

# Multiple wage tables on contracts

## General Guidance

I. The US Department of Labor issues wage tables. There are three general types of construction the Department oversees. These are Highway, Heavy and Building. On some contracts there are different types of construction to be performed or the project limits exceed the area coverage of just one wage table because of different counties involved. In these cases, more than one wage table may be assigned to a contract. When this happens, the question becomes, where on the project is each table to be used?

The following are some examples of the type of work that are covered by the three (3) types of construction that the Department is usually involved in:

### (a) Highway

Roads, streets, highways, runways, taxiways, alleys, trails, paths, parking areas, highway bridges (that are not considered to be Heavy construction), and other work of similar character. Any work that supports this construction.

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### (b) Heavy

Antenna towers, bridges designed for commercial navigation, canals, channels, docks, drainage (not incidental to highway), dredging, railroad construction, sewers (not incidental to highway), subways (other than buildings), tunnels, water and sewage treatment plants (other than buildings) and other work of similar character. Any work that supports this construction.

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### (c) Building

Automobile parking garages, office buildings, rest stop buildings, toll facility buildings, subway stations, water and sewage treatment plants (building only) and all other building construction not incidental to Highway or Heavy construction. Any work that supports this construction.

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\* An example of work that supports a type of construction could be in the case of a contract with a commercially navigable bridge (Heavy) being constructed and highway work (Highway) outside of the bridge parameters. Work platforms built, or partially built, on the highway right of way, then transported to the placement area around the bridge, would be covered by Heavy, since it is in support of the bridge, even though some of its construction took place physically on the highway's right of way.

## II. Additional notes:

(a) The contractor has the option of paying the highest rates from each of the tables for each classification to satisfy the minimum requirements for their employees and avoid the complexity of keeping up with each worker and under what table they are working under. Example: Assume the project has Highway and Heavy wage tables assigned to it. The Highway table lists a carpenter for \$8.00 per hour. The Heavy table lists the

carpenter for \$10.50 per hour. The contractor can pay \$10.50 per hour for all work done by carpenters in all areas of the project.

**OR**

The contractor may elect to pay the wages contained in each table when the table is applicable to the work that is being performed on the project. For example: from the example project above the carpenters could be paid \$8.00 per hour for all work done that pertained to the Highway table and \$10.50 per hour for all work that pertained to the Heavy table. When this option is chosen, the contractor must know where each table is to be used and keep accurate records supporting the payment of different rates.

(b) When there are multiple tables required because the project limits span more than the area coverage of one table, the contractor again has the option of paying the highest rates for each classification, as demonstrated above, or can choose to pay the rates for the applicable table in each case. In choosing to pay the different rates the county line or other delineator stated in the wage table is used to determine rate coverage. Example: the contract is Highway construction and its limits span Dade and Broward counties. In the two tables that cover the work the carpenter is \$10.00 per hour in Dade county and \$9.00 per hour in Broward County. The contractor can pay the applicable rate on each side of the respective county line or pay the \$10.00 rate for all carpenter work on the project.

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If there are ANY questions or confusion concerning applicability of wage tables to work in the contract to be bid, the question(s) should be submitted in accordance with Special Provision 2-4. If you are unable to do this, contact the FDOT's Prevailing Wage Coordinator in the State Construction Office (Tallahassee) for assistance. This should be done well BEFORE bids are due for the project.