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Upcoming Events:



LEDA Job Fair 2014

May 21, 9 a.m. — 3 p.m.
 Cajundome Convention Ctr.
 Need to Register?
lafayette.org/jobfairs



April 23-30

For details go to:

innov8lafayette.com



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Latest HiRE Upgrade Benefits Employers

The LA Workforce Commission's **HiRE** (Helping Individuals Reach Employment) site is a web based integrated system advancing the capabilities for employers and job seekers. The first installation of the HiRE program was set in place about a year ago and a second phase was recently launched. Various preset codes now allow employers to complete registration quicker and more easily in order to post job orders.

Recent enhancements include:

- Ability to tailor applications to fit your particular business needs
- More detailed job orders, resulting in easier management
- Job orders that can be saved as templates
- Capability of filtering multiple worksites
- Viewing of incomplete job orders with the 'job order filter'
- Addition of social networking sharing capabilities

The bottom line is, HiRE can help you find hard-working and quality employees. Employers can also create custom job search options and get more information about all job postings.

LOOKING AHEAD...

Coming this summer ⇨ Ability for employers to handle unemployment appeal functions online.

Coming in 2015 ⇨ Opportunity for employers to carry out all of the LWC-related business within the web-based system, including paying unemployment taxes online.

For more information on how HIRE can help you fill open positions go to www.laworks.net.

Obtaining NEW Hires

Lowe's and AT&T have held several job fairs recently and have been very pleased with the results.

Roslyn Williams, HR Manager at Lowe's in North Lafayette says, "The La. Workforce Commission is a great partner to work with in getting qualified candidates for positions needed to be filled. Not only do I get to have onsite recruiting sessions, but I can post our positions on their website, making it easy for me to look at their clients".

Recruiting Coordinator for AT&T Melanie Kappler said the "events were successful with potential candidates applying and moving forward in the hiring process. AT&T looks forward to a continuing and successful partnership with Lafayette Business and Career Solutions Center". We appreciate being able to work with both Lowe's and AT&T, as well as other employers, to provide Recruiting Services. Contact your nearest Business & Career Solutions Center if interested in more information.



For More Information
Visit:

www.laworks.net

La Workforce Commission

www.wib40.org

Workforce Investment Board
#40

www.lafayettela.gov

Lafayette Workforce
Investment Board #41

www.lafayettela.gov

Lafayette Business & Career
Solutions Center

www.acadianaworks.org

Acadiana Works, Inc.

Find us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/lbcsc

Lafayette Business and
Career Solutions Center

www.facebook.com/KYTE

KYTE Program for Youth

Acadiana's
—Unemployment Rate—
January 2014

Acadia - 4.7
Evangeline - 5.6
Iberia - 4.7
Lafayette - 3.7
St. Landry - 5.3
St. Martin - 4.6
St. Mary - 5.5
Vermilion - 4.9



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Plugged In to our FUTURE



Career Connections Expo

About 4,000 10th graders from Lafayette, Iberia, St. Martin, and Vermilion parishes were provided with career awareness opportunities at the Career Connections Expo held February 4 at the Cajundome Convention Center. Businesses from several career areas gathered to share their knowledge and experience. The Expo helped

students identify and explore career interests while demonstrating the relevance of academics to workplace skills. It also featured a *Reality Store*, where students were able to examine the realities of living expenses and the link between choices they make regarding education, vocational, and career decisions.

Louisiana Adopts ETS's *HiSET* for High School Equivalency



Louisiana is one of 10 states that have begun using the *HiSET* program for high school equivalency testing. Developed by nonprofit Educational Testing Service (ETS) and the University of Iowa's Iowa Testing Program (ITP), the *HiSET* program provides an accessible and more affordable alternative to the GED. It offers paper-based testing in addition to computer-based testing.

Information from the exam helps identify the areas where test takers are **career and college ready**, as well as areas where they may need additional preparation.

The number of states, educators, policymakers and employers looking for a high school proficiency exam alternative that includes elements that are critical to providing out-of-school youth and adults with proof of their readiness for higher education or the workplace is expected to grow.

"Our new partnership with the *HiSET* program is a critical component to the comprehensive services that we must provide our citizens as we continue to build the Louisiana of tomorrow", says Sean Martin, Executive Director, WorkReady U. For more information on *HiSET*, please visit HiSET.ets.org or WorkReadyU.

DID YOU KNOW ? . . . *Pulse on "The Oil Patch"*



According to Baker Hughes Inc. in their **Rig Tracking Reports**:

- The number of rigs exploring for oil and natural gas in the U.S. stands at **1,771**.
- 1,416 are exploring for oil, 351 for gas, and 4 miscellaneous.
- **One year ago**, there were **1,759** active rigs. The U.S. rig count peaked at **4,530** in 1981 and bottomed at **488** in 1999.

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Savings For Your Business

On-the-Job Training (OJT) – Funding to train new hires and newly promoted employees while on the job. Employers may be reimbursed up to 50% of wages during the training period. For more information contact your local Business and Career Solutions Center.

Incumbent Worker Training Programs (IWTP):

- **Customized Training** - Funding for companies with 15+ employees to be trained.
- **Small Business Employee Training (SBET)** – Funding for companies with 50 or fewer employees with one or more employees to be trained.

For more information on IWTP, contact Effie Archangel at earchangel@lwc.la.gov or visit [Workforce Development/IWTP](http://WorkforceDevelopment/IWTP).

Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) – A federal tax credit available to employers who hire individuals from eligible target groups with significant barriers to employment such as Veterans, TANF Recipients, SNAP (food stamp) Recipients, Designated Community Residents, Vocational Rehabilitation Referral, Supplemental Security Income Recipients, Summer Youth Employees, and Ex-Felons (*see article below*). Employers can earn a tax credit between \$1,200 and \$9,600 per employee. For more information visit Work Opportunity Tax Credit.

Enterprise Zone Program Tax Credit – A jobs incentive program, which creates Louisiana Income and Franchise Tax Liabilities Jobs Tax Credits for a business hiring at least 50% of their new jobs from one of four targeted Groups: Designated Residential Areas, Receiving Public Assistance, Lacking Basic Skills, and Physically Challenged. Registering an individual through LAworks qualifies an individual as receiving public assistance. A one-time \$2,500 Job Tax Credit is generated for each certified net new job created. For more information visit Enterprise Zone.



Tapping into other Resources

Are you experiencing difficulties filling positions with skilled or trainable individuals? Have you considered hiring an ex-offender? If not, you may very well be missing out on a huge opportunity to fill that position quickly and successfully.

Businesses that hire ex-offenders have opportunities for a federal tax credit through the Work Opportunity Tax Credit. The **J-CORE** (Judicial-Core Opportunity Referral to Employment) Program provides our business community with an underused, work ready supply of labor. In addition, you will help curb recidivism, thus help to change someone's life for the better and help to make your community a better place to live and do business.

For more information about the J-CORE program, contact your local Business & Career Solutions Center.

For Levity's Sake

