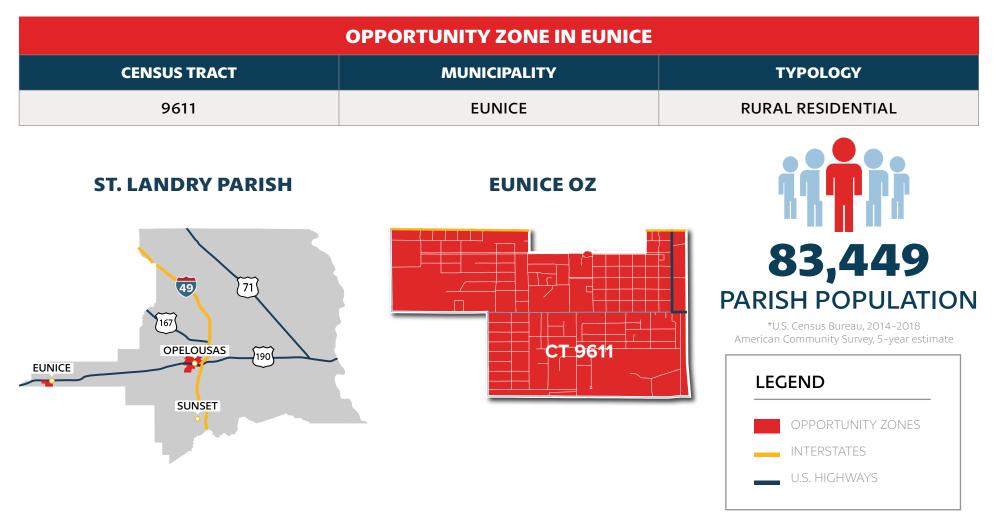


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EUNICE OPPORTUNITY ZONE

St. Landry Parish is home to a hard-working and highly-trained population. Its proximity to I-10 and I-49, along with U.S. Highways 190, 167 and 71, provide north-south and east-west connectivity to north Louisiana as well as Texas. St. Landry Parish's opportunity zones are located in the Cities of Eunice and Opelousas. The Eunice opportunity zone is located adjacent to the Louisiana State University at Eunice Campus while the three Opelousas opportunity zones are in and around the city's historic downtown.



ABOUT EUNICE

Located on the eastern edge of the Cajun Prairie, Eunice was chartered as a village on September 12, 1894, and incorporated as a town on June 4, 1895. While most of the city is in St. Landry Parish, Eunice straddles two other parishes, Acadia Parish and Evangeline Parish. Eunice is the home of Louisiana State University Eunice, the 6-time Community College Champion of the College World Series baseball tournament. Eunice is home to the Cajun Music Hall of Fame and Museum, which is dedicated to promoting and preserving Cajun music and culture. Major events hosted in Eunice include the World Championship Crawfish Etoufee Cook-Off and the Courir de Mardi Gras, which is the largest traditional rural French Louisiana Mardi Gras observance.

Located near the heart of Cajun country, Eunice is famous for its Cajun music, and in November 1997 the Cajun Music Hall of Fame and Museum was founded there. To celebrate this musical heritage, the City of Eunice and the National Park Service sponsor "Rendez-Vous des Cajun", a live Cajun music show every Saturday night at the Liberty Theatre, an old Vaudeville/movie theater that was restored by local volunteers. Eunice is the birthplace of noted children's author Mary Alice Fontenot, who wrote the "Clovis the Crawfish" series of books.



WEALTHWORKS: THE 8 CAPITALS

WealthWorks simplifies things by organizing local features into eight discrete capitals. Each capital is defined in the table below. All capitals share the following characteristics: each capital is a collection of one category of related resources; every region has a stock of each type of capital—meaning the combined quantity and quality of the many components of that capital in the region; and taken together, the existing stocks of these capitals constitute a region's current wealth.



INDIVIDUAL

The skills and capacity, including health, that allow individuals to be productive. Investments in human capital include spending on skill development, education, training, and health maintenance and improvement.



INTELLECTUAL

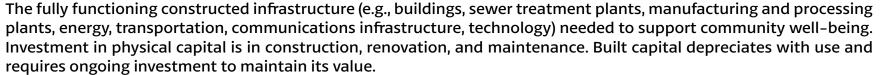
The knowledge, creativity, and innovation needed to solve problems and develop new ways of doing things. Investment in intellectual capital is through research and development and support for activities that increase innovation, as well as diffusion of new knowledge and applications. It can come from sharing with other people and communities.



NATURAL

The productive environmental assets (e.g., air, water, land, minerals, plants, animals, fish, ecosystem services) in a region. Investments in natural capital include restoration and maintenance.

BUILT





SOCIAL

The trust, networks, and inclusive relationships needed to get things done. Investments in social capital are those that lead to new conversations, shared experiences, and connections between individuals and groups and/or strengthen relationships within groups.



CULTURAL

The traditions, customs and beliefs shared by the community, including the way you see the world. Investments in cultural capital can help to preserve tradition while also helping to shift and align beliefs in ways that help people develop shared values and history.



POLITICAL

The voice, power and influence over decisions needed to achieve goals, including the distribution of resources. Investments in political capital are made through inclusive organizing – gathering and disseminating information, providing access to decision makers, creating broader constituencies and increased voice.



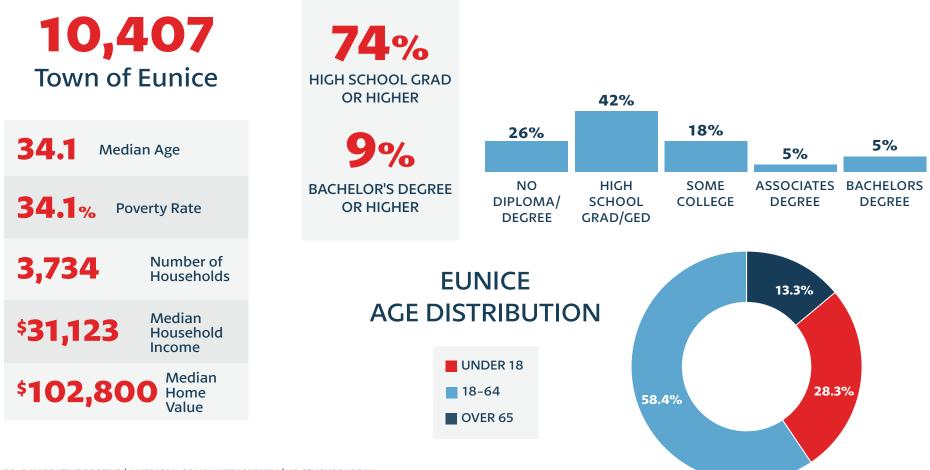
FINANCIAL

Financial capital, including investments and personal savings, generates monetary returns that can be used for further investment or consumption. Stewardship of financial capital implies responsible investment to generate added income as well as eliminate unnecessary cost or waste. In creating wealth, community members strive to invest financial capital in ways that increase and improve the quality of the other six forms of capital.



