West Virginia’s aerospace industry is fueled by an array of advantages.

**AVAILABILITY OF RAW MATERIALS**

West Virginia manufacturers provide the aerospace industry access to raw materials such as **aluminum, alloys, metals** and **composites**.

**DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE**

**AIRCRAFT VALUATION:** Aircraft owned or leased by commercial airlines, charter carriers, private carriers and private companies are valued for property tax purposes at the lower of fair market salvage value or 5% of the original cost of the property.

**AIRCRAFT VALUATION, SPECIAL AIRCRAFT PROPERTY:** All aircraft owned or leased by commercial airlines or private carriers, or any parts, materials or items used in the construction, maintenance or repair of an aircraft which are, or are intended to become, affixed to or a part of an aircraft or of an aircraft’s engine or of any other component of an aircraft will be valued at “salvage value” or 5% of original cost, whichever is the lesser amount.

**ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY CREDIT:** For qualified companies that create at least 20 new jobs within specified time limits (10 jobs in the case of qualified small businesses) as a result of their business expansion projects, the State’s Economic Opportunity Tax Credit can offset up to 80% of the corporate net income tax and personal income tax (on flow through income only) attributable to qualified investment. If a qualified company that creates the requisite number of jobs pays an annual median wage higher than the statewide average non-farm payroll wage, then the qualified company can offset up to 100% of the corporate net income tax and personal income tax (on flow through income only) attributable to qualified investment.

**MANUFACTURING INVESTMENT CREDIT:** A tax credit is allowed against up to 60% of corporate net income tax and based on qualified investment in eligible manufacturing property, with no new job creation required.

**MANUFACTURING SALES TAX EXEMPTION:** Purchases of materials and equipment for direct use in manufacturing are exempt from the 6% state sales and use tax and 1% municipal sales tax, including building materials and process equipment purchased for construction of a manufacturing facility.

**ACCESS TO LABOR**

Just off the I-79 High Tech Corridor, the **ROBERT C. BYRD NATIONAL AEROSPACE EDUCATION CENTER** offers an associate degree in aviation maintenance technology and bachelor’s degrees in aviation technology and aviation administration.

The **WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY MECHANICAL AND AEROSPACE ENGINEERING** program provides students with degrees through the doctorate level to prepare workers for careers in the aerospace industry and in government research, as well as in military mission-oriented agencies.

**HQ AERO MANAGEMENT INC.**, located in Bridgeport, W.Va, offers the aviation community personnel assistance and access to skilled technicians.

**STRATEGIC LOCATION**

West Virginia offers a close proximity to original equipment manufacturers.