LOUISVILLE RIVERPORT AUTHORITY

FTZ 29 NAFTZ Membership Benefit Program

PROGRAM FRAMEWORK

Overview

The Louisville & Jefferson County Riverport Authority (LRA), as Grantee of Foreign-Trade Zone No. 29 (FTZ 29), has established a membership benefit program providing eligible FTZ 29 operators access to the National Association of Foreign-Trade Zones (NAFTZ). The program will be administered by LRA in coordination with NAFTZ under a Memorandum of Understanding.

The initiative is intended to strengthen operator education, regulatory compliance, industry engagement, and access to Foreign-Trade Zone resources. Increased participation in NAFTZ will support informed operators, stronger compliance practices, and continued implementation of recognized FTZ best practices throughout FTZ 29.

Purpose

The program is designed to reduce barriers to meaningful participation in the national FTZ community while directing LRA resources toward education and professional engagement that benefit FTZ 29 operations. It complements LRA's grantee oversight role by expanding operator access to current regulatory information, training, peer resources, and industry best practices.

Program Structure

For the initial 2027 membership year, eligible operators may receive one of the following benefits, subject to annual funding availability and LRA program guidelines:

- An operator that does not currently maintain an NAFTZ membership may receive an LRA-funded NAFTZ Designated Membership. Under the initial LRA–NAFTZ program arrangement, the LRA-paid cost is $1,100.
- An operator that already maintains an NAFTZ membership may elect either:
  - one Additional Member for a company representative, at an initial LRA-paid cost of $250;
  - or up to $1,100 in LRA support toward attendance at an NAFTZ in-person educational event or conference.

Event support may be provided through direct payment by LRA or reimbursement to the operator, as administratively appropriate, and will require documentation sufficient for LRA to verify the eligible expense and participation.

Eligibility and Annual Enrollment

Eligibility, annual enrollment, renewals, required certifications, and other administrative requirements will be established and administered by LRA consistent with the FTZ 29 Zone Schedule and the LRA–NAFTZ Memorandum of Understanding. LRA and NAFTZ will coordinate annual enrollment and membership administration.

Engagement Standard

A participating operator must earn a minimum of six (6) engagement points during each full membership year. Qualifying engagement may include participation in NAFTZ conferences and educational programs, live or recorded webinars, committee service, the NAFTZ Mentor Program, service as a speaker or moderator, and other qualifying NAFTZ activities recognized under the program.

NAFTZ will verify participation that can be confirmed from its records. LRA may accept supplemental documentation from an operator when appropriate. LRA may prorate the annual engagement requirement for partial-year participation and may approve reasonable exceptions in administering the program.

Program Administration

LRA will administer operator eligibility, benefit elections, funding approvals, and overall program compliance. NAFTZ will support membership enrollment, invoicing, participation verification, and other administrative functions established in the Memorandum of Understanding.

LRA and NAFTZ will review the program periodically, including participation levels, engagement, program costs, membership rates, and administrative performance, to inform future membership cycles and any recommended adjustments.

Performance Measures

LRA will evaluate program effectiveness using measures that may include:

- Number and percentage of eligible operators participating in the program.
- Annual membership enrollment and renewal rates.
- Participation in NAFTZ educational programs, webinars, conferences, committees, and other qualifying activities.
- Operator feedback regarding the value of the program and educational resources.
- Evidence of increased engagement with FTZ compliance, training, and industry best practices.

Funding

Funding for the FTZ 29 NAFTZ Membership Benefit Program is subject to LRA's approved annual budget and the availability of funds. LRA may establish annual funding limits, participation priorities, and other administrative guidelines necessary to administer the program equitably and within the approved budget.

Implementation Timeline

LRA will formally announce the NAFTZ Membership Benefit Program on Sunday, October 18, 2026, in conjunction with the NAFTZ Annual Conference in San Diego. The program will support NAFTZ memberships for eligible FTZ #29 operators beginning with the year 2027 membership. Enrollment information and instructions for participating operators will be distributed following the announcement.