BY THE NUMBERS

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT:



2018 NARRATIVE PROFILE / AMERICAN COMMUNITY SURVEY / US CENSUS BUREAU

WORKFORCE

These are the top 10 industry sectors for St. Landry Parish based on NAICS Codes:

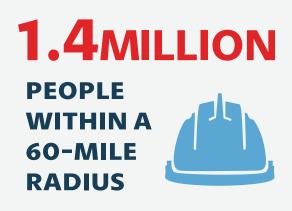
- Retail Trade
- Manufacturing
- Transportation and Warehousing
- Construction
- Wholesale Trade
- Finance and Insurance
- Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services
- Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction
- Real Estate and Rental and Leasing
- Utilities

INDUSTRY HIGHLIGHT: WAVELAND SERVICES

Based in Eunice, Louisiana, Waveland is a leading national offshore coatings company that delivers highly specialized knowledge in surface preparation and coatings. They work closely with most of the large offshore platform owners, including major oil companies with deep-water assets, independent oil companies with shallow-water assets, and pipeline transmission companies. Founded in 1996, Waveland's management team offers over 100 years of combined experience and extensive expertise in surface preparation and coatings – both offshore and on land – along with a superior track record in safety.

ACCESS TO A SKILLED, LOYAL WORKFORCE





ST. LANDRY PARISH MAJOR EMPLOYERS	
COMPANY NAME	INDUSTRY
OPELOUSAS HEALTH SYSTEMS	HEALTH CARE
WALMART DISTRIBUTION CENTER	RETAIL DISTRIBUTION
DELEK	REFINED PRODUCT MARKETING
EVANGELINE DOWNS	RACETRACK & CASINO
INTERNATIONAL SNUBBING	WELL INTERVENTION SERVICES



SUNLAND CONSTRUCTION

For more than 40 years, Sunland Construction, Inc. and their family of companies have been leaders in innovative pipeline construction and related energy services, while assuring a safe and healthy work environment for everyone. Their goal is to perform quality work that meets or exceeds their clients' requirements and expectations, ensuring positive outcomes and responsible care of the environment. They are a one-resource asset, providing clients with a full range of products, services and innovative solutions for virtually any project related to the oil and gas industry.

FOCUS ON HEALTHCARE - ACADIAN MEDICAL CENTER

Acadian Medical Center is an accredited facility located in Eunice, LA and is a part of the Mercy Regional Medical Center. Mercy Regional Medical Center is a 109-bed acute care hospital with campuses in Eunice and Ville Platte which serves approximately 97,000+ patients by providing a comprehensive array of inpatient, outpatient and emergency services including surgery, imaging, cardiology, obstetrics, physical therapy and rehab services. Mercy Regional is one of the area's largest employers with over 500 employees, including 200+ physicians and a payroll of more than \$25 million. During 2008, the facilities invested over \$1.5 million in capital improvements and paid over \$1.5 million in local and state taxes. Mercy Regional Medical Center and Acadian Medical Center together have been awarded a top 5-star rating for the 2017& 2019 Overall Hospital Quality Star Ratings released by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). This is the highest possible performance rating and puts Mercy and Acadian in the top rankings of all hospitals in the U.S., with respect to patient safety and the overall patient experience.

EUNICE COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

Eunice Community Health Center (ECHC) is a 501c3 non-profit organization devoted to helping those in need by providing free medications and low cost lab work. Operating mostly by the help of volunteers, the free health clinic and pharmacy serves 400+ people in the community every month, assisting the working uninsured and under-insured. The clinic, opened in 2003, serves members from at least 10 parishes and is a valuable asset to Eunice, St. Landry Parish, and Acadiana.



ACADIANMEDICALCENTER.COM | (337) 580-7500



INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL



55 BY 25

55 by 25 is an initiative by One Acadiana with a **vision** of an equitable education system that meets the region's need for talent and offers all Acadiana residents the chance for a better life through increased educational attainment, a **goal** of increasing the proportion of working-age adults in Acadiana with postsecondary degrees, certificates, or other high-value credentials to 55 percent by 2025, and a **common purpose** to galvanize business, education, faith, civic and community leaders and organizations in support of a shared agenda to increase educational attainment, prosperity, and quality of life.

55BY25ACADIANA.ORG

ACADIANA WORKS, INC.

Acadiana Works brings business and job seekers together through an array of services to help with recruitment needs, improve productivity and provide a competitive edge. They offer no-cost recruitment and screening services, information on tax incentive programs, labor market information, training and more. Many of the services can be customized to meet businesses' specific needs.

ACADIANAWORKFORCE.ORG/SERVICES/CAREER-SERVICES | (337) 948-1330

Public schools in Eunice are governed by the St. Landry Parish School Board. The mission of the St. Landry Parish School Board is to ensure high quality instruction while working collaboratively with families and communities to maximize every student's potential. There are a number of private facilities available as well.

EUNICE HIGH SCHOOLS

EUNICE HIGH SCHOOL

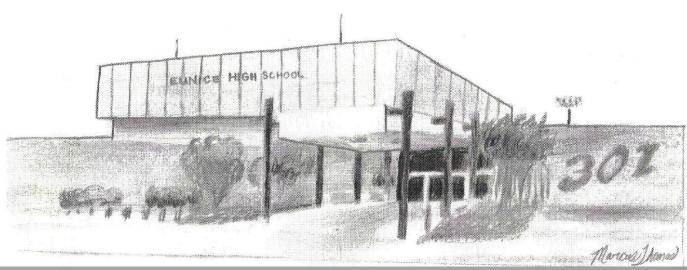
ST. EDMUND CATHOLIC SCHOOL

REGIONAL HIGHER EDUCATION CAMPUSES

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA AT LAFAYETTE

SOUTH LOUISIANA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

LSU EUNICE



EUNICE HIGH SCHOOL

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY EUNICE

Louisiana State University at Eunice, a campus of Louisiana State University System, is a comprehensive, open admissions institution of higher education. The University is dedicated to high quality, low-cost education and is committed to academic excellence and the dignity and worth of the individual. To this end, Louisiana State University at Eunice offers associate degrees, certificates and continuing education programs as well as transfer curricula. Its curricula span the liberal arts, sciences, business and technology, preprofessional and professional areas for the benefit of a diverse population. All who can benefit from its resources deserve the opportunity to pursue the goal of lifelong learning and to expand their knowledge and skills at LSU at Eunice.



LSUE.EDU | ADMISSIONS: (337) 550-1329 | JOB PLACEMENT AND CAREER SERVICES: (337) 550-1206

LSUE WORKFORCE TRAINING

For those planning to pursue a four-year degree, LSUE's programs are fully accredited and widely respected in Louisiana. Courses are easily transferable through transfer agreements for general education classes with all public universities in the state. There are transfer programs in 100 different areas.

