



It's hurricane season - is your business ready?

Planning is key to navigating hurricane season -- for yourself, your employees and your business. How to plan? Download a Ready Business Hurricane Toolkit [here](#). Download the Terrebonne Parish Emergency Preparedness Guide for personal preparedness [here](#).

Know that Terrebonne Economic Development Authority is housed with the Terrebonne Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness in the event of activation to take your business calls.

Festival grant window opens closes June 21

The Louisiana Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism's Competitive Grant Program is accepting applications until June 21.

The grant is available to encourage and support marketing for Louisiana fairs, festivals and other eligible tourism events that attract and retain visitors to the state. The maximum award is \$15,000 for advertising expenses with a 50% or 66% reimbursable match paid after the event has ended.

Applications are made a minimum of 90 days prior to the start of the tourism event in the [Industry Portal](#). Contact Lynne Coxwell at lcoxwell@crt.la.gov or at 225-342-2876 for more information.

NSU announces upcoming career fairs

Nicholls State University's career fairs for students and recent graduates are now scheduled and open to companies for registration.

The Fall 2026 Nursing Career Fair will be 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 31, while the All Majors Career Fair is slated 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 21.

Companies can register through the Handshake system by [clicking here](#).

SBA pitch competition deadline set June 10

The Small Business Administration is opening its Patriot Pitch Competition for small businesses that are driving innovation, shaking up its industry and helping build America's economic future. The competition offers a \$1 million cash prize pool and is open to small businesses that have used qualifying capital products.

Submissions will be evaluated on how the company strengthens American competitiveness, innovates and makes an outsized impact on a company's industry, delivers economic opportunities and quality jobs, and demonstrates strong fundamentals and execution readiness. Top finalists will pitch before a panel of judges and nationwide audience in person where a supplier matchmaking expo, prominent speakers and networking opportunities will be available. [Click here for more information](#).

Applications accepted for entrepreneurship initiative

Louisiana Economic Development is accepting applications for its 2026 Rural Entrepreneurship Initiative. Now in its sixth year, the program is designed to accelerate growth for second-stage businesses in rural communities. Program highlights include virtual kickoff retreat, three monthly peer learning roundtables, one-on-one access to expert research and tailored strategies to address growth challenges.

Eligible companies typically have 5-99 employees, \$60K-\$50M in annual revenue, and a desire and capacity to grow to new, external markets. For more information, [click here](#).

Business organizations' events

Maximize Employee Growth topic on June 11

The Bayou Society of Human Resource Management features "Maximizing Employee Performance and Growth" with Jim Stodd of JT Stodd & Associates, at its luncheon 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Thursday, June 11 at The Oaks, 108 St. Patrick Street in Thibodaux. Member registration is \$20; guest registration is \$30; register [here](#).

Rousse to speak at SCIA annual awards banquet June 11

South Central Industrial Association will feature Dr. Wade Rousse, president of Louisiana State University, at its annual award banquet Thursday, June 11 at Thibodaux Regional Wellness Center, 726 N. Acadia Road in Thibodaux. Cocktails begin at 6 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m.; dress is business attire, black tie optional. [Email here for ticket information](#).

State lawmakers featured at joint Chamber luncheon June 23

The Houma-Terrebonne, Lafourche and Thibodaux Chambers of Commerce will host the local state delegation of lawmakers 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Thibodaux Regional Wellness Center, 726 N. Acadia Road in Thibodaux. Featured will be Sens. Robert Allain and Mike Fesi Sr., and Reps. Beryl Amedee, Bryan Fontenot, Joe Orgeron and Jerome Zeringue. Admission is \$35 for members and \$45 for nonmembers. Reserve your seat through local chamber offices.

Annual employment law conference set Aug. 13

The 2026 Bayou SHRM Annual Employment Law Conference is set Thursday, August 13 at the Holiday Inn Express in Houma. Registration begins at 8 a.m. with presentations beginning at 8:30 a.m. Breakfast and snacks provided. Early bird registration before Aug. 1 is \$50; standard registration costs \$65; for Bayou

SHRM members and association, cost is \$35/\$50; and students cost \$25. Register [here](#).

Online training to start or grow your business

SCORE and the Louisiana Small Business Development Center offer free or low-cost online training for startup and existing businesses on various topics, including:

- "Starting & Financing Your Business" will be free online 9-11 a.m. Tuesday, June 2; [register here](#).
- "Email Marketing that Gets Results" will be free online noon-1 p.m. Tuesday, June 9. [Register here](#).
- "Advanced SEO Strategies to Drive Traffic, Leads and Sales" will be online in a free session at noon Tuesday, June 9; [register here](#).
- "IP Basics: A Beginner's Guide to Patents and Trademarks" will be in a free online session 10-11 a.m. Wednesday, June 10. [Register here](#).
- "Access to Capital and Business Financing" will be live in a free online session 11 a.m.-noon Tuesday, June 16. [Register here](#).
- "Small Business Content Marketing -- Planning and Creating Engaging Content" will be in a free online session at noon Tuesday, June 16. [Register here](#).
- "What Could Go Wrong? Managing Risk in Your Business" will be free online 10 a.m.-noon Thursday, June 25. [Register here](#).

Find more training opportunities from [LSBDC](#) and with [SCORE](#).