

LOUISIANA PASSPORT TO EXPORTS

TAKE YOUR BUSINESS GLOBAL USING THE **STATE TRADE EXPANSION PROGRAM**

Whether your small business is new to exporting or you are already selling goods and services in other countries, you may be eligible for a Federal Grant Award through the Louisiana State Trade Expansion Program.

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and Louisiana Economic Development are offering funds through the State Trade Expansion Program (STEP Grant). The Louisiana program is designed to help small businesses generate new export revenues and create or retain jobs by preparing them for exporting with both financial and technical assistance.

Under this program, eligible Louisiana small businesses can be **reimbursed up to \$6,333 for expenses** of:

- Registration/Exhibit Booth fees
- Trade Mission fees
- Ground transportation fees
- Coach-class airfare that adheres to the Fly America Act
- Lodging up to federal/state per diem rate
- Meals up to federal/state per diem rate
- U.S. Department of Commerce fee services
- Export Training Workshops
- Other approved activities and expenses

Companies must participate in approved domestic or international activities in order to be eligible for reimbursements.

TO BE ELIGIBLE COMPANIES MUST:

- Have been in business for at least one year
- Be a For-Profit Business
- Be based in Louisiana
- Have a plan for exporting (export strategy)
- Understand the costs associated with exporting (costs such as freight forwarders, customs brokers, shipping, etc.)
- Meet the SBA definition of a small business
- Not be debarred from doing business with the federal government
- Have export products/services of U.S. origin or at least 51% U.S. content
- Be new to export or seeking market expansion

Only travel and activities approved by the LED team will qualify for reimbursement.

For more information visit opportunitylouisiana.com/stepgrant.

Travelers must be company employees. Maximum benefit per company is **\$6,333** for the program period, events must occur between **Sept. 29, 2019-Sept. 29, 2021**.



**LOUISIANA
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT**



**U.S. Small Business
Administration**

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