



February 2, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden Jr.
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

On behalf of Associated Builders and Contractors, a national construction industry trade association with 69 chapters representing more than 21,000 members, congratulations on your election as the 46th president of the United States. We also congratulate Vice President Kamala Harris on her historic election.

ABC looks forward to working with the Biden administration to advance policies that keep workplaces safe and healthy, rebuild America's infrastructure, create jobs for all Americans and help the U.S. economy continue to rebound from the COVID-19 crisis. The construction industry is in a unique position to help build America's comeback, featuring careers with low barriers to entry, infinite opportunities for growth and family-sustaining salaries for people from all backgrounds and education levels, including women, minorities, veterans, students, non-graduates, and people seeking new careers, re-entry to the workforce or a second chance.

ABC delivers construction education through 800 ABC education programs at 1,400 locations nationwide, including innovative and flexible earn-while-you-learn models and industry-recognized apprenticeships in more than 50 professions—plus more than 300 U.S. Department of Labor-registered apprenticeship programs across 20 different occupations.

In 2019 alone, ABC members invested \$1.5 billion to educate and upskill more than 1.1 million course attendees in craft, leadership and safety education to advance their careers in commercial and industrial construction. Safety education accounted for nearly half of the total workforce investment, averaging \$1,147 per employee annually. Ensuring the safety and health of the construction workforce in the workplace will continue to be a top priority as we build America's hospitals, schools, manufacturing facilities, roads, bridges and power plants.

With respect to an infrastructure bill, our organization stands ready to advocate for policy ideas rooted in free enterprise that will foster open competition amongst the best contractors, and result in more quality construction projects, jobs and opportunities for small businesses, minorities and women in the construction industry.

ABC will be a constructive partner with the Biden administration as we tackle America's many challenges head-on together and put in the hard work to defeat COVID-19, fix our broken immigration system, rebuild America's crumbling infrastructure and lead America's economic recovery. We look forward to continued dialogue with your administration and welcome the opportunity to discuss your economic policy agenda in greater detail in the coming weeks.

Regards,

Michael D. Bellaman