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ANGELE DAVIS
COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION

State of Louisiana
Division of Administration
Office of State Purchasing

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

TO: Louisiana Small Entrepreneurships
FROM: Denise Lea
Director
DATE: November 18, 2008
RE: State of Louisiana's Small Entrepreneurship (Hudson Initiative) Program

► ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR PARTICIPATION?

- Are you a Louisiana domiciled business?
- Do you have less than fifty (50) full-time employees?
- Are your annual gross revenue receipts \$5,000,000 or less (for construction) or \$3,000,000 for (non-construction) for each of the previous 3 tax years?

If your answers are yes, your company may be eligible for participation in the Small Entrepreneurship (Hudson Initiative) Program.

► WHAT IS THE SMALL ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM?

The Small Entrepreneurship (also known as the Hudson Initiative) Program was created by LRS 39:2001 through 2008 and LRS 51:931, which provides additional opportunities for certified Louisiana-based small entrepreneurs to participate in contracting and procurement with the State. Key features of the program are:

- This is a goal-oriented program
- It is race and gender neutral
- Participation is restricted to Louisiana-based certified SE's

The Rules governing the implementation of the program are located at <http://www.doa.louisiana.gov/osp/se/se.htm>

► WHY IS CERTIFICATION IMPORTANT?

Certification is required for your participation in the Small Entrepreneurship Program. In addition, this is one of the methods that the State of Louisiana will utilize as a basis for benchmarking for annualized procurement and contracting goals.

► WHAT AGENCY IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CERTIFICATION?

The Louisiana Department of Economic Development (LED) is responsible for certifying Small Entrepreneurships for participation in the program. The (LED) Small Business Certification System may be accessed at https://smallbiz.louisianaforward.com/index_2.asp. For additional information regarding certification, please contact LED at (225) 342-3000.

The State of Louisiana is committed to the success of this program and encourages your participation.