



**Louisiana Office of  
Community Development**  
Disaster Recovery

# State of the Coast

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May 20, 2025

*Micaela Coner | Director, Economic Development and Infrastructure*

# Panel Members



Susan Nealy, Louisiana Office of Community Development – Disaster Recovery

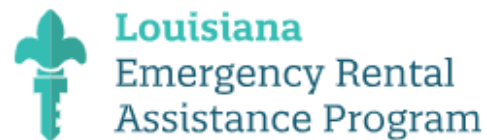
Bridget Laborde, Northshore Technical Community College

Tiffany Howard, South Louisiana Community College

# About LOCD-DR

The Louisiana Office of Community Development – Disaster Recovery (LOCD-DR) is the grantee and administrator of disaster recovery funds in the state of Louisiana.

LOCD-DR helps communities provide a suitable living environment and expand economic opportunities for residents and businesses, particularly in low- to moderate-income areas.



ISLE DE JEAN CHARLES RESETTLEMENT

Buyout and Incentive Programs 

## Types of Programs ADMINISTERED

Buyouts and Resettlements

Immediate and Temporary Housing

Disaster Recovery Programs

Trainings and Workshops

Small Business Recovery Programs

Policy and Research

Homeowner Assistance

Provision of Public Services

Rental Assistance

Resilience and Mitigation

Long-Term Recovery Planning

Infrastructure Recovery Programs

# CDBG Funding



## Disaster Recovery

**\$13.4B**

HURRICANES KATRINA  
AND RITA

**\$1.09B**

HURRICANES GUSTAV  
AND IKE

**\$64.4M**

HURRICANE ISAAC

**\$1.7B**

GREAT FLOODS OF 2016

**\$1.05B**

HURRICANES LAURA AND  
DELTA

**\$2.1B**

HURRICANE IDA AND  
MAY 2021 FLOOD

## Mitigation

**\$1.2B**

LOUISIANA WATERSHED  
INITIATIVE

**\$92.6M**

NATIONAL DISASTER  
RESILIENCE  
COMPETITION (MIT)



# Hurricane Francine Allocation

**\$117,946,000**

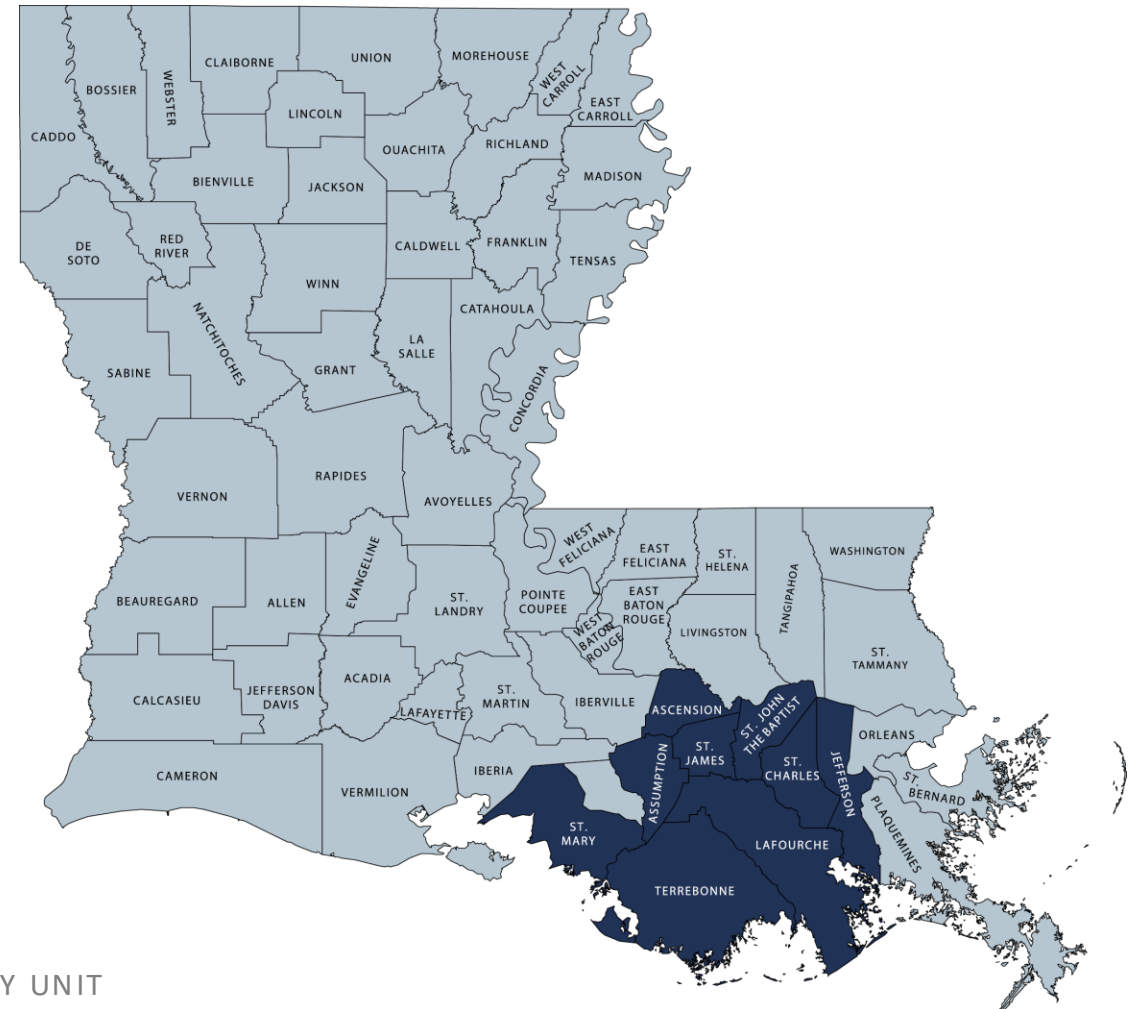
allocated to the State of Louisiana for recovery needs

