



April 14, 2021

What does AGC/VT do to increase the workforce in Vermont?

- Lobbied in support of H.533 which created pathways for new Americans to join the workforce, creates programs to deal with barriers to employment and had construction added to the list of Department of Labor can work with.
- Annually invests over \$25,000 into a construction promotional material distributed to schools, \$10,000 in scholarships, and a half a full-time position dedicated to workforce development.
- Regularly participates in job fairs, speaking presentations at schools, parent forums and educational programs such as the Skills USA competition.
- Continually creating alliances with groups dedicated to building the workforce including Vermont Technical College, Career Technical Centers, and others.
- Has begun early talks with multiple groups in and out of government to welcome and help newly arriving Americans become employed by creating opportunities for sponsorship, housing, training, ESL training and community integration.
- AGC has also expanded its educational opportunities from just safety to worker development. Working with Department of Labor and employer resource centers we have developed leadership programs, blueprint reading and are developing credentialing programs so that new workers will have a pathway from entry level to a long-term career.
- Was a founding member of the Vermont Construction Career Council and the first NCCER (National Center for Construction Education & Research) certified training program, facility, and trainers. NCCER aims to create pathways to the construction career ladder through education.
- Were proudly one of the first industries not deemed “essential” to return to work within 4 weeks of the Stay Home Stay Safe order by producing the first approved exposure mitigation plan which has now been modelled for other industries and provided training to over 2500 supervisors and fore-people to train their companies.

What can the legislature do for us?

- Provide grants to organizations who can prove their qualifications, impacts on worker populations, and already invest capital in workforce development.
- Identify opportunities to better target grants by identifying duplication of services between competing organizations.
- Help develop cultures in education that encourage people to consider the trades much earlier than the last two years of high school.

www.agcvt.org/workforce-development