

Prevailing Wage Requirements for Illinois Shines

What is Prevailing Wage?

Prevailing wage is a minimum compensation level set by the Illinois Department of Labor (IDOL) by county for construction activities related to public works.

How does Prevailing Wage relate to the Illinois Shines program?

With the enactment of Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA), projects receiving incentives through Illinois Shines are now classified as “public works” and therefore subject to the Prevailing Wage Act, which defines “construction” to include maintenance, repair, assembly, or disassembly work performed on equipment. Individuals engaged in the construction of applicable projects submitted to Illinois Shines are required to be paid no less than the general prevailing wage rate for the locality where the work is performed. Certain projects qualify to be exempt to the prevailing wage requirement as discussed below.

Steps to Comply with Prevailing Wage Requirements

1. Approved Vendors must certify understanding that prevailing wage requirements may apply to the project with a Prevailing Wage Attestation checkbox at the Part I application.
2. Approved Vendors must ensure that any Designee, contractor, or subcontractor performing work at the project facility has express notice of the prevailing wage applicability to that project, the prevailing wage rate for the relevant county, and understands proper posting and record keeping requirements related to prevailing wage.
3. Contractors or subcontractors must consult the local prevailing wage rate at the [Illinois Department of Labor website](#). Prevailing wage rates change periodically, so Approved Vendors and Designees, their contractors, and subcontractors need to consult the IDOL website and associated prevailing wage resources regularly to understand and communicate current rates to employees.
4. Approved Vendors, Designees, and subcontractors must ensure employees engaged in construction activities are given written notice of the applicable local prevailing wage rates through posting those rates on the work site, at a central office, or through written communication.
5. Each Designee, contractor and subcontractor under contract for construction activities for the project must pay the applicable prevailing wage rate to its employees and submit a Certified Transcript of Payroll (“CTP”) to the [IDOL Certified Transcript of Payroll Portal](#) on a monthly basis throughout construction activities.
6. Approved Vendors must submit all IDOL CTPs from the relevant project to the Program Administrator via the Part II application.

What information is required in the CTPs?

The CTPs shall include name, address, telephone number, hours worked each day, labor classification, hourly wage rate, and all other required fields completed in the CTP for each employee, eligible job trainee, and general staff, who participated in an activity that falls in a job task category that is related to the construction of the facility for those calendar months in which construction has occurred on an Illinois Shines project. The project address must match with the address submitted at the Part I application. For information on how to set up an Illinois Public ID account and create CTPs, please refer to the Illinois Department of Labor's [website](#).

Which Illinois Shines projects are exempt from Prevailing Wage requirements?

- Large or Small DG projects that serve a single-family or multi-family residential building
- Large or Small DG projects that serve a house of worship and are not greater than 100 kW AC (aggregated with any co-located project)
- DG projects (Large or Small) for which construction can be demonstrated to have been completed before September 15, 2021, the effective date of Public Act 102-0662
- A project application sized between 10-25 kW for which an application was originally received in the Large DG category (i.e., on or before November 1, 2021 when the ABP application portal closed to applications in preparation for Program reopening) will be treated as Large DG waitlisted for purposes of PW applicability
- Large Distributed Generation (DG) projects (greater than 25 kW AC) that were on a waitlist as of the Program's reopening on December 14, 2021

For specific questions on the CTP database or filling out a CTP:

dol.certifiedpayroll@illinois.gov

Prevailing Wage Info: (312) 793-3600

For questions related to Prevailing Wage compliance within Illinois Shines:

admin@illinoisshines.com

(877) 783-1820