#### **DAVIS-BACON ACT**

(Prevailing Wages)





#### What Is Davis-Bacon?

- The Davis-Bacon Act (DBA) requires payment of prevailing wage rates to laborers and mechanics on federally funded construction projects.
- Covers the prime contractor and all subcontractors on projects subject to the law.

# Why do we care?

- Davis-Bacon is the law.
  - o Passed in 1931, during the Great Depression.
- Our federal funding depends on contractor compliance.

# Wage Rate General Decision

- A list of classifications and wages must be in the contract book to show the prevailing wage to be paid for each worker classification.
- Components of prevailing wage are:

Base Rate: hourly rate to be paid.

Fringe (benefits): can be paid in cash.

 General Decision – by county and type of work – can be found online: <a href="www.sam.gov/search/">www.sam.gov/search/</a>

# Identify & Request Additional Classifications

- General Decision doesn't always have all classifications and wage rates.
- The prime contractor must request missing classifications in Elation – a web-based payroll system used on federally funded projects.
- Standard Form 1444.



#### **Additional Classifications**

- MaineDOT will review/approve the contractor's request in Elation, allowing use of the classification and rate pending approval from U.S. Department of Labor.
- Formal approval will be sent to the contractor and project resident by e-mail.
- Must be posted to the job-site bulletin board immediately.

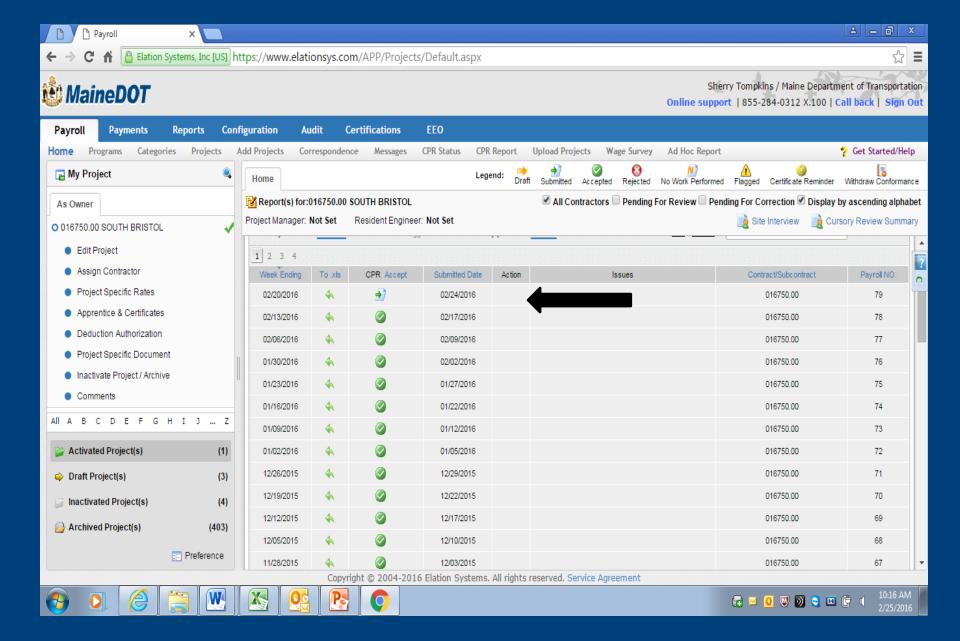


# Responsibilities of Resident

- Review General Decision (Wage Rates).
- Have contractors request rates for missing classifications through Elation system.
- Check contractor's bulletin board for accuracy and completeness.
- Review Certified Payroll Reports (CPRs) for missing/appropriate classifications and other compliance issues.

# **Certified Payroll Reports**

- Certified Payroll Reports (CPRs) must be checked for completeness, accuracy and approval.
- Elation will perform basic compliance checks, but there is no substitute for on-site observations.
- Duties performed and hours worked by covered workers must be consistent with contractor CPRs and with what workers report in payroll interviews.





## **Payroll Interviews**

- Conducted every 90 days with 2 workers each from prime contractor and every subcontractor on site 5 or more days during a 90-day period.
- Interviews are confidential & voluntary. They should be conducted in person, on the job site.
- Every effort should be made to cause as little disruption as possible to ongoing work.
- Both parties must sign Standard Interview Form (#1445) after the interview.