LSUE CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

ACCOUNTING TECHNOLOGY: ACCOUNTING CLERK

ADMINISTRATIVE TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST

CHEMICAL TECHNICIAN

FIRE SERVICE TECHNOLOGY

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

MEDICAL BILLING AND CODING

LSUE ASSOCIATES DEGREE PROGRAMS

CARE AND DEVELOPMENT OF YOUNG CHILDREN

COMPUTER INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY

FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES

MANAGEMENT

NURSING

RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY

RESPIRATORY CARE

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY

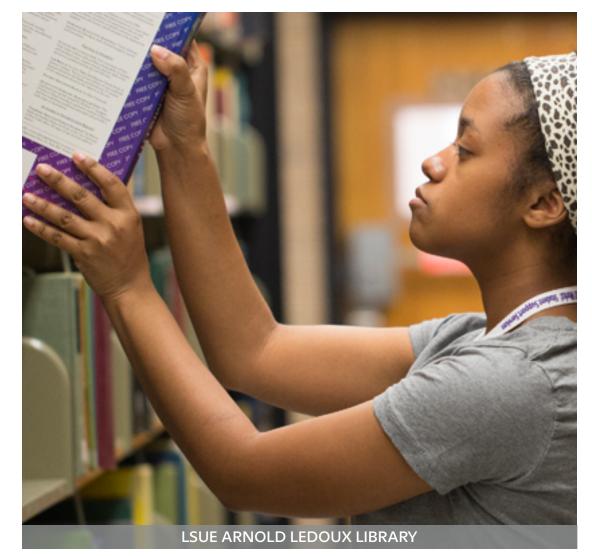


LSUE ARNOLD LEDOUX LIBRARY

The Louisiana State University at Eunice's Arnold LeDoux Library boasts an expansive book collection and catalog both at the physical location and through online access. Students may take advantage of the library's amenities such as the relaxation room, computer lab, testing center, and modular math lab. The library staff works diligently to provide the best possible academic support to students and faculty. The LeDoux Library offers an extensive audio collection, a children's collection, a genealogy collection, a periodical list, reserve materials, Sabatier materials on Louisiana, an alphabetical listing of DVDs, and subject listing of VHS.

Services offered at the LSUE Arnold Ledoux Library include:

- A-V Equipment
- Group Study Rooms
- Computer Lab with Printing
- Photocopiers
- Microfilm & Microfiche with Printing
- Poster Printer
- FAX (Outgoing only)
- Television with Direct TV
- Interlibrary Loan (ILL) Services: Available to faculty and staff



LSUE.EDU/LIBRARY/INDEX.PHP | LIBRARY@LSUE.EDU | (337) 550-1380

JEAN LAFITTE NATIONAL PARK & PRESERVE -PRAIRIE ACADIAN CULTURAL CENTER

The Prairie Acadian Cultural Center, located in Eunice, is a unit of the Jean Lafitte National Historical Park and Preserve. The only one of its kind, the center tells the story of the Acadians who settled the prairie region of Southwest Louisiana and has a full demonstration kitchen used to teach old Cajun recipes. View extensive exhibits and artifacts interpreting the history, language, music, and architecture of the Cajuns. Interpretive panels in French and English explain the history of the deportation of the Acadians and the migration of other cultures to Louisiana. Visit the Courir de Mardi Gras Exhibit to see costumes and photos, listen to audio recordings and follow the history of the chicken run.



NPS.GOV/JELA/PRAIRIE-ACADIAN-CULTURAL-CENTER-EUNICE | (337) 232-0789



Eunice has a variety of civic organizations that provide the opportunity for social interactions and community service. These include:

• Kiwanis Club

- Lion's Club
- Knights of Columbus
- VFW Club

Rotary Club

Boy/Girl Scout

• American Legion A LIST OF ORGANIZATIONS IS AVAILABLE AT EUNICE-LA.COM/CIVIC-ORGANIZATIONS/.

EUNICE RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS

CHURCH NAME

EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH

EUNICE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

NEW HOPE FELLOWSHIP

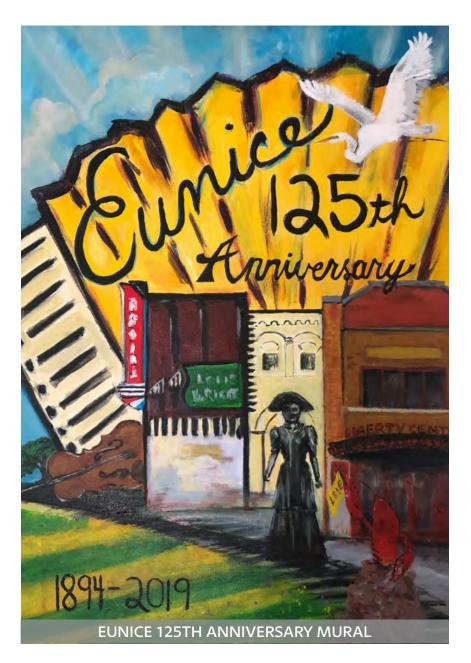
OUR SAVIOR'S CHURCH EUNICE

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA CHURCH

ST. MATHILDA CATHOLIC CHURCH

TRUE LIGHT BAPTIST CHURCH

ST. THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

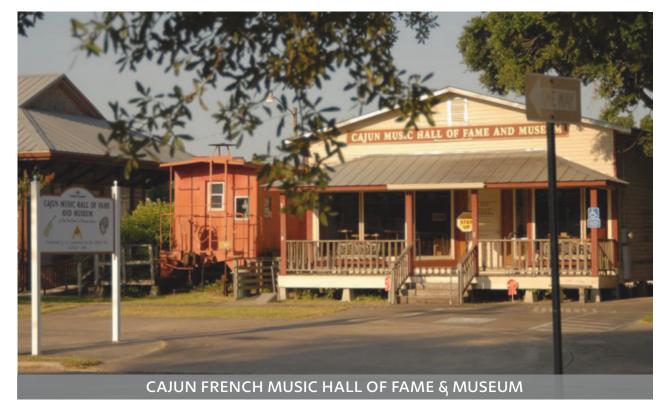


THE CAJUN FRENCH MUSIC ASSOCIATION (CFMA)

The Cajun French Music Association, a non-profit organization comprised of Cajuns and non-Cajuns whose purpose is to promote and preserve not only Cajun music, but also various aspects of the Acadian Heritage. The CFMA was founded in Basile, Louisiana in November of 1984 with Harry LaFleur of Eunice as its founder. Since its beginning of less than 30 persons, it has grown to a membership of approximately 2,000 families serving seven Chapters in Louisiana and three Chapters in the Cajun Region of Southeast Texas.

THE CAJUN MUSIC HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

The Cajun Music Hall of Fame and Museum, located in Eunice, is a project of the Cajun French Music Association. It was made possible through thousands of hours of volunteer labor by CFMA members from many towns and cities and through support from donations also raised by volunteers. The building itself is a one-room country store that dates from the 1930s, the kind of structure--either a store or a home-in which dances were held earlier in the 20th century. CFMA members choose the musicians and other persons who made significant contributions to Cajun music for inclusion in the Hall of Fame. Their photographs hang on the walls of the museum along with biographical sketches of their lives.



CAJUNFRENCHMUSIC.ORG | CAJUNFRENCHMUSICASSOC@GMAIL.COM | (337) 349-1969



Eunice, LA is the "prairie" Cajun capital of Louisiana. The week starts on Saturday mornings, with hot boudin sausage, coffee and the open Cajun jam session at Savoy's Music Center. This 40-year-old tradition, where old hands play alongside up-and-comers, was started by a local accordion-maker and is still going strong. On Saturday evenings, the historic Liberty Theater broadcasts a live Cajun radio show and attendees can spend the night twirling on the dance floor. It makes sense that Eunice would also house the Cajun Music Hall of Fame and Museum. Here, greats like "Doc" Guidry and "Happy Fats" LeBlanc are commemorated, and the story of Cajun music is told. The Prairie Cajun Cultural Center is one of the few places to find National Park Service rangers alongside Cajun chefs dishing up jambalaya.



