



Rapides Workforce Development Board e-Bulletin



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Secretary Schowen announces two new appointments at the Louisiana Workforce Commission

Secretary Schowen announced new appointments to serve on the Executive Leadership team.

Osmar Padilla will lead the Office of Workforce Development as the Assistant Secretary. Before joining the Louisiana Workforce Commission, Padilla led regional workforce initiatives as the Director of Workforce Development at Greater New Orleans, Inc. In this role, he fostered partnerships with employers, government, education, and community-based organizations to develop collaborative, industry-driven programs promoting economic mobility for Southeast Louisiana residents.

"I am humbled and honored to serve as Assistant Secretary at the LWC. I look forward to supporting our dedicated team at the LWC as we continue our mission to strengthen Louisiana's workforce and economy," said Assistant Secretary Osmar Padilla. "With a steadfast commitment to removing barriers and preparing Louisiana for today's and tomorrow's jobs, I am eager to advance workforce development initiatives that help citizens in every corner of our state find well-paying jobs and ensure employers have the talent they need. Under Secretary Schowen's leadership, the LWC is well-positioned to realize this goal, build prosperity, and foster economic growth."

[full story here](#)

Job and Resource Fair

LOUISIANA WORKFORCE COMMISSION
The Department of Labor

Tuesday, March 19th
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Bolton Avenue
Community Center
315 Bolton Avenue
Alexandria, LA 71301

Rapid Hire Job Fair



ON-SITE INTERVIEWS

STATE ID GIFT CARDS

INTERVIEW ATTIRE CLOSET

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:

- Veterans
- Laid-Off Workers
- UI Claimants
- Unhoused/Unsheltered
- Returning Citizens
- TANF & SNAP Recipients
- Unemployed & underemployed


SPONSORED BY:





The Mobile Workforce Center of LWC will be available on-site to provide support with resume assistance and online job application submissions.

For further details, please contact hdaigrepoint@lwc.la.gov.



Job Fair

For Veterans
Hosted By Health Care For Homeless Veterans
Community Employment Program
Alexandria VA Hospital
2495 Shreveport Highway, Pineville, LA 71360
Building 8, Auditorium

April 26, 2024 • 10:00am – 3:00pm

Employers that are interested please
Contact Rodney McNeal,
Community Employment Coordinator
(318) 466-4241
rodney.mcneal@va.gov

JOB AND RESOURCE FAIR

Join us for an opportunity to explore new job opportunities and community resources!

Who Should Attend? This event is geared towards second chance candidates, but it is open to everyone in the community seeking job opportunities or interested in accessing community resources.

Featuring:

- Employers from Various Sectors:
 - Manufacturing
 - Technology
 - Healthcare
 - Education
- Community Service Providers:
 - Showcasing services benefiting the community



10:00am – 3:00pm
APRIL 17TH, 2024




Job fair Location
ALEXANDRIA MALL

REGISTER NOW

For more information
318-521-0033

Visit our website
WWW.UWCL.ORG/LAPRI





THE CENTER FOR
Calling & Career

CAREER FAIR

Thursday, March 14th from 10AM-2pm
Granberry Conference Center



Job Opportunities



DIS-TRAN
STEEL

JOIN OUR TEAM

PINEVILLE, LA

- Welders (Days)
- Fitters (Days)
- Production Support Technician (Nights)

EUNICE, LA

- Maintenance Technician (Nights)

APPLY NOW

distransteel.com/careers

DIS-TRAN Steel is a tight-knit team, committed to respect, integrity, and their shared values of honesty and transparency. [Click here](#) to learn more about the opportunities available.



We're HIRING!

You deserve a career where talent is recognized and rewarded. When your strengths meet our opportunities, great things can happen. Work and learn from the best in the industry, in a fulfilling career with exceptional benefits at RoyOMartin.

Current Opportunities

- Help Desk I (Full Time) - Alexandria, LA
- Production Team Member (Full Time) - Oakdale, LA
- Scale Security (Full Time) - Oakdale, LA
- Production Team Member (Full/Part Time) - Chopin, LA
- Truck Driver (Full Time) - Chopin, LA
- Industrial Electrician (Full Time) - Chopin, LA
- Technical Manager (Full Time) - Corrigan, TX
- Production Team Supervisor (Full Time) - Corrigan, TX
- Production Team Member (Full Time) - Corrigan, TX
- Millwright (Full Time) - Corrigan, TX
- Industrial Electrician (Full Time) - Corrigan, TX

RoyOMartin
Since 1923

If you are interested in any of these positions, scan the QR code to apply.

SCAN ME

RoyOMartin is Hiring!
[Apply here!](#)



JOIN OUR TEAM!

LSUA
LSU of ALEXANDRIA

Join LSUA Team!
Discover various career opportunities at LSU Alexandria by visiting [here](#).



Alexandria
Louisiana

NOW HIRING

Apply Today!