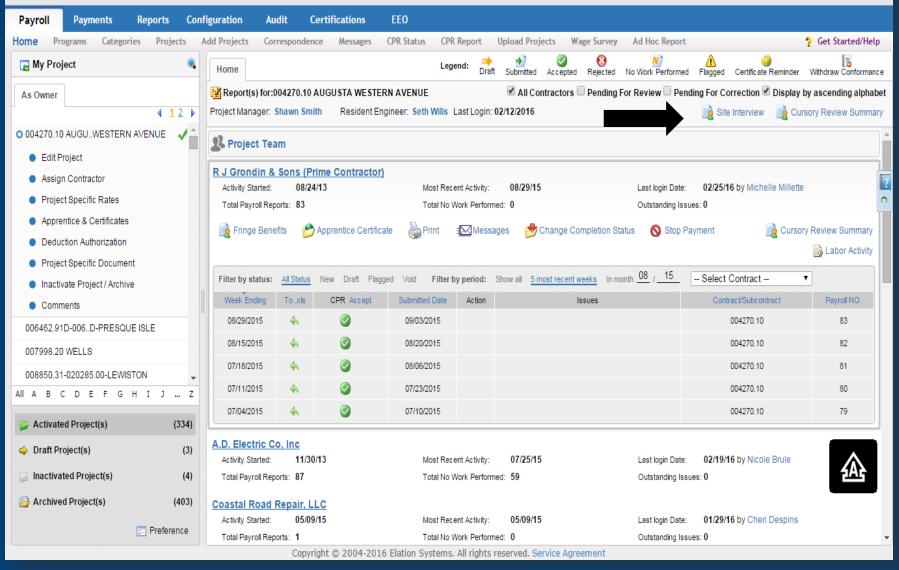


### Payroll Interview Comparisons

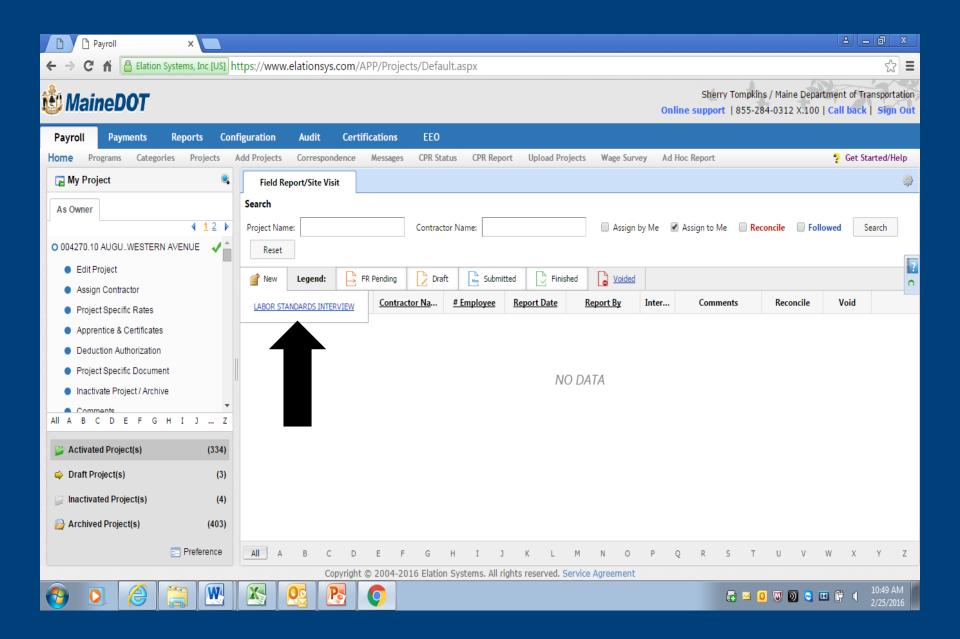
- Interview form (1445) is found in Elation.
- Information must be compared with the data from the contractor's payroll report for the week.
- The project resident should address any apparent discrepancies immediately.
- Contact the MaineDOT Civil Rights Office for assistance or clarification if needed.

