



**Governor's Office of
Homeland Security &
Emergency Preparedness**

JOINT INFORMATION CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 7, 2012

Louisiana awarded \$3.4 million grant to assist unemployed

BATON ROUGE, La. -- The Louisiana Workforce Commission has been awarded a National Emergency Grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to assist eligible unemployed individuals with temporary debris removal and cleanup jobs to help communities recover from Hurricane Isaac.

"This funding will go a long way to further enhance private, parish and state cleanup efforts that are well underway and provide jobs for people who need work," LWC Executive Director Curt Eysink. "The agency is committed to doing everything we can to put Louisianans to work and help with the clean-up efforts."

Federal officials will immediately release \$1,119,339 to help expedite recovery. The rest of the \$3,358,017 will be made available as needed based for assistance. The NEG funding will be available to assist with cleanup efforts through August 31, 2013.

The federal funding will provide employment services and pay salaries for an estimated 450 residents and workers in parishes most affected by Hurricane Isaac. People directly impacted by the storm will be given priority for temporary job opportunities. The funding is also available to assist workers in the affected area who have been unemployed for 10 weeks or longer with temporary cleanup jobs.

The funds will assist residents and workers in the following parishes: Ascension, Assumption, East Feliciana, St. Helena, Iberville, Jefferson, Lafourche, Livingston, Orleans, Plaquemines, Point Coupee, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. James, St. John, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Washington, West Baton Rouge and West Feliciana. Additional parishes may be added upon completion of federal damage assessments and the need for debris removal and other cleanup efforts are better defined.

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To receive assistance, individuals can call or visit any LWC Business and Career Solutions Center around the state. Additional services available through existing workforce development programs include:

- Job search and placement services, including career counseling;
- Initial assessment of skills and needs;
- Developing individualized employment plans;
- Case management; and
- Short-term and pre-vocational services

Wage coverage is limited by federal law to public sector employment.

To find a list with contact information of LWC's Business and Career Solutions Centers, visit www.laworks.net.

For more information related to the Hurricane Isaac, visit www.emergency.louisiana.gov.

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