MULTIPLE POSITIONS AVAILABLE!

The City of Alexandria have multiple positions available!

[Apply here!](#)

Job Opportunities

WE'RE HIRING JOIN OUR TEAM!!
Central Louisiana State Hospital
Leading the way in mental health care

Immediate Positions Available:
Accountant Supervisor
Psychiatric Aides/Supervisors
Associate 4 to a Psychologist
Psychologists

Benefits Include:

- Special Entry Rate of Pay
- Retirement
- Health Insurance/Other Insurances
- Paid Holidays
- Sick Leave & Personal Leave

Salaries negotiable based on experience
For more information contact: (318) 484-6200

Learn more and apply by visiting:
governmentjobs.com/careers/Louisiana/788

SCAN ME

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Central Louisiana State Hospital
is Hiring!

CENTRAL LOUISIANA
TECHNICAL COMMUNITY
COLLEGE

Join our team

WE'RE HIRING

Interested? Send your application materials to hr@CLTCC.edu

CLTCC has several full-time position vacancies. For details, scan the QR code or [click here](#).

Local Events

Association of Farmworker Opportunity Programs

LONG-SLEEVE SHIRT DRIVE

MARCH 10-20

PLEASE DONATE a new or slightly used long-sleeve shirt to help farmworkers mitigate exposure to pesticide residues and reduce direct exposure to the heat.

Find the DROP OFF LOCATION nearest to you

For more information contact:
MOTIVATION EDUCATION & TRAINING, INC.
KANDACE BOWMAN
24 ACACENT DR #101
MONROE, LA 71202
(318) 362-3024

Follow us @afophealth

www.afop.org/mfaw

AFOP Long-Sleeve Shirt Drive
For more information, contact
Kandace Bowman at 318-362-3024

You're invited!

Join us in celebrating the new

LSUA AMERICA'S **SBDC**
Continuing Education LOUISIANA

Wednesday, March 20, 2024
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Ribbon Cutting with the Central Louisiana Regional Chamber of Commerce will be at 2:30 p.m.

LSUA Campus
146 Chambers Hall Annex

For more information, call (318) 427-0409 or (318) 427-4441

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony of the new
LSBDC at LSUA and
LSUA Continuing Education Center

Local Events

LSUA Spring 2024 Graduate School Fair



LSUA
LSU of ALEXANDRIA

SPRING 2024
GRAD FAIR

LOUISIANA & REGIONAL COLLEGES

Monday, March 18
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Brumfield Caffey Ballroom

Great opportunity for Juniors and Seniors!


Hosted by the LSUA Career Center



@lsuacareercenter
LSUA Career Center / careerdevelopment@lsua.edu

For more information, [click here!](#)

Community Fair Organized by Rapides Parish School Board



Community Fair

Thursday, March 21, 2024
5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

- * Over 30 Community Organizations will be in attendance * Free Giveaways
- * Door Prizes * Bridging the gap between Community, Schools & Families
- * Support for Children & Families in our School System * Help bring Awareness to our Families * Free Information from Multiple Community Organizations in our area
- * Come see what our feeder schools have to offer

Alexandria Senior High School / Cafeteria

Participating Schools: ASH, Brame, Cherokee, Horseshoe, and Nachman

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 318-442-1987 or (318) 442-8891

For more information,
call 318-321-0033

City of Alexandria Alex River Fete at Downtown Rocks 2024



SPRING INTO
ALEX RIVER FETE
AT
DOWNTOWN ROCKS
ALEXANDRIA, LOUISIANA

THURS MAR 21
JOHNNY EARTHQUAKE
AND THE MOONDOGS

5PM TO 8PM
STEPS OF CITY HALL

SPRING 2024
CONCERT SERIES



City of Pineville 5th Saturday Market



March 30th 9AM ~ Pineville Riverfront



JOIN US

8th Annual
Fun & Free CenLa KidzFest

Saturday
March 16th
10am-2pm

FRANK O. HUNTER PARK
2350 WILLOW GLEN AVENUE, ALEXANDRIA

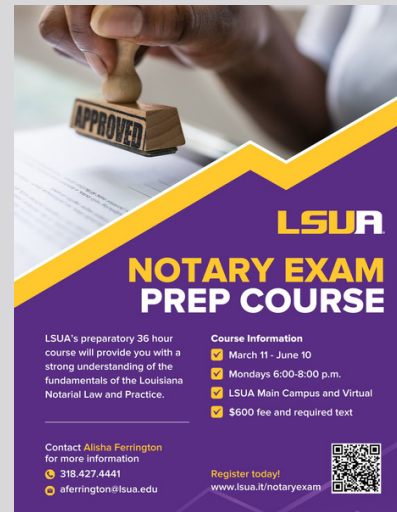
Sponsored By:
Rapides Women's and Children's Hospital



8th Annual CenLa KidzFest
Presented by the Junior League of Alexandria,
Sponsored by Rapides Women's and
Children Hospital

Programs & Services

LSUA Continuing Education Notary Exam Prep Course



**LSUA
NOTARY EXAM
PREP COURSE**


LSUA's preparatory 36 hour course will provide you with a strong understanding of the fundamentals of the Louisiana Notarial Law and Practice.

