

Veteran and Hudson Initiatives



Healthy Blue

Healthy Blue understands the importance of equal opportunity; we embrace veteran-owned, Louisiana companies certified in the Veteran and Hudson Initiatives as valuable business partners. We want to make sure our providers and vendors are aware of how they can get certified in the state of Louisiana if they are not already certified. We hope that you will find this information helpful as you consider these two initiatives.



Veteran Initiative

tinyurl.com/y7gjova8

Louisiana's Veteran Initiative (LAVETBIZ) is a certification program designed to help eligible Louisiana veteran-owned and service-connected, disabled veteran-owned small businesses gain greater access to purchasing and contracting opportunities available at the state government level.

- Your business and contact information will be accessible to state purchasing officials and prime contractors looking for subcontractors.
- State agencies are encouraged to get quotes from and use qualified, certified companies whenever possible.
- For small purchases (less than \$15,000), state agencies can waive the required additional quotes if a certified company submits a reasonable quote.
- Ten percent of the total evaluation points can be added to your bid on a request for proposal (RFP).
- Prime contractors who use your business as a subcontractor on a bid for an RFP are also eligible to receive additional percentage points on their bid.

Veteran eligibility

The program is open to all Louisiana businesses that meet the following eligibility requirements for a small entrepreneurship (SE) under the Veteran Initiative. Once certified, business owners are required to submit annual updates through www.ledsmallbiz.com. Failure to submit the required information before your anniversary date each year will result in termination of your certification.

What are the eligibility requirements?

Veteran ownership — At least 51% of the business must be owned by a veteran.

Principal place of business — The company must have its principal place of business in Louisiana.

Employees — The company must have fewer than 50 full-time employees.

Average annual gross receipts — Average annual gross receipts must not exceed \$5 million for nonconstruction and \$10 million for construction companies.

Independently owned and operated — The company must be independently owned and operated.

Not dominant — The company must not be dominant in its professional field.

Louisiana residency — The company must be owned by persons domiciled in Louisiana.

Citizenship — The company must be owned by and have officers who are U.S. citizens or legal residents.

Service-connected, disabled veteran — This is an additional distinction available within the Veteran Initiative for service-connected, disabled veteran-owned businesses. To qualify, the business must meet all of the requirements above, as well as have at least 51% of the business owned by a service-connected, disabled veteran.

Hudson Initiative

tinyurl.com/ydf9demt

Louisiana's Hudson Initiative is a certification program designed to help eligible Louisiana small businesses gain greater access to purchasing and contracting opportunities available at the state government level.

- Your business and contact information will be accessible to state purchasing officials and prime contractors looking for subcontractors.
- State agencies are encouraged to get quotes from and use qualified, certified companies whenever possible.
- For small purchases of less than \$15,000, state agencies can waive the requirement of getting additional quotes if a certified company submits a reasonable quote.
- Ten percent of the total evaluation points can be added to your bid on an RFP.
- Prime contractors who use your business as a subcontractor on a bid for an RFP are also eligible to receive additional percentage points on their bid.

Hudson eligibility

The program is open to all Louisiana businesses that meet the following eligibility requirements of an SE under the Hudson Initiative. Once certified, business owners are required to submit annual updates through **www.ledsmallbiz.com**. Failure to submit the required information before your anniversary date each year will result in termination of your certification.

What are the eligibility requirements?

Principal place of business — The company must have its principal place of business in Louisiana.

Employees — The company has fewer than 50 full-time employees.

Average annual gross receipts — Average annual gross receipts do not exceed \$5 million for nonconstruction and \$10 million for construction companies.

Independently owned and operated — The company is independently owned and operated.

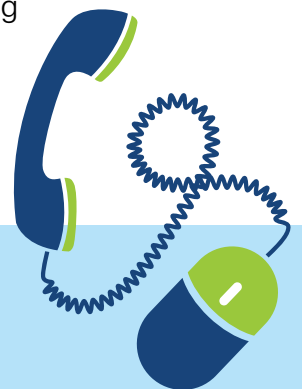
Not dominant — The company is not dominant in its professional field.

Louisiana residency — The company must be owned by persons domiciled in Louisiana.

Citizenship — The company must be owned by and has officers who are U.S. citizens or legal residents.

Next steps:

Getting started with the application process: To take advantage of Louisiana's Veteran and Hudson Initiatives and to gain greater access to purchasing and contracting opportunities with the state government, complete the online application at **www.ledsmallbiz.com**.



For more information on the Veteran and Hudson Initiatives, contact:

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