Located within driving distance to established sectors, contractors and agencies...

West Virginia’s defense industry

Availability of raw materials

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

Access to labor

West Virginia’s proximity to major metropolitan areas makes it an excellent location to produce military and defense products and technologies.

- West Virginia’s network of highways, railways and rivers connect us to surrounding states.
- The Mountain State is within a day’s drive of 34% of the top domestic purchasing sectors, defense contractors and federal agencies.
- West Virginia’s proximity to Washington, D.C., makes it a prime location for defense centers close to our nation’s capital.

WVNDIA

The West Virginia National Defense Industrial Association (WVNDIA) provides additional support for the defense industry to grow and thrive in West Virginia. The West Virginia chapter, WVNDIA, supports national security by growing and enhancing the defense industry and federal contracting in West Virginia through networking, collaboration and increasing opportunities for business development.

DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

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 ($55,800 for 2020), 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.

For qualified businesses creating less than 20 new jobs within specified time limits, or for a qualified small business creating less than 10 new jobs, a $3,000 credit is allowed per new full-time job for five years, providing the new job pays at least $37,950 per year (for 2020) and the employee has employer provided health insurance benefits. The $37,950 figure is adjusted annually for cost of living.

Qualified businesses include only those engaged in the activities of manufacturing, information processing, warehousing, non-retail goods distribution, qualified research and development, the relocation of a corporate headquarters, or destination-oriented recreation and tourism.

Manufacturing Investment Credit: A tax credit is allowed for businesses having a NAICS code prefix of 31, 32 or 33, 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.
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