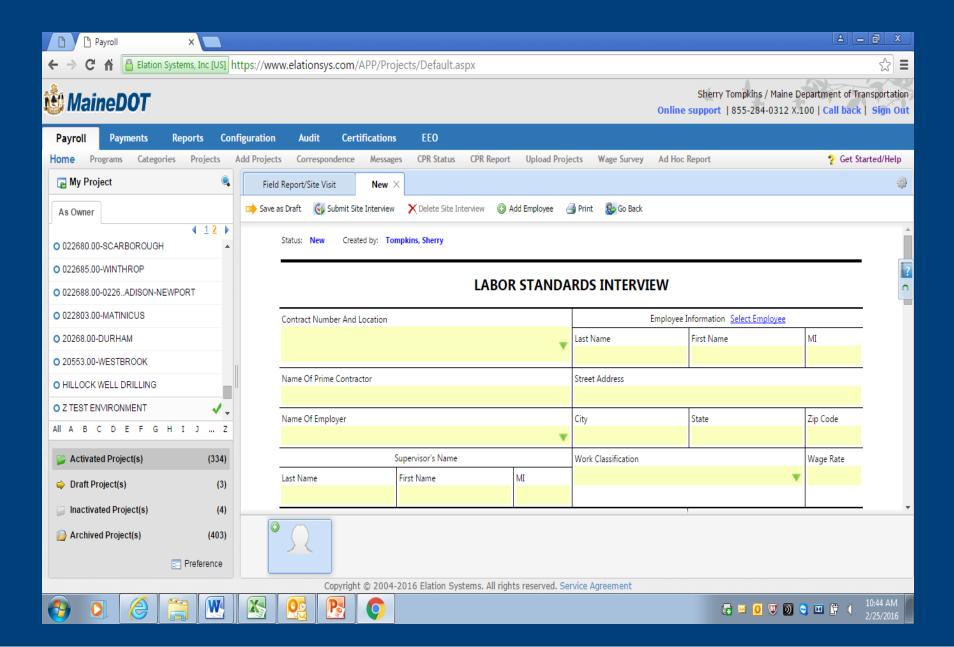
















## **State Wage Rates**

- State of Maine prevailing wage rates must be in contracts of \$50,000 or more with state funds.
  - ✓ Required by a state law passed in 2019.
- If a project has federal and state funds, both Davis-Bacon and State wage rates must be inserted in the contract book.
- Law also affects state-only programs such as the Municipal Partnership Initiative (MPI) and the Small Harbor Improvement Program (SHIP).





# **State Wage Rates**

- State wage rates don't have to be entered into the Elation system.
- But a contractor may choose to do so if a project has both federal and state wage rates.
- State wage rates, by county, are found on the Maine Department of Labor's website:
  - ✓ www.maine.gov/labor/labor\_stats/publications/wagerateconst/ index.html



#### Job Site Bulletin Board

- Must be put up by first day of construction activity.
- Must be accessible to workers and public, 24/7.
- Usually kept outside the field office or similar place.
- Must remain readable throughout a project.





#### Job Site Bulletin Board

https://www.maine.gov/mdot/civilrights/sfp/

#### State

Minimum Wage

2 Whistleblower **Protection Act** 

Workers' Compensation (WCB-90)

Occupational Safety & Health Regulations

Child Labor Laws

Regulations **Employment** 

Sexual Harassment Poster

10 **OPTIONAL** Domestic Violence in the Workplace Poster

Maine Equal Pay Law

8

Maine **Employment** Security Act

11 State funded projects should **NOT** include Federal Posters. Federally funded projects MUST include both.

#### Federal (Requires State Posters)

Fair Labor

Standards Act

- Federal

Minimum

Wage

(WHD-1088)

16

Notice to

Workers with

Disabilities

Paid at Special

Minimum

Wages (WH-1284)

20

NOTICE -

Federal Aid

**Projects** 

(FHWA-1022)

23

Contractor's

EEO Policy

name and

contact information.

12 Equal **Employment** Opportunity: It's the Law (OFCCP 1420)

15 Family and Medical Leave Act (WH-1420)

Notice to Employees -Davis Bacon Act (WH-1321)

> 22 General Decision &

Statement with Additional EEO Officer's Project Specific Rates

Employee Rights on Government Contracts (WHD-1313) Page 1

17 **Employee** Polygraph Protection Act (WH1462)

21

Job Safety

and Health -

It's the Law

(OSHA 3165)

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WHD -1313

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OPTIONAL 18 Uniformed **Employee** Services Rights Under Employment and the National Re-employmemt Rights Act Labor (USERRA) Relations Act

> **OPTIONAL** Department of Treasury IRS Notice 797

OPTIONAL

Welcome Free

Interpreter

Services



#### **Contractor's Guide to DBA**

#### Found on Civil Rights Office website:

http://www.maine.gov/mdot/civilrights/



#### **MaineDOT Contacts**

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