

Business Facilities' 16th Annual Rankings: State Rankings Report

Business Facilities didn't let the COVID-19 crisis skew the results in our 16th annual rankings report: They remain the most credible and comprehensive location leaderboards.

July 29, 2020



Workforce Development/Talent Attraction	
1	LOUISIANA
2	ALABAMA
3	VIRGINIA
4	GEORGIA
5	TENNESSEE
6	TEXAS
7	FLORIDA
8	NORTH CAROLINA
9	NEW MEXICO
10	COLORADO

STILL NO. 1 NO MATTER WHAT IT'S CALLED

This year, we've renamed our flagship Workforce Training category to better reflect the multi-tasking that is now required from state workforce development programs: henceforth, this ranking will be known as Workforce Development/Talent Attraction.

As it has for the past decade, Louisiana Economic Development's FastStart program remains the gold standard for customized workforce development and talent attraction. LED FastStart pioneered the use of iPads and other digital platforms to provide real-time training tools.

Virginia surged into third place in our annual workforce training and recruitment sweepstakes, putting down a marker that it intends to go toe-to-toe with workforce development leaders Louisiana and Alabama. Earlier this year, VA unveiled the Virginia Talent Accelerator Program, delivered by the Virginia Economic Development Partnership in partnership with the Virginia Community College System.

Virginia's Talent Accelerator provides training and recruitment solutions that are fully customized to a company's unique operations, equipment, standards and culture. All program services are provided at no cost to qualified new and expanding companies as an incentive for job creation.

Customized, job-specific training services are designed and delivered using methodologies and media determined to be most effective for accelerating learning in each topic. These can include hands-on training, simulations, broadcast-quality videos, illustrated work instructions, instructor-led classroom sessions, animations and e-learning modules. All company-specific materials developed during the project become the property of the client and all proprietary information is protected by a non-disclosure agreement.

Recruitment services offered by the Virginia program can include localized company- and job-specific recruiting web pages, applicant tracking, video job descriptions, quality of life videos, high-potential candidate identification and social media outreach. VA's recruitment effort goes the extra mile to ensure good matches between employers and potential employees, with pre-employment training of job candidates.