



For Immediate Release:
May 1, 2025

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LDEQ PARTNERS WITH SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY FOR GREEN LAB INITIATIVE

BATON ROUGE, LA — The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ) is proud to announce a dynamic new partnership with Southern University and A&M College (Southern University) through the university's *Generating Resources for Environmental Excellence Network toward Leadership and Advancement Building Lab* (GREEN LAB) Internship Initiative.

Through this collaborative program, LDEQ will host Southern University student interns as part of a hands-on, immersive experience designed to prepare students for meaningful careers in environmental science, policy, and sustainability. Students will work alongside LDEQ staff across multiple divisions, gaining direct experience with environmental remediation projects, Underground Storage Tanks (UST) compliance, site data management, and the development of interactive GIS mapping tools.



Programs like GREEN LAB provide an essential bridge between academic excellence and real-world application. This partnership between LDEQ and Southern University advances efforts to build a stronger, more innovative workforce dedicated to solving Louisiana's environmental challenges. **Governor Jeff Landry** is a former student of Southern University Law Center.

LDEQ Secretary Aurelia S. Giacometto, a proud graduate of Howard University in Washington, DC, applauds the endeavor with Southern University, another prestigious Historically Black College and University (HBCU) of Louisiana, as one example of the agency's efforts to open doors for talented young people.

Secretary Giacometto stated, "LDEQ's partnership with Southern University reflects a deep commitment to building the environmental workforce of tomorrow while advancing real solutions for Louisiana's environmental challenges today. We are excited to welcome these students from a prestigious HBCU into our organization and provide them with opportunities to become future leaders in environmental protection."

“Southern University is proud to join with LDEQ to provide our students with access to transformative, real-world experiences,” **said Southern University President Dennis J. Shields**. “The GREEN LAB program exemplifies our university’s mission to cultivate leadership, service, and innovation. Together, we are equipping the next generation with the tools they need to lead in sustainability and environmental stewardship.”

The Southern University student interns will support LDEQ’s Remediation Division by collecting and entering data related to contaminated sites — such as acreage, remediation phases, and chemical constituents — while also working with the Office of Technology Services (OTS) to visualize that information through the ArcGIS program. In the UST Division, students will conduct compliance reviews and assist with inspection follow-ups, developing their regulatory and technical skills in the field.

The partnership between LDEQ and Southern University represents an exciting opportunity not just for students and State government, but for communities throughout Louisiana that will benefit from stronger environmental stewardship and a more resilient workforce for the future.

To learn more about LDEQ internship opportunities and environmental programs, visit www.deq.louisiana.gov.

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About the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality

LDEQ is dedicated to serving the people of Louisiana by providing comprehensive environmental protection to promote and protect health, safety, and welfare.