SATURDAY MORNING JAM SESSION

EUNICE FESTIVALS	
FESTIVAL NAME	MONTH
TASTER'S CHOICE	FEBRUARY
FAQUETAIQUE COURIR DE MARDI GRAS	FEBRUARY
LUNDI GRAS BOUCHERIE	FEBRUARY
CRAWFISH ETOUFEE COOKOFF	MARCH
FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION	JULY

SAVOY MUSIC CENTER

The Savoy Music Center is one of a handful of accordion makers in the country and specializes in the construction of the Acadian or Cajun accordion. The Savoy Music Center hosts a Cajun music jam session that has been happening every Saturday morning from 9am – noon for the past 40 years. Anyone is invited to bring an instrument and play Cajun tunes.

FEATURED FESTIVAL - EUNICE COURIR DE MARDI GRAS

The Eunice Mardi Gras events begin the Friday before Fat Tuesday and include music concerts, jam sessions, street dances, cooking demos, and more. A run for children and teenagers, called Lil' Mardi Gras, is held Sunday, as well as an old time boucherie (hog butchering). The Eunice Courir de Mardi Gras dates back from when the town was first established in the late 19th century. The courir was abandoned for a few years during World War II, but in 1946 a small band of riders revived the tradition. Today, the Eunice Courir de Mardi Gras has more than 2,000 participants on the run and it continues to increase each year.



EUNICE DEPOT MUSEUM

The Eunice Depot Museum is housed in the old train depot from which C.C. Duson sold the first land sites in 1894 for the town named after his wife. Eunice. Restored in 1984, the building is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places and contains exhibits and collections depicting the lifestyles of the early settlers of this Cajun prairie town. The museum is a time capsule of items such as clothing, tools, toys and antique items that you may not even recognize. The Courir de Mardi Gras exhibit gives a brief history of the unique rituals that take place and colorful clothing that is worn by revelers during the carnival season.

The museum is located in downtown Eunice, Louisiana, right next to the Cajun French Music Hall of Fame & Museum and walking distance from shops and the Jean Lafitte National Park Prairie Acadian Cultural Center. A statue of Clovis Crawfish stands out front celebrating the famous children's stories of Eunice resident, Mary Alice Fontenot.



EUNICE CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS

ATTRACTION NAME

EUNICE DEPOT MUSEUM

CAJUN FRENCH MUSIC HALL OF FAME & MUSEUM

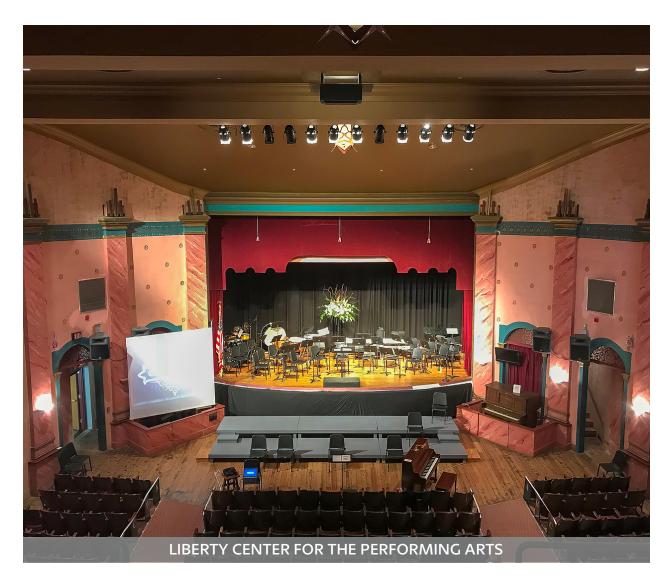
EUNICE PLAYERS' THEATER

LIBERTY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

EUNICE COMMUNITY NATURE TRAIL (REC)

JEAN LAFITTE PRAIRIE ACADIAN CULTURAL CENTER

LIBERTY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS



In 1986 the city of Eunice was chosen as a regional Rural and Minority Center for the Southern Arts Federation based in Atlanta, Ga. A total of nine Southern states were chosen and the Liberty Center is very proud to have been chosen as Louisiana's representative. Being a part of the Southern Arts Federation's initiative has had a positive impact on the continuing effort to preserve the Acadian Culture. The Liberty Cultural Association's main goal is to preserve and celebrate the culture indigenous to the Acadians with most of its events taking place at the Liberty. The Association maintains an office at the Eunice City Hall. Every Saturday night from 6:00-7:30pm in the Liberty Center, a live radio and TV show is held featuring both Cajun and Zydeco music in the Grand Old Opry/ Louisiana Hayride format. Cajun French is the language of the show with enough English spoken so that everyone can enjoy this unique and one-of-a-kind experience.

ECCBC.ORG/LIBERTY-CENTER.HTML | ECCBC1990@GMAIL.COM | (337) 457-1776



Eunice has numerous recreation areas throughout the city which are maintained by the city and individual volunteers. In all Eunice has 6 tennis courts, 11 ball parks (softball & baseball) throughout the city, 2 covered pavilions, 1 basketball court, 6 children's playgrounds, 3 picnic areas with covered tables, 1 walking trail with a fishing pond, 1 city lake and 1 golf course. Eunice also has a new Recreation Baseball/Softball Complex located at 461 Sittig Road.

EUNICE NATURE & RECREATION	
ASSET	RECREATION TYPE
FAIRGROUNDS PARK	SPORTS/SPLASH PAD
EUNICE RECREATION COMPLEX	BASEBALL/SOFTBALL FIELDS
PRAIRIE ACADIANA CULTURAL CENTER	NATIONAL PARK
EUNICE CITY LAKE	LAKE
EUNICE CITY GOLF COURSE	GOLF COURSE
CROMBIE COMMUNITY CIRCLE PARK	FAMILY PARK / PLAYGROUND
EUNICE COMMUNITY NATURE TRAIL	NATURE TRAILS
CAJUN PRAIRIE HABITAT PRESERVATION SOCIETY	EDUCATION/PRESERVATION
ATCHAFALAYA BASIN	NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA
LAKEVIEW PARK AND BEACH	BEACHFRONT PARK

