



Urban League of Louisiana  
Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation

# DBE Support Services

REGION B - BRIDGE CITY/NEW ORLEANS & HAMMOND



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Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation



MONTHLY  
DIGEST

## Issue 20 | October 2021

[www.urbanleaguela.org/cei-dbeservices](http://www.urbanleaguela.org/cei-dbeservices) | [dbesupport@urbanleaguela.org](mailto:dbesupport@urbanleaguela.org)

*Find Projects*

### LADOTD Project Letting Information

[Link to Construction Letting Information](#)

*Register for Trainings*

### ULLA Upcoming Events and Workshops

[Link to ULLA's Eventbrite Registration Page](#)

*Become a DBE*

### Get LAUCP DBE Certified

[Link to Louisiana Unified Certification Program](#)

*Stay Informed*

### COVID-19 Updates and Resources

[Link to the ULLA COVID-19 Updates Page](#)

## DBE SUPPORTIVE SERVICES - REGION B



ULLA provides business support services to DBEs interested in doing business with the LADOTD in Region B. Services include:

- One-on-One Business Counseling
- Capacity-building Coaching
- Contractor-specific and General
- Entrepreneurship Trainings
- Certification Assistance
- Funding and Bonding Assistance
- Access to LADOTD Bid Opportunities

EMAIL US TODAY!

[dbesupport@urbanleaguela.org](mailto:dbesupport@urbanleaguela.org)

## Hurricane Ida Relief and Resources

*For Individuals and Small Businesses*

As a SBA resource partner, the Urban League of Louisiana is available to assist small businesses impacted by Hurricane Ida with operational and financial recovery needs. Please contact us at [dbesupport@urbanleaguela.org](mailto:dbesupport@urbanleaguela.org).

in the following areas: plumbing, electrical, carpentry, dirt work, and general maintenance. To see upcoming opportunities, register to do business with the State, and to learn more about doing business with the State, please use the following links.



[State Bids Posted Online](#)

[Vendor Registration](#)

[How to do Business with the State](#)

[How to do Business with the State - Video](#)

[How to do Business with FEMA](#)

Questions? [Email the State Office of Procurement](#)

For one-on-one support and technical assistance, please email the Urban League of Louisiana at [dbesupport@urbanleaguela.org](mailto:dbesupport@urbanleaguela.org).

***DBE Outreach and Education - Webinar***  
**Leveraging Small Business Certifications for Contractors**  
**Wednesday, October 27 | 10:00am - 11:30am**



Join the Urban League of Louisiana on **Wednesday, October 27, 10:00am-12:00pm**, to learn more about small business certifications and how your firm can best leverage them in seeking contracting opportunities!

There are a number of business certifications that can assist small businesses with gaining access to public and private contracting opportunities. Understanding which certifications are right for your construction firm is essential to leveraging these resources to support your business growth and capacity-building.

During this session, contractors will learn about the various business certifications that are available and gain valuable insights on how they can be leveraged to increase access to bid opportunities. Certifications covered include: **SEBD, WBE, MBE, DBE, LAUCP, SLDBE, WSOB, EDWSOB, VSOB, SDVSOB, SBA 8(a) Program, HubZone, Hudson Initiative.**

All contractors are welcomed to attend. There is no cost to attend; however, registration is required. **Register today to reserve your seat!**

**Register Today for the October 27th Session!**

***Contractor's Resource Center - Webinar***  
**Construction Law Academy**  
**October 12, 13, 14 | 5:30pm - 7:30pm**



Join the Urban League of Louisiana's Contractor's Resource Center on **Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, October 12, 13, and 14, 5:30pm-7:30pm**, to learn more about

## Register for Session 1

### Session 2: Increasing Capacity through Partnering Agreements

Wednesday, October 13 | 5:30pm-7:30pm

Session Presenter: Daya Naef, Attorney and Legal Consultant, Daya Naef, LLC

During this session, attendees will gain insights into the dynamics of partnering agreements, as well as the specific types of partnering agreements, which include joint ventures and mentor-protégé relationships. Attendees will walk away with new perspectives on risk mitigation, including the key elements of a partnering contract that must be considered.

## Register for Session 2

### Session 3: What Contractors Need to Know about Employment Law

Thursday, October 14 | 5:30pm-7:30pm

Session Presenter: E. Fredrick Preis, Jr., Partner, Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, L.L.P.

It is vitally important that entrepreneurs in construction become aware of and comply with employment laws that are relevant to the industry. During this session, hear from an experienced employment law attorney about updates to employment law and how your business may be impacted. This session will also help to dispel the many employment law myths that exist, particularly relating to contractors vs. employees, and overtime and minimum wage laws.

## Register for Session 3

### **COVID-19 Funding**

### **TruFund Financial Services Launches the Southern Opportunity and Resilience Fund (SOAR) for Small Businesses in Louisiana**

Offering Small Business Loans of Up to \$100,000



The Southern Opportunity and Resilience Fund: A new program to help small businesses and nonprofits across the South get back on their feet.

[theSOARFund.org](http://theSOARFund.org)

**SOAR**  
Southern Opportunity and Resilience Fund

TruFund Financial Services, Inc. is a part of a diverse group of local and national community finance organizations launching the Southern Opportunity and Resilience (SOAR) Fund, a program getting small businesses and nonprofits across the South affordable capital and critical business support at a time when they need it the most. TruFund Financial Services, Inc. will make capital available to small businesses in Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia and Texas.



About the loans:

- Loans are being made through local community lenders who can help you understand the terms and determine if a loan is the right option for your business
- Loans range in size, up to \$100,000 and can be used for various business purposes
- Current loan terms include 1) 60-month loan term with a fixed 4% interest rate for businesses and 3% for nonprofits or 2) 72-month loan term with a fixed 4.5% interest rate for businesses and 3.5% for nonprofits

To learn more, or to apply, [click here](#). To contact TruFund Financial Services, Inc. in Louisiana, please email [Louisiana@TruFund.org](mailto:Louisiana@TruFund.org) or call (504) 293-5550 for more information.

## Learn More about the SOAR Loan Program

### *DBE Resources*

### Louisiana Economic Development's Bonding Assistance Program



Louisiana Economic Development's Bonding Assistance Program provides access to quality bid, payment and performance bonds at reasonable rates from surety companies when bonding capacity is needed on public or private jobs.

- Offers 25% of contract price or \$100,000, whichever is less, in bond guarantee to surety
- Sureties perform all underwriting and offer competitive rates
- LED's Bond guarantees may mitigate some risk to surety company, leading to a positive underwriting decision

The Bonding Assistance Program is open to all certified Small and Emerging Business Development (SEBD) Program ([OpportunityLouisiana.com/SEBD](http://OpportunityLouisiana.com/SEBD)) clients that require bid, payment or performance surety bonds. Apply for the Small and Emerging Business Development (SEBD) Program at [www.ledsmallbiz.com](http://www.ledsmallbiz.com).

For more information on what a surety bond is, please visit the following [booklet online](#).

For additional information about what is needed to obtain a surety bond please view the following [webinar](#). To learn more, [click here](#).