



2023-2024 ACCO Annual Report

Mission: *To provide advocacy, education, professional development, and valuable services to our members and the HVACR industry.*

Chipping Away at Progress / Ohio Convention + Expo / March 27-29

Held at Cherry Valley Hotel in Newark, the Ohio Convention + Expo, themed "Chipping Away at Progress," took place from March 27-29, featuring opening night festivities, 10 CEU classes, including a keynote by Chaz Billington. Attendees experienced a dynamic event aimed at advancing industry knowledge and fostering valuable connections.

ADVOCACY

This is one of the most important benefits you might not know is taking place. ACCO, along with our lobbyists, are constantly reviewing, submitting requests, making recommendations, and giving (legal) opinions to ensure the best business climate for our members. We work for you by interacting with elected officials and government agencies daily to keep ahead of issues that will affect you and your business.

Ohio Legislative Day After a 3-year break, ACCO and PHCC Ohio held our legislative event on June 6. More than 25 contractors came together for a day of impactful advocacy at the State Capitol. Members met with their state reps and senators, sharing their perspectives on important issues close to our industry. Following our meetings, we gathered for a reception in the Statehouse Museum. Members enjoyed an evening of networking and celebrating our efforts in shaping positive legislative change. Special thanks to The Safety Pro Group for sponsoring our event.

Residential Licensing our residential contractor licensing bill (SB 142) expired at the end of 2023. After meetings with our sponsor Sen. Schaffer and Senate leadership, specifically with Sen. Rob McColley (lead opposition) we have moved from licensing to certification. We also held meetings with various policy think tanks (American Legislative Exchange Council and State Policy Network) that oppose occupational licensing of any kind.

After several months, our draft bill is ready to be introduced! Many of our suggestions/ideas will be included in the contractor certification bill. We asked that the bill include an application (with fee), continuing education, a 5-year renewal period and proof of liability insurance.

Monitored Legislation throughout the year, we tracked and monitored other items receiving attention by the legislature. Some of these included HB 68 Contractor Payments, HB 304 Smoke Alarms, SB 166 Career Tech Training and SB 47 Overtime Pay Requirements, SB 64 Roofing Contractors Registration and HB 88 Roofing Contractor's Licensure, SB 116 Unemployment, HB 283/SB 288 Ohio's Distracted Driving Law, HB 33 Ohio's FY24-25 Operating Budget, Right to Repair Legislation *and* Issue 2 (statute to legalize recreational marijuana).

The Ohio General Assembly had its least productive year in terms of passing bills into law since at least 1955. In the first nine months of 2023, only 12 bills passed, with 4 being budget bills mandated by the state constitution. Despite the low numbers, leaders argue that the focus should be on quality rather than quantity of legislation, with budget bills serving as vehicles for various policies. Critics, however, express concern about bills being incorporated into budgets without sufficient debate. The overall decline in legislative productivity is seen as a combination of political polarization, internal party strife, and shifting priorities within the Statehouse.

Ohio PAC 892 is your Political Action Committee. ACCO and PHCC members unite to support the best qualified, pro-business candidates at the state level. Changes in state law or regulations could be detrimental to your business and bottom line. Your contribution to the PAC is an investment in your industry and one of the most affordable options for political involvement. **ACCO and PHCC members raised over \$6,000!** The Specialty Contractors Coalition would like to thank all members who gave generously to the Ohio PAC in 2023

REGULATORY

ACCO attended regular meetings (when held) of the Residential Construction Advisory, the Ohio Board of Building Standards and OCILB.

ACCO reviewed numerous Proposed Changes to 2019 Ohio Residential Code, the Ohio Building, Plumbing and Mechanical Codes.

New Language Being Proposed for Qualifications to take licensing examination. Along with W-2s and permits, contractors looking to sit for the Ohio license exam may include IRS Schedule Cs, a journeyman card, a certificate of completion of apprenticeship from an apprentice program approved by the state of Ohio or the United States Department of Labor, or certificates from a training agency approved by the Board demonstrating completion of 40 hours of continuing education in code for the trade for which the individual is applying, as the appropriate specialty section requires to demonstrate that the individual has spent a majority of the required five-year experience period in the licensed trade for which the individual is applying.

ACCO thinks this approach recognizes and values the various pathways individuals may take to attain expertise in their respective trades. The emphasis on continuous education (40 hours) in code is also noteworthy. This requirement demonstrates a commitment to fostering a culture of lifelong learning among licensed professionals, ensuring they stay abreast of the latest industry developments and best practices.