CAJUN PRAIRIE HABITAT PRESERVATION SOCIETY

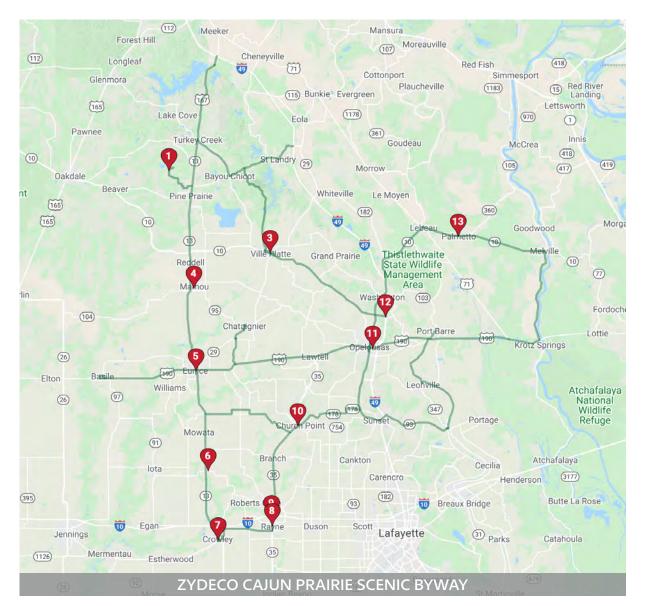
The Cajun Prairie Preservation Society is a non-profit organization which is dedicated to the study, preservation, restoration and education in regard to the Cajun Prairie Habitat, associated habitats and projects. The society was officially founded on May 22, 1989 by a group of prairie enthusiasts. The main purpose of the society was to restore prairie habitat located in Eunice, LA. Since then, the society has expanded its purpose, amount of prairie restored and membership. The society holds many events which include tours, speakers, restoration projects, land acquisitions and fun social events.



CAJUNPRAIRIE.ORG

ZYDECO CAJUN PRAIRIE SCENIC BYWAY

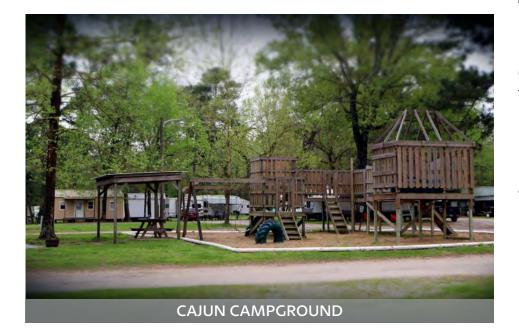
Louisiana's Scenic Byways offer investment opportunities for entrepreneurs looking to join Louisiana's growing cultural tourism market. The Zydeco Cajun Prairie Byway celebrates the music of south Louisiana, touching many iconic music spots while ambling through serene, rolling prairies. The byway passes crawfish farms, sweet potato fields and pastures where cattle and horses graze. The towns along the route hold celebrations to honor everything from cotton to cracklins. The byway consists of three loops and a spur, so visitors have their choice of routes. The Evangeline parish loop ends in Ville Platte, home to the 6,400-acre Chicot State Park, with its playground, swimming pool, fishing and boating facilities, and the Louisiana State Arboretum. Here you'll find hundreds of indigenous plants, from sycamores to orchids, along with white-tailed deer, wild turkey and many types of birds.



ZYDECOCAJUNBYWAY.COM

LAKEVIEW PARK AND BEACH

Lakeview Park is located 3 miles North of Eunice, Louisiana on Hwy 13. Their campground features a large selection of traditional as well as high tech amenities, including 95 full hookup, big rig friendly RV sites located on the 42 acre park. RV sites include free local channels and complimentary WiFi. Lakeview Park also hosts one and two bedroom cottages that feature a full kitchen, sink, stove, microwave, and refrigerator. There is a living room with a full size futon & restroom available in the cottages. Lakeview's Welcome Center is located at the entrance to the park and is where check-in and out and basic camping items can be purchased.





LAKEVIEW PARK AND BEACH

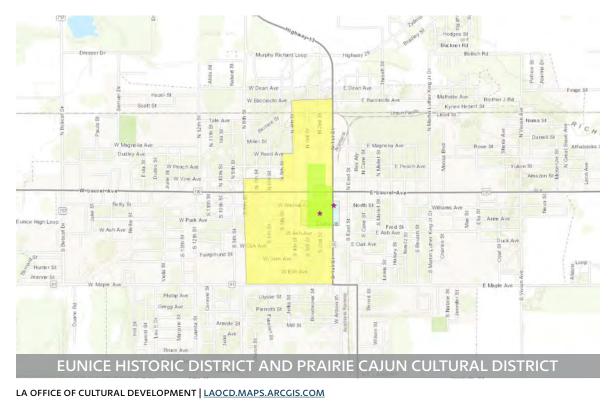
CAJUN CAMPGROUND

Cajun Campground has been providing camping fun for folks for over thirty years. The park is situated on 40 acres and is located six miles east of Eunice. The campground consists of 135 camping sites, most are full hookups with plenty of space between campers. They have seven cabins with bathrooms and kitchenettes. Groups can reserve one of their five pavilions that accommodates group camping.



LA OCD STANDING STRUCTURES AND DISTRICTS

Historic buildings and structures play a special role in creating the distinctive character of each and every community. Their essential legacy of cultural, educational, recreational, aesthetic, social, and environmental benefits must be preserved and/or documented for present and future generations. The Louisiana Division of Historic Preservation's professionally trained staff work in the public's interest to recognize, revitalize, rehabilitate, and record the historic built environment in the state through the important programs and technical assistance offered.



HISTORIC & CULTURAL DISTRICTS

This map depicts the Eunice Historic District and the Eunice Prairie Cajun Cultural District. The stars on the map represent Eunice's two nationally registered buildings, the Midland Branch Railroad Depot, and the Liberty Theatre.

ACCOMMODATIONS

NAME	ТҮРЕ	PHONE NUMBER
L'ACADIE INN & RV PARK	BED & BREAKFAST/RV PARK	(337) 457-5211
THE KELLER HOUSE	BED & BREAKFAST	(337) 580-4205
THE COTTAGE AT CYPRESS GROVE	BED & BREAKFAST	(337) 526-4578
LULU'S COTTAGE ACADIAN	BED & BREAKFAST	(734) 323–1761
LE VILLAGE	BED & BREAKFAST	(337) 456-3573
CAJUN CAMPGROUND	CAMPGROUND	(337) 457–5753
HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS	HOTEL	(337) 546-2466
BEST WESTERN HOTEL	HOTEL	(337) 457–2800
DAYS INN & SUITES	HOTEL	(337) 457–3040
EUNICE INN	HOTEL	(337) 457–3274
HOWARD'S INN	HOTEL	(337) 457–2066



CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

EUNICE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

The Eunice Municipal Airport has a five thousand foot runway and 28 Aircraft based on their field, and an average of 15,000 operations annually, or 41 Aircraft operations per day, 67% of which consists of local general aviation and the other 33% transient general aviation. Based on the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development's Airport System Plan and Economic Impact Report, the Eunice airport employs 23 FTE employees with a total payroll around \$715,000 and an overall estimated annual economic input of roughly 2.5 million dollars.

LADOTD AIRPORT SYSTEM PLAN AND ECONOMIC IMPACT

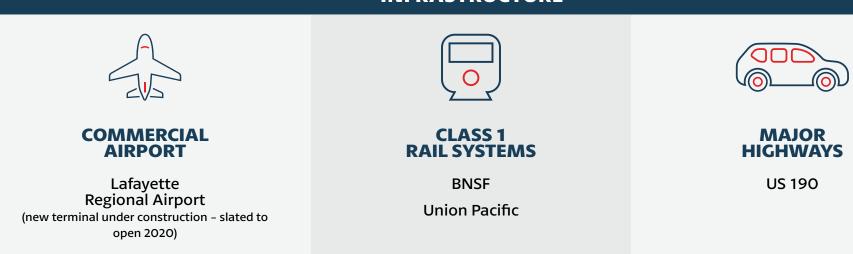
LOCATION BASED OPPORTUNITY

Eunice is at the crossroads of US 190 and LA 13. As the Interstate system (I-10) becomes increasingly congested it is expected that US 190 will become the alternate route of choice for personal travel, hauling of goods, and potential east/west emergency evacuation. Good maintenance of roads and existing sewer and gas, and improved broadband and technology will open opportunities for new business and industry in the Eunice area.



