

# Comparing State Laws with West Survey Builder™

Use West Survey Builder on Westlaw to create a customized survey of laws and regulations governing a selected subject, such as articles of incorporation requirements, broker-dealer requirements under state blue sky laws, or definitions of taxable income. West Survey Builder covers federal laws and regulations and laws and regulations from all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

For assistance using Westlaw, call 1-800-WESTLAW (1-800-937-8529).

For free reference materials, visit [west.thomson.com/westlaw/guides](http://west.thomson.com/westlaw/guides).

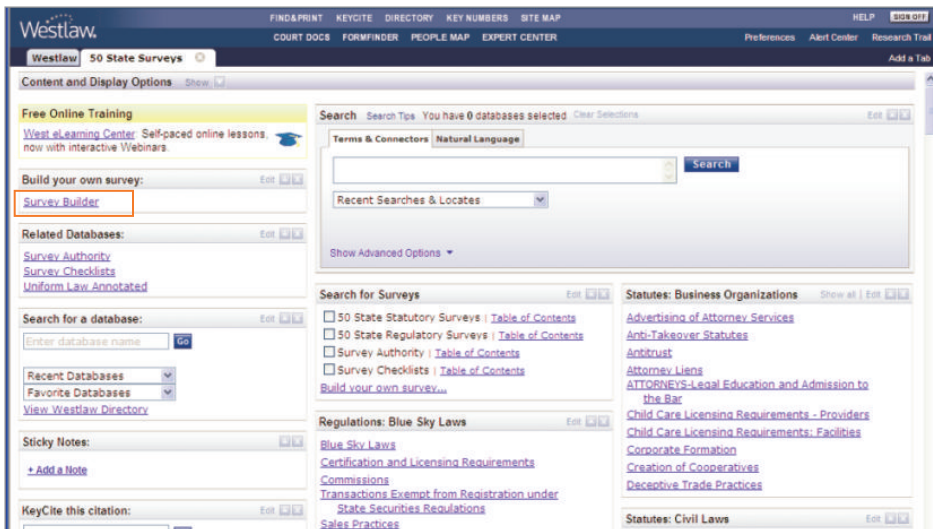


Figure 1. 50 Tabbed State Surveys page

## Accessing West Survey Builder

To access West Survey Builder, click **Survey Builder** in the left frame of the following tabbed pages: 50 State Surveys (Figure 1), Insurance, Insurance Compliance, Insurance GC, Regulations Suite, and Tax. These pages can be added to your Westlaw interface as tabbed pages so that you can easily access West Survey Builder each time you sign on to Westlaw.

### ADDING TABBED PAGES

Follow these steps to add one or more tabbed pages:

1. Click **Add a Tab** at the top of any page. At the next page, click **Add Westlaw Tabs** to display a list of available tabbed pages. To preview a page, click the page name.
2. Select the check box next to the name of each tabbed page you want to add, e.g., select the **50 State Surveys** or **Regulations Suite** check box under *General* or **Insurance**, **Insurance Compliance**, **Insurance GC**, or **Tax** under *Topical*. Then click **Add to My Tab Set**.
3. A list of the pages you've selected is displayed under *In Tab Display*. One page is designated as your default page (the page that is displayed when you sign on to Westlaw). To select a different page as your default, click **Set as Default** next to the page.
4. To display a tabbed page, click its tab.

## Creating a Survey

At the Survey Builder search page (Figure 2), name the survey, select a topic and subtopic, designate one or more jurisdictions and research issues, and click **Build Survey**. For example, to build a survey of articles of incorporation requirements, complete these steps:

1. Type a name in the *Name Your Survey* text box, e.g., type **articles of incorporation**.
2. Choose **Business Organizations** from the *Select Topic* drop-down list.
3. Choose **Corporations** from the *Select Subtopic* drop-down list. A list of research issues is displayed under *Select Question*.
4. Click the plus symbol (+) next to *Corporate Formation* to browse the list of issues. Select the **Required provisions for Articles of Incorporation** check box.
5. Your state is the default jurisdiction. To change jurisdictions, click **Change** next to *Edit Jurisdictions*. In the dialog box that is displayed, select the check boxes for the jurisdictions you want to survey and click **Add to Search**.
6. Click **Build Survey**. When the result list is displayed (Figure 3), click a survey title to display the survey (Figure 4).

Figure 2. Survey Builder search page

Figure 3. Result list

	Required provisions for Articles of Incorporation
Iowa	Must state: corporate name; number of shares; address of the place of business; name of its agent; name and address of each incorporator <a href="#">IA ST § 490.202</a>
	Required provisions for Articles of Incorporation
Minnesota	Must state: corporate name; address of initial office; name and address of initial agent; number of shares; name and address of each incorporator <a href="#">MN ST § 302A.111</a>
	Required provisions for Articles of Incorporation
North Dakota	Must state: corporate name; address of initial office; name and address of initial agent and each incorporator; number of shares; effective date <a href="#">ND ST 10-19-1-10</a>
	Required provisions for Articles of Incorporation
South Dakota	Must state: corporate name; number of shares address of initial office; name and

Figure 4. Survey