

Women in Construction Trending Upward

By Kaiya Barrett

ConstructConnect's support of the construction industry is largely a service to the boots on the ground, managers, and contractors putting plans into action. Women have a huge part in leading a new generation of construction game changers. While the narrative around who represents the future of construction has seen little to no change for years, there is now a steady uptick of women entering and advancing in the industry.

According to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and published by the *Washington Post*, women make up 14 percent of the construction industry workforce in the United States, with Hispanic women contributing heavily to that jump. Additionally, women in the United States made up 4.2 percent of trade workers and front-line supervisors in 2022, and in Canada, they make up 5 percent of trades and 13 percent of the entire construction industry.

We recognize the impact of women in construction and acknowledge the difference

gender equality makes in all industries. The road to change is bumpy, but there are areas in which we can begin to see a shift.

Organizations like the National Association of Women in Construction are fierce advocates for women in construction with strong dedication to career growth and development. With the twenty-fifth annual celebration of Women in Construction Week, NAWIC is highlighting this year's theme of Many Paths, One Mission, and the career journeys taken by women to help evolve the face of construction.

Women in the Trades

The picture of a man wearing a hard hat on a construction site is typical and not a complete representation. The pandemic and the ongoing construction labor shortage have led to more women entering the trades. There's still much work to do with the recruitment, training, and retention of women in construction trades, weighing heavily on the following:

• Changing Attitudes. Unfortunately, many young people are not looking at construction trade jobs as respectable career paths, but there are signs



that the tide is changing. Whether you want to become a construction manager, welder, plumber, electrician, or HVAC tech, the labor shortage has left many jobs unfilled. Qualified skilled women laborers are stepping up to the plate and helping

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NORTHEAST EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS





SBA and SOS Monthly Webinar Thursday, April 6, 2023, 9:00 am-11:00 am Online

Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration, New Hampshire Secretary of State Corporation Division

Contact: Miguel Moralez, 603-225-1601, miguel.moralez@sba.gov

Fee: Free; registration required Starting a new business? Looking

Starting a new business? Looking for capital and finance options? Looking for general advice on starting or maintaining your business? Hear from representatives from the local SBA office and the New Hampshire Secretary of State Corporation Division. This workshop (currently held online during the pandemic) is offered on the first Thursday of every month. To join this free webinar, copy and paste the link below into your browser, then register for tickets for the date of your choice to receive the access code. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/secretary-ofstate-quickstart-and-small-business-administration-programs-tickets-262004180557

Federal Contracting: Veteran Small Business Certification Program Webinar Monday, April 17, 2023, 1:00 pm–2:00 pm Online Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administra

Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration Contact: Jo Eckert, 319-362-6405, jo.eckert@sba.gov Fee: Free; registration required

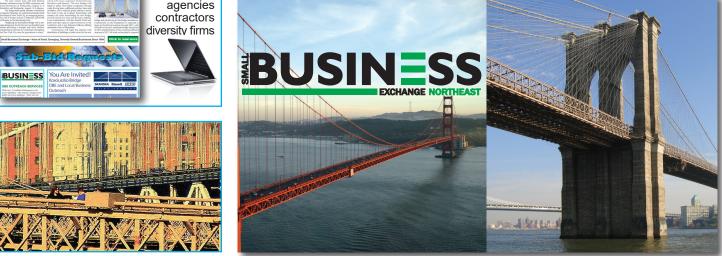
Learn about SBA's new Veteran Small Business Certification program. Certification has been transferred from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Certification with SBA allows service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses (SDVOSBs) to compete for sole-source and set-aside federal contracts across the federal government. Certified veteran-owned small businesses (VOSBs) have additional opportunities to pursue sole-source and set-aside contracts at the Veterans Administration (VA) under the VA's Vets First program. Register at https://www. eventbrite.com/e/veteran-small-business-certification-vetcert-program-tickets-580691793787

Selling to the Federal Government Webinar Thursday, April 27, 2023, 1:00 pm-4:00 pm Online

Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration Contact: George Tapia, 610-382-3086, george.tapia@sba.gov

Fee: Free; registration required

Did you know that the federal government is the largest purchaser of goods and services in the world? Interested in learning how your business can market your services or goods to the federal government? Register on line at https://www. eventbrite.com/e/how-to-sell-to-the-federalgovernment-tickets-21790713611 SBA helps to ensure small businesses get fair opportunities to share federal government prime contracts. Topics will include: How to Register, Small Business Certifications, Finding Opportunities, Marketing Your Firm, Federal Supply Schedules, Getting Paid, Tips to Prepare Your Offer, How to Seek Additional Assistance. All training sessions are held via Microsoft Teams Meeting. Participants must ensure Microsoft Teams is functioning.



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