

**Resources for Small Businesses**  
**Louisiana Association of Business & Industry**  
[www.labi.org](http://www.labi.org)

Responding to the tremendous desire of the business community across the United States to help with the hurricane disaster relief effort, the Louisiana Association of Business & Industry (LABI), with the assistance of the Baton Rouge Area Foundation, has established the Small Business Disaster Relief Fund.

The Small Business Disaster Relief Fund has been designed to provide grants to help small businesses damaged by Hurricane Katrina get back into business as soon as possible. The grants will serve as gap funding to cover expenses not covered by insurance in order to bring as many enterprises as possible back on line quickly.

LABI began accepting grant applications for the Small Business Disaster Relief Fund on September 15, 2005. Applications may be downloaded from the LABI Web site at [www.labi.org](http://www.labi.org). Completed applications should be mailed to Small Business Disaster Relief Fund/BRAF, PO Box 80752, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-0752.

All applications will be handled anonymously to ensure total fairness in the grant selection process. Volunteers from the CPA Society, local bar association, and Independent Insurance Agents Association have been recruited to screen the applications.

To be eligible for a grant, an applicant must be an owner or principal in a for-profit, private sector business that had fewer than 100 employees on August 29, 2005. Any affected business in a parish or county designated as a primary disaster relief area by the federal government will be eligible to apply for a grant. The business must have suffered substantial losses or the potential of long-term business interruption as a direct result of Hurricane Katrina.