## HUD MIDS

Ascension  
Assumption  
Jefferson  
Lafourche  
St. John  
St. Mary  
Terrebonne

## STATE MIDS

St. Charles  
St. James





# Funding Timeline

## HUD ALLOCATES FUNDING BASED ON DAMAGE

The U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development allocates \$117.9M in funding to the state of Louisiana for recovery needs associated with Hurricane Francine and publishes **Universal Notice** for CDBG funds.

**JAN 7, 2025**

## STATE DEVELOPS ACTION PLAN

Spending intentions and potential programs are derived from FEMA analysis of loss/damage statewide.

*The development of the action plan included a series of consultation meetings to confirm disaster recovery unmet needs priorities.*

**JAN—MARCH 2025**

**JAN 16, 2025**

## HUD PUBLISHES FRN

HUD publishes Federal Register Notice, providing guidance for how the state must spend allocated funding.

**MARCH 5, 2025**

## PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ON ACTION PLAN BEGINS

The public comment period for the proposed action plan was open for 30 days – ended April 4, 2025.

# Upcoming Milestones



## STATE SUBMITS ACTION PLAN

The state submits the final action plan to HUD for approval.

**EARLY APRIL 2025**

## HUD APPROVAL OF ACTION PLAN

HUD has 45 days to review and respond.

**MAY 2025**

## HUD/STATE AGREEMENT EXECUTED

**JUNE/JULY 2025  
(anticipated)**

## HURRICANE FRANCINE PROGRAM LAUNCH

**ANTICIPATED IN  
SUMMER 2025**

*The state will directly contact homeowners based on FEMA IA to complete the Restore Louisiana Homeowner Assistance Program survey during this time period.*