Agency Follow Up While agency issues are always ongoing, many issues from 2023 will (likely) continue into 2024. Throughout the year, PHCC received questions from around the state on enforcement of multiple regulations, and we provided valuable insight and contacts to help mitigate issues brought to ACCO's attention.

MEMBERSHIP

Current membership stands at 120 Contractors and 14 Associates. ACCO is offering \$100 (regularly \$350) off new membership for 2024.

Increasing our membership base ensures the continued success of our association. More members mean greater support for our initiatives, increased participation in events, and a broader network to draw upon for collaboration and knowledge-sharing. By expanding our membership, we not only strengthen our collective voice but also enhance our ability to serve and support the needs of the HVACR industry.

It's imperative that we invest in our association's future by actively recruiting new members. Together, we can navigate challenges, seize opportunities, and build a stronger, more resilient organization for the benefit of all.

Benefits ACCO continued to promote member only benefits that included: Apprenticeship Program, Federated Insurance, Group Management Services, Payment Processing Consultants, IC Collection Services, ACCO 401k Program, Service Nation, Amerisearch Background Checks, Central Messaging Services, Sedgwick Workers Comp, ACCO Bond Program, ACCO Scholarships, ACCO Safety Lessons, Speedway Fuel Program, ACCO Forum Network, Upstryve License Prep Training, LIG Solutions (health insurance), Alloy Employer Services and Selig Leasing.

Industry Partner Program

The Industry Partner Program gives member companies the opportunity to build name recognition and brand loyalty, reach new customers and sell their products, by providing a comprehensive, year-long period of advertising and marketing to ACCO contractor members.

Elite: Federated Insurance

Pioneer: Habegger Corp., Jackson Systems, Robertson Heating Supply and Sedgwick

Patron: Arzel Zoning Technology

Legislative: Safety Pro Group

COMMUNICATIONS

ACCO Website Continue to visit acchoio.org as more content is added and updated.

Ohio PHC Magazine Ohio PHC is your go-to source for the latest trends, contractor spotlights, and industry insights. Published quarterly and distributed to over 6,000 readers - it's your magazine - designed to keep you informed and inspired in the ever-evolving world of HVAC, plumbing, heating, and cooling.

Social Media social media continues to be a valuable resource to provide updates and information, as well as have members interact with one another.

Facebook: [/ACCAOHIO](https://www.facebook.com/ACCAOHIO)

LinkedIn: [/FRIENDS-ACCA-4528554](https://www.linkedin.com/company/FRIENDS-ACCA-4528554)

Twitter: [@ACCOhio](https://twitter.com/ACCOhio)

EDUCATION

Apprenticeship Program

Our Apprenticeship Program continues to thrive, with 61 apprentices enrolled (49 plumbing / 12 HVAC). Special thanks to contributing members and companies *Hauck Bros, Emergency Plumbing Heating & Air, and Greene's Plumbing, Heating & Electrical.*

Ten (10) apprentices have completed the online program and required 8,000 OJT hours to earn Journeyman status.

David Weaver, Greene's Plumbing (2nd year HVAC) competed in the PHCC national apprenticeship contest in Oct 2023 at CONNECT. David did not place in the top 3 but was happy to have the experience and compete.

FINANCE

In 2023, our financial performance included income of \$118,126 and expenses of \$140,743. Despite a loss before federal income tax, our fund balance remains at \$54,192.

As of December 31, 2023, current CD holdings stand at \$29,248 (2022=\$34,545). The Executive Committee reviewed our investments on a regular basis and made necessary adjustments, with the approval of the Board of Directors.

INCOME	2023	2022
Bonds	\$9,563	\$29,926
Convention	28,000	21,000
Industry Partners	7,000	7,875
Interest	702	208
Membership Dues	34,797	39,927
Member Services	1,985	3,271
Royalty	26,075	27,687
Workers Comp Program	10,003	9,413
Total Revenue	\$118,126	\$136,307

EXPENSE		
Admin	\$97,832	\$96,107
Program	42,911	40,167
Total Expense	\$140,743	\$136,274

Income (loss) (\$22,617) \$33

Fund Balance		
Beginning of Year	\$76,809	\$76,776
End of Year	\$54,192	\$76,809

Regarding our financial report, it's crucial to underscore the significance of supporting our benefit programs and events. These programs not only enhance member value but also play a pivotal role in generating non-dues revenue for the association. As evidenced by our financials showing a loss of over \$22,000 for the year, it's clear that supporting our benefit offerings is essential for the financial health and sustainability of the organization.

ACCO Calendar of Events

ACCO Board of Director Meetings

May 10 – August 23 – November 22 – February 14, 2025

Frank Alexander Legislative Day

June 4, 2024 / Columbus