



# State of Louisiana

Division of Administration  
Office of the Commissioner

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## Office of State Procurement Receives Honors for Lean Six Sigma Project

**BATON ROUGE** – Today, the Division of Administration and the Office of State Procurement (OSP) highlighted several honors awarded to the state recognizing OSP's Lean Six Sigma project. The State of Louisiana has recently completed a business transformation of OSP which began in 2013. The transformation reduced the cost of procuring goods and services statewide using the Lean Six Sigma improvement methodology and was executed by a team of state professionals, both internal and external to the DOA and OSP.

Key components of the project included the centralization of Executive Branch agencies' procurement staffs into OSP and the implementation of LEAN management principles and processes, the implementation of an electronic workflow system statewide, and increased buying options for small purchases.

This information was submitted through the member groups National Association of State Procurement Officers (NASPO) and National Institute of Government Purchasing (NIGP) and resulted in Louisiana receiving the National Procurement Institute's Award of Excellence in Procurement for 2015. In addition, OSP's Lean Six Sigma project and other State innovations culminated in the State's Chief Administrative Officer being awarded the National Association of State Chief Administrators (NASCA) 2015 Award for Innovations in State Government in the Category of General Services.

Commissioner of Administration Kristy Nichols said, "Being presented with these awards is truly an honor. I'm so proud of the hard work that we have done through our Lean Six Sigma project to consolidate, streamline, and in general improve the way that we do business and provide services. Louisiana is being recognized for our innovative and effective governing methods."

Jan Cassidy, Assistant Commissioner for Procurement, said, "These awards reflect the tireless efforts of our purchasing officers and staff to improve how the State procures the goods and services needed to serve the public. I appreciate the teamwork of every member of the Office of State Procurement, as well as the cooperation of partner state agencies and the support of Commissioner Nichols. By working together, we're improving the procurement process for state agencies, vendors, and taxpayers."

The state of Louisiana is a member of both NASPO and NASCA, and OSP's staff is active in NIGP. NASCA established the Innovations in State Government Awards program to recognize state administration department programs that exemplify best practices. The State also received an honorable mention for the 2015 George Cronin Award for Procurement Excellence which is presented by NASPO.

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