## State of Louisiana

State Licensing Board for Contractors

JOHN BEL EDWARDS GOVERNOR



MICHAEL B. MCDUFF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## Louisiana recognized for Innovation in Regulation

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Baton Rouge, LA** –The Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC) was awarded the 2017 *Innovation in Regulation Award* from the National Association of State Contractors Licensing Agencies (NASCLA) on August 30, 2017, at the association's 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference in Denver, Colorado.

NASCLA created this national award to recognize a state member who has showcased innovation, creativity and excellence for the purpose of maintaining fair and balanced regulation of the construction industry. Michael McDuff, Executive Director with the Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors, and William Seaman, Director of Workforce Alignment for the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS), accepted the award.

In early 2016, the Louisiana Economic Development (LED), Louisiana State Licensing Board for Contractors (LSLBC) and Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS) identified a need to assist small construction companies with building a solid foundation for business growth and success. Through their joint efforts, these agencies formed the Louisiana Contractors Accreditation Institute (LCAI). This innovative program was designed to help Louisiana's small businesses prepare for the business and law portion of the contractors' exam, while building a better understanding of the construction industry. Topics covered included the bid process; contract management; estimating; equipment management; occupational safety; risk management; bonding; financial and business management among others.

Through live, interactive distance learning at 13 locations throughout the state, LCAI has produced 243 and 149 graduates in both the fall of 2016 and spring of 2017 courses. The success of this program is a product of the strong collaboration and communication within the partnership, the leveraging of technology, and a considerable demand for this particular subject matter.

"The Louisiana Contractors Accreditation Institute is an outstanding example of teamwork and partnership" stated Michael McDuff, Executive Director, of LSLBC.

For more information on LSLBC, visit www.lacontractor.org.

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