EUNICE UTILITY COMPANIES		
COMPANY NAME	ТҮРЕ	PHONE NUMBER
AT&T	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	(855) 441–4668
ATMOS ENERGY	NATURAL GAS	(888) 286–6700
CENTERPOINT ENERGY	NATURAL GAS	(800) 477-0177
CLECO	ELECTRIC	(800) 622–6537
ENTERGY	ELECTRIC	(337) 457–7120
HUGHESNET	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	(855) 808–3855
LOUISIANA WATER COMPANY	WATER	(337) 457–1770
SPECTRUM CABLE	TELECOMMUNICATIONS	(833) 708–6809

INFRASTRUCTURE





Eunice has a mayor-council form of government and a board of alderman consisting of four members elected from geographic districts and one alderman-at-large. The Eunice Municipal Complex, which houses the mayor's office, is located at 300 S. 2nd Street.



EUNICE CITY DEPARTMENTS	
DEPARTMENT	PHONE NUMBER
BUILDING INSPECTOR & PERMIT OFFICE	(337) 457–6522
CITY BARN / STREET DEPT.	(337) 457–6565
CITY MARSHALL OFFICE	(337) 457–6580
FIRE DEPARTMENT	(337) 457–6515
GAS & SEWER BILLING OFFICE	(337) 457–6505
GAS MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT	(337) 457–6576
LIBERTY THEATER	(337) 457–6577
MAYOR'S OFFICE	(337) 457–7389
MUNICIPAL AIRPORT	(337) 457–6585
NORTHWEST COMMUNITY CENTER	(337) 457–6573
OCCUPATIONAL LICENSE DEPT.	(337) 457–6517
PROPERTY TAX OFFICE	(337) 457–6517
SEWAGE PLANT	(337) 457–6530
SOUTHEAST NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER	(337) 457–6572



ST. LANDRY PARISH ECONOMIC PARTNERS

ACADIANA PLANNING COMMISSION

The Acadiana Planning Commission serves the public sector in the planning and implementation of Economic, Community & Transportation Development throughout the region known as Acadiana including the Louisiana Parishes of Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, and Acadia.

ONE ACADIANA

One Acadiana is a bolder, re-energized version of the Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce. 1A is a business-led, privately funded economic development organization serving a nine-parish (county) area in South Louisiana. Their vision is to make the Acadiana region one of the most sought-after places in the South for emerging businesses and professional talent. Lafayette Parish's local and area agencies and organizations work collaboratively to leverage the strengths of each entity to create opportunities for business expansion and to bring new businesses into the area, both of which will create better paying jobs; thereby, improving living standards and ensuring sustainable growth.

ST. LANDRY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (SLED)

SLED is committed to moving St. Landry Parish Forward through the creation and implementation of a forward-looking strategy of economic and community development. Initiatives are designed to bring growth and prosperity to St. Landry Parish businesses, communities, its clients and youth.

EUNICE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Eunice Chamber is operated by a 19 member Board of Directors. The chamber of commerce seeks to further the collective interests of Eunice on behalf of the community by promoting the traditional Cajun, Creole, and Zydeco culture in the area.

ST. LANDRY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The mission of the St. Landry Chamber of Commerce is to enhance economic growth through the development and encouragement of the business community and those areas of the community affecting business.

EUNICE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD

The Eunice Economic Development Board began in 2017. Since the board's inception, it has been the goal, with the assistance of the City and the Chamber of Commerce, to promote the City of Eunice for economic growth and to retain the wonderful businesses that have made Eunice home while maintaining their unique cultural identity.

ST. LANDRY PARISH TOURIST COMMISSION

The St. Landry Parish Tourist Commission is a legislatively created political subdivision of the state of Louisiana, whose main charge is to develop and promote tourism within St. Landry Parish.

EUNICE FULL SERVICE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS	
INSTITUTION	PHONE NUMBER
B1 BANK	(337) 457–7341
BASTILLE STATE BANK	(337) 457–4050
EDWARD JONES – CHRIS ARDOIN	(337) 457–1721
HANCOCK WHITNEY EUNICE	(800) 448-8812
JD BANK	(337) 457–7334
ST. LANDRY BANK & TRUST	(337) 457–5221
ST. LANDRY HOMESTEAD FSB	(337) 457-8196
STATE BANK & TRUST	(337) 457–8184
WASHINGTON STATE BANK	(337) 443–6016

EUNICE STRATEGIC PLAN

PURPOSE

The Eunice Strategic Plan identifies the main priorities and aspirations of the Eunice community, providing a clear set of strategies to achieve this vision of the future. Building the plan took time and involved a community engagement process. It is important to note that while the City of Eunice is the custodian of the strategic plan, it is not responsible for the delivery of all the activities the plan identifies. The plan identifies who is responsible for its implementation, including other partners such as Louisiana State University – Eunice (LSUE), St. Landry Economic Development (SLED), St. Landry School District (SLP), Acadiana Planning Commission (APC), One Acadiana (1A), Louisiana Workforce Development, non-government organizations, business partners and community groups.

VISION STATEMENT

"We are a tri-parish hub of opportunity and economic vitality; a thriving university town of engaged, diverse residents; and a premier destination for robust culture and recreation."

GOALS AND METRICS

The Strategic Planning Committee began with a review of the priorities outlined in the 2010 Strategic Plan for Community Growth, which includes the following priorities: economic development, education, infrastructure, leadership development, marketing/communications, and workforce development. Eunice, LA Strategic Plan 2019 - 2024



MARCH 31, 2019

A Partnership of the City of Eunice, LSU Eunice, St. Landry Economic Development, and Business & Community Leaders



PROPOSED PUBLIC CATALYST PROJECTS: STUDENT HOUSING FOR LSUE

Student housing at LSUE is at a premium. The only student housing available on the LSUE campus, Bengal Village, was built in 2002. While LSUE's enrollment is approximately 3,200 there are only 216 beds available on campus. Therefore only 6.75% of students have access to student housing while the potential demand is much greater. Currently, LSUE lacks sufficient on-campus housing for its student athletes and there are very few rental housing options available to LSUE students within the town of Eunice. The combination of limited housing options and the rural geographic location of the LSUE campus limit the enrollment potential. Located on the northern boundary of the LSUE campus, the Eunice opportunity zone provides a powerful incentive for the construction of new student housing through a potential public/private partnership with the University. Not surprisingly, this need for additional student housing was a high-ranking priority in the 2019 Eunice strategic plan.



INTRODUCTION TO OPPORTUNITY ZONES

The Opportunity Zone program was established by Congress in the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act as an innovative approach to spurring long-term private sector investments in low-income urban and rural communities.

