



# DBE Support Services

REGION B - BRIDGE CITY/NEW ORLEANS & HAMMOND

Urban League of Louisiana  
Center for Entrepreneurship & Innovation

DOTD

## MONTHLY DIGEST

**Issue 44 | February 2024**

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

LADOTD Project  
Letting Information

Get LAUCP DBE  
Certified

ULLA Upcoming  
Events and Trainings

Urban League of Louisiana provides business support services to existing and aspiring DBEs that are 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, and access to LADOTD bid opportunities. For more information, please email [dbesupport@urbanleaguelala.org](mailto:dbesupport@urbanleaguelala.org).

*Upcoming Event*

**Get Bonded! Strategies to Enhance Your Bonding Capacity**  
**Thursday, February 29 | 10:00am - 11:30am | Online**

Join the Urban League of Louisiana on **Thursday, February 29, 10:00am-11:30am**, for **“Get Bonded: Strategies to Enhance Your Bonding Capacity”**. This virtual session is a part of a series of monthly workshops hosted in collaboration with the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development’s DBE Supportive Services program.



For contractors, securing a surety bond is often an essential step in participating in public construction projects. The bonding capacity represents the maximum amount of surety credit that a contractor can obtain. A higher bonding capacity can enable contractors to bid on more significant projects, potentially leading to increased revenue and growth. This presentation explores **five strategies that contractors can leverage to enhance their bonding capacity**.

This session will be facilitated by **Jill Tucker, C/C, CRM, Surety Agent at IUL Bonds**. There is no cost to attend, however, registration is required. Register today to reserve your seat!

[Click Here to  
Register!](#)

*Access to Opportunities*

**SUPER BOWL LIX SUPPLIER DIVERSITY PROGRAM**



In partnership with the NFL, the New Orleans Super Bowl LIX Host Committee will soon launch the Super Bowl LIX Supplier Diversity Program. This is an opportunity for local diverse businesses throughout Greater New Orleans to compete for contracts related to the Super Bowl.

Committed to supporting minority, woman, disabled, LGBTQ+ and veteran-owned businesses, the program provides professional development, networking, and subcontracting opportunities for members accepted into the program.

For those businesses interested in being to be part of the Super Bowl LIX Supplier Diversity Program, please visit [www.superbowl59suppliers.com](http://www.superbowl59suppliers.com) to learn about the eligibility and certification requirements and to complete the expression of interest form.

Eligible businesses completing the interest form will receive an invitation to attend informational sessions scheduled to take place on February 26. Invitations will be distributed based on the venue's capacity and delivered on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please email Chincie Mouton at [community@gnosf.org](mailto:community@gnosf.org).

[Click Here to Learn More!](#)

#### **Resource Connections**

#### **Louisiana Housing Corporation Launches the Minority, Women, and Veteran-Owned Business Directory**



**Louisiana Housing**  
Corporation

In December, the Louisiana Housing Corporation (LHC) announced the launch of a comprehensive online directory, aimed at increasing the material participation of minority, women, and veteran-owned

businesses in the LHC funded programs and to connect consumers with businesses committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

In a world that increasingly values diversity, LHC recognizes the vital contributions of minorities, women, and veteran entrepreneurs. The online Directory is a central hub, facilitating access to various businesses across various industries, fostering economic growth, and promoting a more inclusive marketplace.

These specific business owners can fill out a form online to join LHC's repository of Louisiana-based Minority, Women, and Veteran-Owned Businesses. The Directory will be a living online document, updating over time as LHC collects willing participants.

***To learn more about the LHC Minority, Women, and Veteran-Owned Businesses Directory, please visit [www.lhc.la.gov/dbe](http://www.lhc.la.gov/dbe).***

[Click Here to Learn More!](#)

#### **Growth Strategies**

#### **Become an Energy Smart or Entergy Solutions Trade Ally!**

**EnergySmart**  
A New Orleans Program

**ENERGY SOLUTIONS**  
A LOUISIANA PROGRAM

Energy Smart (Orleans Parish) and Entergy Solutions (All Other Parishes in LA) are comprehensive energy efficiency programs that incentivize Entergy customers to perform energy saving upgrades in their homes and businesses. Our teams work with residents, business owners, facility managers and trade ally contractors to identify opportunities and provide cash incentives for completing eligible upgrades with measurable/verifiable energy savings.

### **What is a trade ally?**

Trade allies are approved and trained contractors that influence the energy decisions of customers and facilitate participation in the Energy Smart and Entergy Solutions programs. Trade allies help customers implement energy efficiency upgrades and earn incentives for reducing their energy usage.

### **What is the benefit of becoming a trade ally?**

Both programs work to connect customers with trade ally contractors to help them select and install energy efficient products that have verifiable energy savings for customers. Trade allies can leverage these cash incentives to gain new customers and maximize existing customer projects that reduce energy use.

### **How are trade allies supported?**

The program provides technical assistance to trade allies and customers to identify energy efficiency opportunities, develop cost-effective projects and complete required program documentation. Trade allies are invited to participate in various training, development and networking opportunities provided by the program and its partners.

### **For More Information**

- Orleans Parish: Kevin Fitzwilliam, Training and Workforce Development Specialist, Energy Smart Program - [kevin.fitzwilliam@aptim.com](mailto:kevin.fitzwilliam@aptim.com)
- All Other Parishes: Dillon Teal, Senior Energy Advisor, Entergy Solutions - [dillon.teal@aptim.com](mailto:dillon.teal@aptim.com)

[Learn More about the EnergySmart Trade Ally Program! \(Orleans Parish\)](#)

[Learn More about the Entergy Solutions Trade Ally Program! \(All Other Parishes\)](#)

[Click Here for All Upcoming ULLA Entrepreneurship Trainings](#)

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



Urban League of Louisiana | 4640 S. Carrollton Ave. , Suite 210, New Orleans, LA 70119

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