional quotes if a certified company submit a quote that is reasonable

### Eligibility Requirements

- Principal place of business must be in Louisiana
- Employ fewer than 50 full-time employees
- Average gross receipts do not exceed \$5 million for non-construction companies / \$10 million for construction companies
- Independently owned and operated
- Not dominant in its professional field
- Owned by persons domiciled in Louisiana
  - To qualify for the Veteran's certification, at least 51% of the business must be owned by a Veteran/or a Service-Connected Disabled Veteran
- Owned by and has officers who are U.S. citizens or legal residents

Contact DNR's Fiscal Division at 225-342-0688 if you have questions about the Hudson and Veteran Initiatives programs.

### Hudson and Veteran Initiatives (SE) Certification

The Louisiana Department of Economic Development (LED) is responsible for certifying Small Entrepreneurs for participation in the Hudson and Veterans Initiatives programs. Certification is available online at [www.ledsmallbiz.com](http://www.ledsmallbiz.com) Contact LED at 225-342-3000 if you have specific questions about certification.