WHAT ARE OPPORTUNITY ZONES?

Opportunity Zones are low income census tracts nominated by governors and certified by the U.S. Department of the Treasury into which investors can now put capital to work financing new projects and enterprises in exchange for certain federal capital gains tax advantages.

WHAT ARE OPPORTUNITY FUNDS?

Opportunity Funds are private sector investment vehicles that invest at least 90% of their capital in Opportunity Zones. U.S. investors currently hold trillions of dollars in unrealized capital gains in stocks and mutual funds alone – a significant untapped resource for economic development. Opportunity Funds provide investors the chance to put that money to work rebuilding the nation's left-behind neighborhoods. The fund model will enable a broad array of investors to pool their resources in Opportunity Zones, increasing the scale of investments going to under-served areas.

WHO CAN ESTABLISH AN OPPORTUNITY FUND?

The statute allows for broad participation in the creation of Opportunity Funds with the goal of drawing a wide array of investors to support the broad variety of needs in low income communities nationwide. Any entity, from a large bank to a community development financial institution, from a venture capital group to a developer consortium, as well a regional economic development organizations, can establish a fund as long as they follow guidelines set out by the statute and the U.S. Treasury.

For more information visit: <u>irs.gov/credits-deductions/opportunity-zones-frequently-asked-questions</u>

WHAT CAN AN OPPORTUNITY FUND INVEST IN?

The policy enables funds to be responsive to needs of different communities, allowing for investment in operating businesses, equipment, and real property. For example, funds can make equity investments in, or purchase the stock of, a company if substantially all the company's tangible property is and remains located in an Opportunity Zone. Funds can take interests in partnerships that meet the same criteria. Funds can also invest directly in qualifying property, such as real estate or infrastructure, if the property is used in the active conduct of a business and if either the original use of the property commences with the fund or the fund substantially improves the property.

BENEFITS OF OPPORTUNITY ZONE INVESTMENT

The Opportunity Zone program offers three tax incentives for investing in low-income communities through a qualified Opportunity Fund.

DEFERRAL

A temporary deferral of inclusion in taxable income for capital gains reinvested into an Opportunity Fund. The deferred gain must be recognized on the earlier of the date on which the opportunity zone investment is disposed of or on December 31, 2026.

STEP-UP

A step-up in basis for capital gains reinvested in an Opportunity Fund. The basis is increased by 10% if the investment in the Opportunity Fund is held by the taxpayer for at least five years and by an additional 5% if held for at least seven years, thereby excluding up to 15% of the original gain from taxation.

PERMANENT O

A permanent exclusion from taxable income of capital gains from the sale or exchange of an investment in an Opportunity Fund if investment is held for at least 10 years. This exclusion only applies to gains accrued after an investment in an Opportunity Fund.

KEY PARTIES



HOW IS THIS DIFFERENT THAN OTHER TAX CREDITS?



 Qualifying residential, commercial real estate, and business investments



KEY PARTIES IN OZ INVESTMENTS

In typical OZ investments there may be several different parties involved, though in some cases there may only be one party. The **investor** or **taxpayer** who has a capital gain to invest is always involved. The typical opportunity zone **fund** is managed by a fund manager separate from the investors. Frequently, there is a third party who is developing a **project** or starting a business in a qualified opportunity zone. **Qualified Opportunity Zones** are specially designated census tracts that have lacked substantial investment for a significant period of time. Their designation as opportunity zones are designed to economically benefit the **community** as a whole. For sophisticated investors, it is possible for all three roles to be played by the Investor.

INCENTIVES

Developers can utilize the Opportunity Zone program along with other incentives to increase their capital stack and thus reduce total costs of projects, create higher returns, and potentially expand the project. This concept is also referred to as "twinning" or "stacking" incentives. Below are some of the other incentives that may be able to stack with the Opportunity Zone program. Developers should consult their legal and financial advisors to determine the solution that is best fit for the project and their associated investors.

Please note this list is not inclusive of all business incentives and not all available incentives are guaranteed.

NEW MARKET TAX CREDITS (FEDERAL)

Established in 2000, the New Markets Tax Credit program (NMTC) attracts investment for acquisition, rehabilitation, or construction of real estate projects in low-income communities. Approximately 43% of U.S. census tracts qualify for NMTCs.

The U.S. Department of the Treasury competitively allocates tax credit authority to intermediaries known as Community Development Entities (CDEs). CDEs primarily consists of domestic corporations and partnerships. NMTC investors provide capital to CDEs and in exchange receive a tax credit against their federal income tax. Local government does not play a role in this tax incentive, as it is a federal program.

An investor must make an investment in a project for seven years to realize the maximum amount of benefits possible from the program. This includes:

- 5% of the investment for each of the first three years
- 6% of the investment for each of the remaining four years

This totals to a potential 39% of the initial investment. New Market Tax Credits are often stacked with other incentives, further enhancing development opportunities.

For more information visit:

cdfifund.gov/programs-training/Programs/new-markets-tax-credit/Pages/default.aspx

EPA BROWNFIELDS PROGRAM (FEDERAL)

The EPA's Brownfields Program provides grants and technical assistance to communities, states, tribes, and others to assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse Brownfield sites. Brownfields are properties that may have hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants present. Grants are available for Phase I/II environmental assessments, clean-up (if necessary), and redevelopment. In addition, the program was expanded in 2006 to cover properties with petroleum contamination.

- Brownfields Assessment Grants provide funding for Brownfield inventories, planning, environmental assessments, and community outreach.
- Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund Grants provide funding to capitalize loans that are used to clean up Brownfields.
- Brownfield Job Training Grants provide environmental training for residents of Brownfield communities.
- Brownfield Clean-up Grants provide direct funding for clean-up activities at certain properties with planned greenspace, recreational, or other nonprofit uses.
- Brownfield Area-Wide Planning Grants provide funding to communities to research, plan, and develop implementation strategies for cleaning up and revitalizing a specific area affected by one or more Brownfield sites.
- Alternative funding/Assistance sources: State (LA DEQ), Local (APC), Regional TAB (Technical Assistance for Brownfields Kansas State University)

For more information visit: epa.gov/Brownfields/types-Brownfields-grant-funding

In addition, for more information on the Small Business Revolving Loan fund, please visit: <u>scpdc.org/opportunity-zones-and-small-business-revolving-loan-programs/</u>

FEDERAL HISTORIC REHABILITATION TAX CREDIT (FEDERAL)

Encourages and supports the preservation/rehabilitation of historic/older buildings through incentives. This credit applies to income producing properties that are individually listed on the National Register or a contributing element within a National Register Historic District. This incentive is a 20% federal tax credit of eligible construction costs and fees.

For more information visit: nps.gov/tps/tax-incentives.htm

ENTERPRISE ZONE (STATE)

The Enterprise Zone, or EZ program is a jobs incentive program that provides Louisiana income and franchise tax credits to a new or existing business located in Louisiana creating permanent net new full-time jobs and hiring at least 50% of those net new jobs from one of four targeted groups. The benefit provides: either a one-time \$3,500 or \$1,000 tax credit for each net new job created.