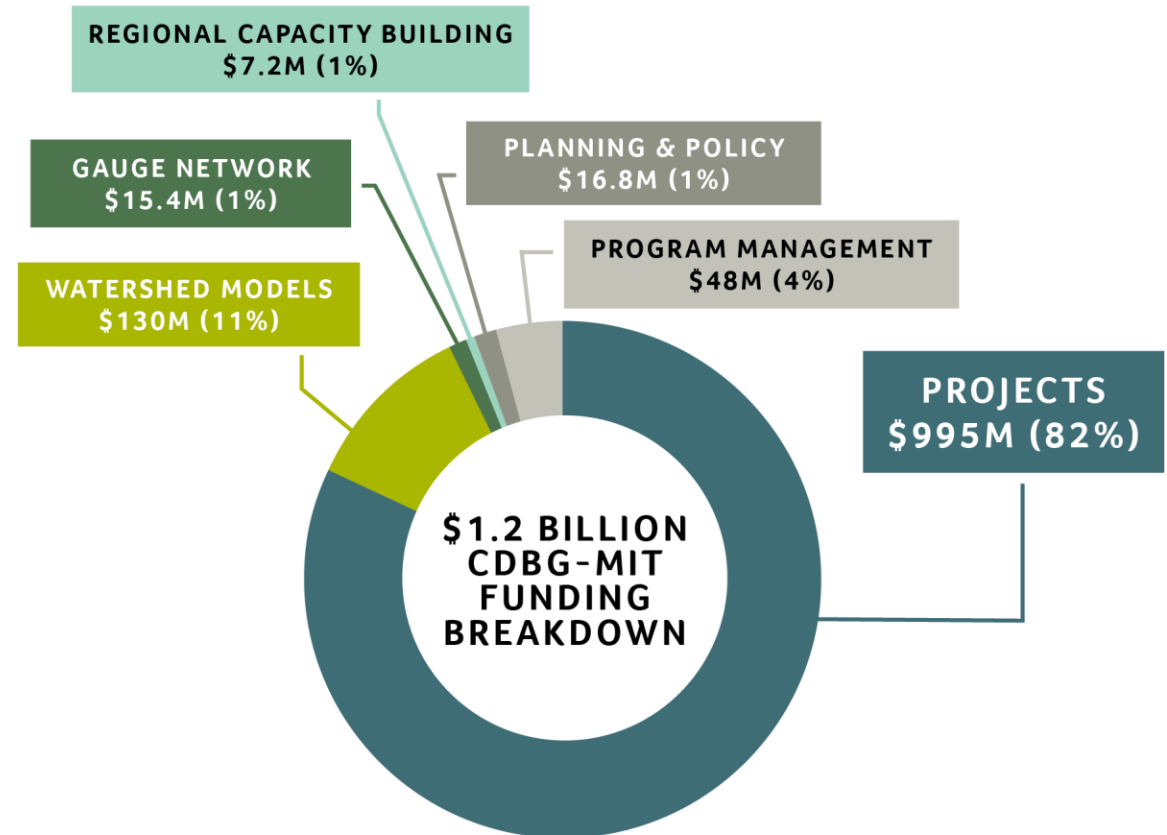


# Louisiana Watershed Initiative Update

## Budgeted Funding

In 2019, the federal government allocated a \$1.2 billion flood mitigation grant to Louisiana—providing an unprecedented opportunity to expedite LWI efforts.

Guided by a federally approved Action Plan, the funds support planning, regional capacity building, data collection, modeling and projects focused on reducing flood risk statewide.





# LWI Guiding Principles

The state launched LWI in 2018 guided by four key principles:

Implementing tools, building computer models and collecting data to empower regions to make decisions based on science and engineering

Taking a regional approach to flood mitigation, based on natural watersheds, not political boundaries

Providing regional organizational and governmental structures to drive local decision making

Supporting comprehensive, holistic solutions that involve not just projects but also policies that reduce flood risk

# LWI Application



## Using scientific tools and data

- Worked with technical experts, federal partners, academic institutions and local stakeholders to create **seven regional models** of Louisiana's watershed
- Allocated \$15M to **install a river and rain gauge network** to provide enhanced statewide coverage in the real time and support the development of Louisiana's watershed models

## Enabling transparent, objective decision-making

- Utilized **regional steering committees** and **stakeholder engagement** to drive project prioritization
- Required **quantified project benefits and impacts** for project selection for CDBG-MIT funding
- Continued to **develop tools, such as the LWI models**, to support this goal

# LWI Application



## Maximizing the natural function of floodplains

- Funded projects that harness natural features to reduce flood risk
- Provided training and technical resources to advance understanding and adoption of nature-based solutions
- Supported the development of the NBS Tool to quantify benefits and measure performance on our natural environment

## Establishing regional, watershed-based management of flood risk

- Provided regional capacity building grants designed to help the state's nine watershed regions build capacity for regional watershed management
- Collected regional steering committees recommendations to guide long-term regional watershed management and create a statewide framework for flood risk reduction
- Continuously supporting strategies for funding watershed management and flood risk reduction

# PRO Louisiana

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## Professional Resilience Occupations (PRO)

PRO Louisiana is a workforce development program that funds training courses for occupations critical to the state's flood recovery and resilience efforts. The goal is to develop a skilled statewide workforce that will support the state's flood risk reduction projects and build up Louisiana's long-term resilience.



# PRO Louisiana

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In partnership with the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, PRO Louisiana courses offer training for Heavy Equipment Operations and Commercial Driver's License

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## Colleges Offering PRO Louisiana Courses

- Baton Rouge Community College
- Central Louisiana Technical College
- Louisiana Delta Community College
- Northshore Technical Community College
- Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College
- South Louisiana Community College
- Bossier Parish Community College
- River Parish Community College
- SOWELA Technical Community College

# PRO Louisiana – Earthmoving Ceremony



Program Launch, Lacombe Campus  
NTCC staff

# Program Implementation



Northshore Technical Community College



# Program Implementation



Northshore Technical Community College



# Program Implementation



Central Louisiana Technical College



# Program Implementation



Northwest Louisiana Technical Community College

**SHREVEPORT CAMPUS**

**NORTHWEST**  
LOUISIANA TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE



**HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR WITH NCCER CORE**

**CLASS SCHEDULE:**  
MONDAY - FRIDAY  
8:00AM - 5:00PM

**PROGRAM COST:**  
\$4,950

**SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE**

**PRO** PROFESSIONAL RESILIENCE OCCUPATIONS

318.676.7811 | [geraldjoshua@nlccc.edu](mailto:geraldjoshua@nlccc.edu)

**GAIN SKILLS IN A HIGH DEMAND FIELD IN AS LITTLE AS 9 WEEKS!**

The heavy equipment operator program includes instruction on safety, introduction to the Trade, Identification of Heavy Equipment, Basic Operational Techniques and Introduction to Earth Moving. Students will earn NCCER certifications.

**SPACE IS LIMITED!**

Classes begin at the NLCCC Shreveport Campus on Sept. 12, 2022



# Program Implementation



Louisiana Delta Community College





# Program Implementation

Louisiana Delta Community College

**LOUISIANA DELTA**  
WORKFORCE

## HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

WITH NCCER CORE

**BASTROP CAMPUS**

UPCOMING CLASS DATES  
JANUARY 9TH - FEBRUARY 3RD  
MARCH 13TH - APRIL 6TH  
MAY 15TH - JUNE 16TH

CLASS SCHEDULE  
MONDAY - FRIDAY  
8 A.M. - 5 P.M.

COST: \$1,870

SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE





**Louisiana Office of  
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Disaster Recovery**

**Thank You**

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