

ARDOT Newsletter

January 2024



SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

- Construction Management Program
- Business Development Program
- Capability Statement Design
- Business Plan Development
- Technical Assistance



ABC: Arkansas Excels in Creating Favorable Construction Business Environment

Associated Builders and Contractors recently released its ninth annual [Merit Shop Scorecard](#), rating Arkansas as a state with a strong business environment for merit shop construction contractors. Ranking No. 3 out of 51 states, Arkansas rated highly due to favorable state laws, policies and programs that build the next generation of construction professionals and create an open competition approach to the construction industry.

The scorecard, released annually since 2015, ranks all 50 states and the District of Columbia based on policies and programs that strengthen career pathways in construction, encourage workforce development and advocate for fair and open competition on taxpayer-funded construction projects. “Commonsense conditions, policies and educational systems, like those in Arkansas, are vital in creating quality infrastructure built safely, efficiently and effectively for taxpayers,” said Bill Roachell, ABC Arkansas Chapter President. “The construction industry is facing a skilled labor shortage of [more than half a million](#) people and anti-competitive policies only exacerbate the industry’s labor shortage even further. Taxpayers are best served by policy and educational priorities that create a level playing field for all contractors to compete. As ABC’s Merit Shop Scorecard has demonstrated, by emphasizing the benefits of free enterprise and pro-business policies, Arkansas lawmakers have created the conditions for a healthy construction industry.”

[Read More →](#)

Making Workers' Compensation Work Better for Your Workforce

A construction site can be a hive of activity. It's one reason why construction is one of the [most dangerous industries](#). According to the [2023 Travelers Injury Impact Report](#), the construction industry has the highest average of missed workdays per injury: 99. Construction employees are exposed to various hazards on the job. Injuries such as cuts, burns, sprains and strains can result in lost work time, reduced productivity, increased medical expenses and costly workers' compensation claims.

For minor injuries, a visit to a hospital emergency department may not be the best solution. And based on the time of day or location of a worksite, urgent care might not be an option. Many of these injury types can be treated virtually using telemedicine, a technology that allows health care providers to communicate with patients via video, phone or online platforms. Telemedicine visits can be conducted using an employee's smartphone or mobile device. Today's mobile device and smartphone features are sophisticated enough to offer an exceptional video and audio experience, and constant upgrades to these devices enable health care providers to effectively conduct medical evaluations virtually.

TREATABLE CONDITIONS

Telemedicine can be used to treat a variety of minor injuries and illnesses that commonly occur on construction sites, such as:

Minor strains (e.g., pulled muscles)

Minor sprains

Bruises/contusions

Tendonitis/repetitive-use injuries

Minor burns

Minor cuts and scrapes

Work-related rashes

About The ARDOT

The goal of the DBE Supportive Services Program is to increase the number of DBEs participating on ARDOT contracts and facilitate the opportunity for DBEs to obtain contracts. The services are designed to:

- Assist established construction firms to move them from bidding as a subcontractor to bidding as a Prime Contractor to produce sound bids.
- Provide access to training increases DBE expertise in handling of daily business operations.



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