An Enterprise Zone can result in a 4% rebate of sales and use taxes paid on qualifying materials, machinery, furniture, and/or equipment purchased or a 1.5% refundable investment tax credit on total investment, excluding tax exempted items. The 4% or 1.5% rebate shall not exceed \$100,000 per net new job.

For more information visit: <u>opportunitylouisiana.com/business-incentives/enterprise-zone</u>

QUALITY JOBS (STATE)

The Quality Jobs, or QJ program provides a cash rebate to companies that create well paid jobs and promote economic development. The program provides up to a 6% cash rebate on 80% of gross payroll for new direct jobs for up to 10 years. Effective July 1, 2018, the rebate is available on 100% of gross annual payroll. It can provide a 4% sales/ use rebate on capital expenditures or a 1.5% refundable investment tax credit on the total capital investment, excluding tax exempted items.

For more information visit: <u>opportunitylouisiana.com/business-incentives/quality-jobs</u>

INDUSTRIAL TAX EXEMPTION (STATE)

Available exclusively to manufacturers, the Industrial Tax Exemption Program is Louisiana's original incentive program for capital investments. This incentive abates local property taxes for up to 10 years on new investments and annual capitalized additions related to the manufacturing site. Note: Executive Order JBE 2016–26, issued June 24, 2016, provides changes and new requirements. See LED website for updates.

For more information visit: <u>opportunitylouisiana.com/business-incentives/industrial-tax-exemption</u>

RESTORATION TAX ABATEMENT (STATE)

The Restoration Tax Abatement (RTA) program grants businesses and homeowners up to 10 years of property tax abatement to encourage the expansion, restoration, and development of existing commercial structures and owner-occupied residences in downtown, historic, and economic development districts.

For more information visit: <u>opportunitylouisiana.com/business-incentives/restoration-tax-abatement</u>

STATE HISTORIC REHABILITATION TAX CREDIT (STATE)

This program encourages and supports the preservation/rehabilitation of historic/older buildings through incentives. It applies only to income producing properties that contribute to the significance of a designated Downtown Development District or a Cultural District in Louisiana. The incentive provides for a 20% state tax credit for eligible construction costs and fees that meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

For more information visit: <u>crt.state.la.us/cultural-development/historic-preservation/tax-incentives/state-commercial-tax-credit/index</u>

LOUISIANA FASTSTART (STATE)

A single-source workforce solution that works with businesses to anticipate and address the company's workforce needs early in the startup or expansion process. This is a discretionary incentive of the state and is based on a company's commitment to create jobs. Target industries that this program works with are manufacturing, call centers, headquarters, wholesale distribution, technology, and digital media.

For more information visit: opportunitylouisiana.com/faststart

ANGEL INVESTOR TAX CREDITS (STATE)

Louisiana's Angel Investor Tax Credit (AITC) encourages accredited investors to invest in early stage, small wealth-creating Louisiana businesses that seek startup and expansion capital.

- Provides a 35% tax credit on investments by accredited investors who invest in businesses certified by Louisiana Economic Development as Louisiana Entrepreneurial Businesses (LEB) located in an opportunity zone.
- \$7.2 million annual program cap.
- Investors can invest \$720,000 per business per year and \$1.44 million per business over the life of the program.
- The AITC Program sunsets on July 1, 2025.

For more information visit: <u>opportunitylouisiana.com/business-incentives/angel-investor-tax-credit</u>

DIGITAL INTERACTIVE MEDIA AND SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE (STATE)

The Digital Media Incentive provides a tax credit of just 25% on qualified payroll for in-state labor and 18% for qualified production expenditures.

For more information visit:

opportunitylouisiana.com/business-incentives/digital-interactive-media-and-software-program

PURCHASING COMPANY INCENTIVES PROGRAM (STATE)

The Purchasing Company Incentives Program authorizes the Secretary of Louisiana Economic Development (LED) to enter into a contract with a procurement processing company which recruits purchasing companies to Louisiana. The contract shall provide for incentive rebate payments in exchange for the generation of new state tax revenue from new taxable sales to a purchasing company which is managed by the procurement processing company.

CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS RELOCATION PROGRAM (STATE)

This program provides for the granting of contracts for businesses to receive rebates of 25% of applicable relocation costs for relocating or expanding its headquarters in Louisiana. Louisiana Economic Development (LED) will determine the eligibility of a business based on criteria that include that the relocation or expansion will create at least 25 headquarters jobs, that program participation will be a significant factor in a highly competitive site selection situation, and that securing the project will provide a significant positive economic benefit to the state.

TAX INCREMENT FINANCING (LOCAL)

Tax increment financing (TIF) is an economic development tool utilized by local governments which may be utilized to encourage development and redevelopment in certain areas. Capturing future incremental tax revenue enables the local government to undertake economic development activities or provide subsidies that otherwise might not be possible.

The state has authorized local governments to designate project areas, "TIF Districts", to capture tax increments (on property tax, sales tax and/or hotel occupancy tax) that can be used to focus on funding toward improvements in distressed or underdeveloped areas where development would not otherwise occur. The taxing bodies in these districts continue to receive the base value tax revenues while the incremental increase goes to the project or project areas for a designated period of time. The TIF is created by the local governing authority and remains in effect until it expires or until the bonds or loans are paid off.

PILOT (LOCAL)

A Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) is a tax incentive designed to restructure the tax burden for developers interested in relocating, expanding, or developing in certain areas. With PILOTs, local governments can grant developers exemptions from traditional property taxes for a set period of time to support improvements to property, or to locate a project in a blighted and distressed area.

In reducing a developer's local property tax liability, additional cash flow is generated that can make a marginal project more economically feasible and allow a development to be financed that might not otherwise be possible without the incentive. The incentive also increases the fair market value of the property as a result of higher net operating income.

PILOT recipients must show that the project benefits the community, however, in the form of additional employment through construction and permanent jobs, meeting certain payroll criteria, generating certain sales tax revenues, and other requirements specified in the agreement.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS



Acadiana Planning Commission (APC) – APC is a public-sector organization focused on planning and implementation of community, economic, and transportation development throughout South Louisiana's Acadiana Region.

Monique Boulet, CEO mboulet@planacadiana.org



One Acadiana (1A) – 1A is a business-led, privately-funded economic development organization for the nine parishes (counties) in South Louisiana's Acadiana Region, and serves as the chamber of commerce for the city of Lafayette.

Troy Wayman, President & CEO troy@oneacadiana.org



St. Landry Parish Economic Development (SLED) – SLED is committed to moving St. Landry Parish Forward through the creation and implementation of a forward-looking strategy of economic and community development. Initiatives are designed to bring growth and prosperity to St. Landry Parish businesses, communities, its clients and youth.

Bill Rodier, Executive Director billr@stlandryed.com



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Francine (Dupre) Hughes, Executive Director director@eunicechamber.net



Community Foundation of Acadiana (CFA) – CFA is a tax-exempt, donor-centric, entrepreneurial foundation whose core purpose is building legacies and improving communities by connecting generous people to the causes they care about. CFA is South Louisiana's premier philanthropic organization benefiting the region, with a particular focus on the parishes of Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, and Vermilion.

Raymond Hebert, President & CEO rhebert@cfacadiana.org



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Christopher Caldwell, Federal CO-Chairman John Bel Edwards, States' CO-Chairman



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

InvestAcadiana.com