

RESOURCES FOR SMALL BUSINESSES AFFECTED BY 2008 HURRICANES



LOUISIANA
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT



LOUISIANA
WORKFORCE
COMMISSION

RESOURCE	SERVICES	WHERE TO GO
Free Counseling and Technical Assistance	Louisiana Business Counseling Centers, sponsored by Louisiana Economic Development (LED), U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), Louisiana Small Business Development Center Network (LSBDC) and regional economic partners, offer free one-on-one counseling, including help with identifying financial assistance sources and filling out disaster loan paperwork.	For center locations, contact LED's Business Recovery Information Center: 877.610.3533 , or visit LouisianaForward.com/BizHelp .
Disaster Loans for Physical Damage	SBA offers loans for businesses or non-profit organizations with physical damage (repair or replace damaged property like buildings, inventory, furniture, machinery).	SBA: 800.659.2955 , or e-mail disastercustomerservice@sba.gov , or visit a Louisiana Business Counseling Center.
Disaster Loans for Working Capital	SBA offers loans to cover operating expenses and provide working capital for businesses, non-profits and small agricultural co-ops experiencing financial loss as a result of hurricanes Gustav or Ike.	SBA: 800.659.2955 , or e-mail disastercustomerservice@sba.gov , or visit a Louisiana Business Counseling Center.
Workforce Assistance	Louisiana Workforce Commission (LWC) offers online job postings and opportunities to access candidates seeking employment to meet workforce needs.	LWC: www.LAWorks.net
Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA)	LWC offers unemployment benefits for individuals whose jobs have been interrupted in the parishes declared eligible for public assistance. Benefits also available for those otherwise not eligible under the state unemployment system (self-employed, farmers, fishermen, etc).	LWC: www.LAWorks.net for information or to file a claim, or call 800.957.1605 or 866.259.6345 .
Extension of Federal and State Tax Filing Deadlines	Federal: The IRS has postponed several filing and payment deadlines until Jan. 5, 2009 for businesses in parishes affected by Gustav. State: Louisiana Department of Revenue will recognize the IRS extension for income-related taxes and has postponed the filing and payment deadlines for most other business taxes due in Sept. 2008 until Oct. 15, 2008.	Federal: 800.TAX.FORM (800.829.3676) , or visit www.irs.gov . State: 225.219.7318 , or visit www.revenue.louisiana.gov .
Temporary Housing	Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers resources for displaced business owners, workers and individuals to cover housing needs and other serious disaster-related needs not covered by insurance or other programs.	FEMA: 800.621.FEMA (3362) , or visit www.fema.gov or a FEMA Disaster Recovery Center.
State and Federal Contracting Opportunities	Louisiana Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) provides one-on-one counseling and technical assistance to businesses seeking contracts and subcontracts with federal, state and local governments. LED Bonding Assistance Program is a revolving pool for new bonding guarantees, which provides small companies the ability to bid on private and public jobs.	PTAC: 800.206.3545 or www.la-ptac.org . Federal (FEMA): www.ccr.gov to register; call 888.227.2423 with questions; review opportunities at www.FedBizOpps.gov . State: www.doa.louisiana.gov/OSP/LaPAC/pubmain.asp or www.dotd.la.gov/mgmt_finance/procurement/home.asp LED: 225.342.4320 or visit LouisianaForward.com/BondingAssistance .