

LOUISIANA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEWSLETTER



Louisiana Development Ready Communities

This year LED announced a new grant opportunity – the Louisiana Development Ready Communities (LDRC) program. The program, which was launched in 2009, is available to all LDRC members and Louisiana municipalities of all sizes. The LDRC Program encourages and supports selected Louisiana communities to become development-ready, competitive and “open for business.”

Currently, 59 Louisiana communities participating in the program are better able to compete for new business because they have written plans detailing how they will leverage their assets, address their challenges, and track year-to-year progress through key economic performance indicators. Each community’s plan includes strategies to address education, workforce development, infrastructure, leadership and marketing/communications.

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The process of applying to the Louisiana Development Ready Community program is initiated by the municipal governing body and executed in collaboration with both private and public sector stakeholders. It can be completed in about 90 days.

Upon completion of the program, LDRC program participants are state-certified as development-ready, competitive and “open for business,” by virtue of having adopted a strategic community and economic development plan.

The LDRC program is a demanding program that will require participation from community partners and the project committee. LED is committed to supporting you and will provide you with the tools you need to be successful throughout the process.

LED provides several unique benefits that include but are not limited to:

- An experienced community and economic development Resource Team that will provide ongoing coaching, facilitation and professional guidance during the community assessment and strategic planning process.
- LED Resource team representatives will visit, as part of the community assessment process, to help evaluate sites and buildings and provide a chance to “test-drive” a sales pitch in a relaxed environment while receiving valuable feedback.

We encourage all towns, villages and cities to consider the program.

Applications can be downloaded [here](#). For more information, contact Stacey Duvic, LED Director of Community Competitiveness, at stacey.duvic@la.gov or 225.342.4703.

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