

Chief Economic Competitiveness Officer

Overview

The Chief Economic Competitiveness Officer (CECO) is responsible for leading LED's efforts to enhance the state's economic competitiveness and to ensure sustainable growth for generations to come. This executive role involves developing strategies, policies, and programs to improve the economic standing of the state and aligning with local and regional organizations to support their economic success. The CECO will analyze economic trends, assess industry capabilities, and work collaboratively with stakeholders to foster an environment conducive to innovation, investment, and job creation.

Responsibilities

1. Develop and implement comprehensive strategies to enhance the economic competitiveness of the state.
2. Lead policy initiatives to improve productivity, innovation, and technological advancement within key industries.
3. Collaborate with intra-governmental agencies, industry leaders, and academic institutions to align efforts and resources toward common economic goals to better position Louisiana to Win.
4. Evaluate and recommend policy changes or interventions to remove barriers to economic growth and competitiveness.
5. Conduct research and analysis on economic trends, market dynamics, and competitive factors to inform strategic decisions.
6. Establish metrics and benchmarks to measure the effectiveness of economic competitiveness initiatives and programs.
7. Advocate for the state, region or sector's economic interests at local, national, and international forums.
8. Secure funding and resources for economic development projects and initiatives through grants, partnerships, and other financial mechanisms.
9. Build and maintain relationships with key stakeholders, including business leaders, allies, partners, stakeholders, and policymakers.
10. Provide expert advice and guidance to the Secretary, and other key decision-makers on issues related to economic competitiveness.

Qualifications

- Master's degree in Economics, Business Administration, Public Policy, or a related field; PhD preferred, but not required. A professional certification such as CPA, JD or CEcD may be substituted for the Master's degree.
- At least 10 years of experience in economic development, policy analysis, or a related field, with a proven track record in enhancing economic competitiveness.
- Strong understanding of economic theory, market dynamics, and competitive strategy.
- Excellent leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills, with the ability to engage and influence a diverse range of stakeholders.
- Analytical and strategic thinker with a data-driven approach to decision-making.
- Experience in policy development, advocacy, and stakeholder engagement.

- Familiarity with global economic trends and the ability to adapt strategies to changing market conditions.
- Ability to navigate political and economic landscapes effectively.

Working Conditions

- Standard office environment with regular office hours, but may require additional hours for events, meetings, and other activities.
- Frequent local travel and occasional national/international travel will be required.

Application Instructions

Interested candidates should submit a resume, cover letter, and three professional references. Please highlight your experience and achievements in economic development and business growth strategies. Applications should be sent to Dawn.Thibodeaux@la.gov.