

News Release



Virginia Chapter

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Virginia Receives High Marks for Construction Business Climate Based on ABC's Merit Shop Scorecard

Dulles, VA, Nov. 28 – Associated Builders and Contractors released its annual Merit Shop Scorecard today, ranking Virginia as a state with an exemplary business environment for merit shop construction contractors. The ranking rates states on policies and programs that encourage open competition, education and job growth, and award construction contracts based solely on merit, regardless of labor affiliation.

Virginia ranked number two overall based on nonuse of Project Labor Agreements and no Prevailing Wage, along with Right to Work, Public-Private Partnerships, Workforce Development Incentives and Career & Technical Education.

Virginia policymakers have built an environment that allows merit shop construction contractors to thrive,” said Patrick Dean, president, ABC Virginia Chapter. “By prioritizing policies that support small business owners, the American worker and the overall construction sector, Virginia is spurring economic growth across the Commonwealth, which directly leads to more construction projects and more construction jobs for Virginia residents.

Virginia's 2018 Scorecard

Overall Rank: 2
Project Labor Agreement Policy: A
Prevailing Wage Mandates: A
Right to Work: A
Public-Private Partnerships: A
Construction Job Growth Rate: B
Workforce Development Incentives: A
Career and Technical Education: A

[Building America: The Merit Shop Scorecard](http://meritshopscorecard.org) rates state laws, programs, policies and statistics to highlight those that have created the conditions for growth and identify areas where strategic improvements are needed. Criteria and definitions are available at meritshopscorecard.org.

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About Associated Builders and Contractors: The Virginia Chapter of ABC represent the interests of nearly 1,000 contractors, specialty contractors, and suppliers throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia that supports and believes in the principles of merit shop construction and open competition. Merit Shop is a way of doing business in which companies' reward employees based on performance and encourage them to reach their highest level of achievement, and in which contracts are awarded based on safety, quality, and value, regardless of labor affiliation. An open marketplace creates efficient, cost-competitive projects, safe work sites, comparable wages and workforce training. For more information, visit our website at www.abcva.org. Follow us on Twitter [@ABCVA](https://twitter.com/ABCVA).