Course Information

- ✓ March 11 - June 10
- ✓ Mondays 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- ✓ LSUA Main Campus and Virtual
- ✓ \$600 fee and required text

Contact Alisha Ferrington for more information
 318.427.4441
 aferrington@lsua.edu

Register today!
www.lsua.it/notaryexam



For more information, contact Alisha Ferrington at 318-427-4444 or aferrington@lsua.edu

United Way of Cenla VITA Tax Program



**VITA
TAX PROGRAM**

DO YOU MAKE \$60,000 OR LESS?

File your Taxes for **FREE!**

HOW?

Call 211 or (318) 322-0400 to make your appointment today!

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- Current photo ID
- Social security cards and date of birth for ALL household members
- All necessary tax documents (W-2, 1099, 1098, etc.)
- Copy of the previous year tax return
- Valid E-mail address
- Banking information for Direct Deposit (voided check, routing and checking account number)

SPONSORED BY:





Call 211 or 318-322-0400 to schedule your appointment today!

CLTCC CDL Training



**CDL
TRAINING**

Class Starts March 18th

6 weeks course

\$6,200 tuition - Financial Aid is available for those who qualify

Call Now
 318-992-2910




Call 318-992-2910 for more information.

City of Alexandria Community Development Housing Rehabilitation Program



**Alexandria
Louisiana**

**THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT WILL BE
ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR
THE HOUSING
REHABILITATION PROGRAM
MARCH 11, 2024
to
MARCH 15, 2024
AT BOLTON AVE. COMMUNITY CENTER**

[Click here](#) for more information.

Programs & Services

Accelerated EMT Class



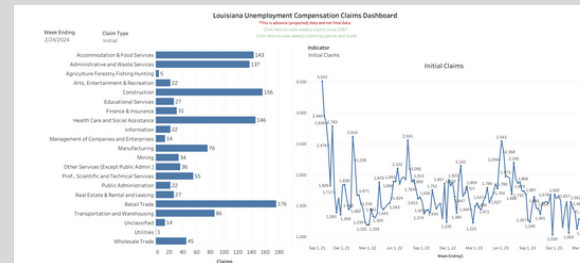
Monday, April 29th - National EMS Academy and Acadian Ambulance are kicking off an accelerated EMT class in Alexandria. The program will select individuals interested in earning their Emergency Medical Technician certification and pay them while they are in training. Upon successful completion, they will then serve as EMTs in the Alexandria area. [Apply here!](#)

Initial unemployment insurance claims rise for week ending February 24

The initial unemployment insurance claims for the week ending February 24, 2024, rose to 1,424 from the week ending February 17, 2024, a total of 1,123. For a comparison, during the week ending February 25, 2023, 1,374 initial claims were filed.

The four-week moving average of initial claims decreased to 1,418 from the previous week's average of 1,493. The unemployment insurance continued claims for the week ending February 24, 2024, increased to 11,648 from the week ending February 17, 2024, a total of 10,396. The continued claims were below the comparable figure of 11,757 for the week ending February 25, 2023.

The four-week moving average of continued claims decreased to 11,623 from the previous week's average of 11,850.



Source: LWC - Regine Williams

[full story here](#)

LSUA Celebrates Remarkable Spring 2024 Enrollment Surge, Exceeding 5,400 Students



Louisiana State University of Alexandria (LSUA) continues its rise as the fastest-growing public university in Louisiana, with Spring 2024 enrollment reaching an all-time high of 5,405 students. This momentous achievement represents a 35.5% increase over the last year, solidifying LSUA's position as a university of choice.

LSUA surpassed its goal of 5,000 students in the fall of 2023, two years ahead of schedule, with a staggering 24% enrollment increase over the previous year. Spring 2024's enrollment growth of an additional 5.9% since this fall semester marks a significant milestone for LSUA, as it is the first time spring enrollment has exceeded fall figures since the university became a 4-year institution two decades ago. LSUA's ability to buck the national trend of declining enrollment demonstrates its resilience, adaptability, and unwavering commitment to student success and excellence.



Photo credit: LSUA Strategic Communications

Deron Thaxton, LSUA's Executive Vice Chancellor, said: "With our latest enrollment figures showing an unprecedented increase from last spring, it's clear that LSUA is not just expanding, we're evolving. We are not the LSUA from 20 years ago or even five! We are no longer just a regional campus; LSUA is the university of choice in Louisiana and beyond. Our growth is a robust affirmation of our commitment to accessible, top-tier education."

Source: LSUA Strategic Communications

[full story here](#)

We thank and acknowledge our Contributors!

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