

NEWS RELEASE



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Build Your Future - Build Missouri Established to Help Close the Construction Skills Gap

ALACHUA, Fla. — With over 100,000 craft professionals needed in Missouri in the next three years, Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Missouri Education Foundation partnered with Build Your Future to make an impact on the skilled workforce shortage. [Build Missouri](#) aims to educate Missouri residents about training opportunities and career paths to lucrative employment in high demand occupations in the construction industry.

“With the need to attract new craftworkers into the Missouri construction market, we knew we needed a platform to enhance the image of industry careers and Build Missouri helps us address those concerns,” said David Volk, chair of the AGC of Missouri Education Foundation.

As 70 percent of jobs need a certification, credential or craft training — something less than a four-year degree — the construction industry provides meaningful careers with high salaries and little-to-no debt. Build Missouri outlines training and apprenticeship programs throughout Missouri, provides details about craft salaries and connects job seekers with employers.

To make as much of a difference as possible, Build Missouri is focusing on three main areas:

1. Shift the public’s perception about careers in the construction industry and inform the public about career paths and advancement opportunities in skilled craft professions.
2. Make career and technical education a priority in high schools and available to any who want to enter the construction workforce.
3. Provide a path from interest to training to job placement as a skilled craft professional.

Build Missouri’s goals are to recruit the next generation of craft professionals, promote craft careers and facilitate training. As Missouri’s construction industry expands, organizations using these resources will be able to help work toward closing the skills gap among the state’s craft workforce.

While BYF resources are available for any organization, BYF partners have the ability to customize material with their own branding and information, which can contribute greatly to the success of their individual state campaigns. For more information on partnering with BYF, please visit byf.org.

About Build Your Future – *Build Your Future (BYF) is a national image enhancement and recruitment initiative for the construction industry. Its mission is to recruit the next generation of craft professionals by making career and technical education a priority in secondary schools, shifting negative public perception about careers in the construction industry and providing a path from ambition, to training, to*

job placement as a craft professional. BYF provides a number of resources to assist industry, education and military organizations in achieving these goals. For more information, visit byf.org.

About the Associated General Contractors of Missouri: *The Associated General Contractors of Missouri (AGCMO) represents and serves construction contractors and industry-related companies dedicated to skill, integrity and responsibility. AGCMO provides all members with a range of services to help their businesses and works with the community it serves to build a strong, positive construction business climate. For more information, visit agcmo.org.*

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