

Davis-Bacon Act and Related Acts

(40 USC §3141 et seq.; 29 CFR Parts 1, 3, 5, 6 and 7)

The Davis-Bacon and Related Acts, apply to contractors and subcontractors performing on federally funded or assisted contracts in excess of \$2,000 for the construction, alteration, or repair (including painting and decorating) of public buildings or public works. Davis-Bacon Act and Related Act contractors and subcontractors must pay their laborers and mechanics employed under the contract no less than the locally prevailing wages and fringe benefits for corresponding work on similar projects in the area. The Davis-Bacon Act directs the Department of Labor to determine such locally prevailing wage rates. The Davis-Bacon Act applies to contractors and subcontractors performing work on federal contracts. The Davis-Bacon Act prevailing wage provisions apply to the “Related Acts,” under which federal agencies assist construction projects through grants, loans, loan guarantees, and insurance.

For prime contracts in excess of \$100,000, contractors and subcontractors must also, under the provisions of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, as amended, pay laborers and mechanics, including guards and watchmen, at least one and one-half times their regular rate of pay for all hours worked over 40 in a workweek. The overtime provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act may also apply to DBA-covered contracts.

Employee Rights

The Davis-Bacon and Related Acts provide laborers and mechanics on covered contracts the right to receive at least the locally prevailing wages (including fringe benefits), as determined by the Department of Labor, for the type of work performed. The [Wage and Hour Division](#) and respective federal contracting agencies accept complaints of alleged Davis-Bacon violations

Notices and Posters

Every employer performing work covered by the labor standards of the DBRA must post the WH-1321 [“Employee Rights Under the Davis-Bacon Act” poster](#) at the site of the work in a prominent and accessible place where it may be easily seen by workers. The applicable wage determination must be similarly posted.

Recordkeeping

Under the Davis-Bacon and related Acts, covered contractors must maintain payroll and basic records for all covered laborers and mechanics during the course of the work and for a period of three years thereafter.

Records to be maintained include:

- Name, address, and social security number of each worker
- Each worker’s work classifications
- Hourly rates of pay, including rates of contributions or costs anticipated for fringe benefits or their cash equivalents
- Daily and weekly numbers of hours worked
- Deductions made
- Actual wages paid

- Detailed information regarding bona fide fringe benefit plans and programs, including records that show that the plan or program has been communicated in writing to the laborers and mechanics affected
- If applicable, detailed information regarding approved apprenticeship or trainee programs

Some of the records required to be kept under the law are also required under the Fair Labor Standards Act. See Wage and Hour Division [Fact sheet #21: Recordkeeping Requirements under the Fair Labor Standards Act \(FLSA\)](#).

Reporting

Each covered contractor and subcontractor must, on a weekly basis, provide the contracting agency a copy of all payrolls providing the information listed above under "Recordkeeping" for the preceding weekly payroll period, except that that full social security numbers and home addresses shall not be included on weekly transmittals, and instead the payrolls only need to include an individually identifying number for each worker (e.g., the last four digits of the worker's social security number). Each payroll submitted must be accompanied by a "Statement of Compliance" using page 2 of [Form WH-347 Payroll \(For Contractors Optional Use\)](#), or any form with identical wording, certifying compliance with applicable requirements. The statement is to be signed by the contractor or subcontractor, or by an authorized officer or employee of the contractor or subcontractor who supervises the payment of wages, and delivered to a representative of the federal or state agency in charge. This must be submitted within seven days after the regular pay date for the pay period.

From time to time, contractors may also be asked to submit, via survey, wage data from construction projects on which they have employed laborers and mechanics for use by WHD in determining the locally prevailing wage rates that will apply to Davis-Bacon and related Acts-covered projects in the future. The submission of wage data is encouraged, but voluntary. When new surveys are conducted to enable WHD to reflect the locally prevailing wages, contractors and others may use the [WD-10 Form, Report of Construction Contractor's Wage Rates](#).