



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIES

Prevailing Wage Policy Memorandum

Date: April 6, 2015
To: All interested parties
From: Jim Christensen, Industrial Statistician & Program Manager
Subject: Office cubicles and furniture

Policy Disclaimer

This policy is designed to provide general information in regard to the current opinions of the Department of Labor & Industries on the subject matter covered. This policy is intended as a guide in the interpretation and application of the relevant statutes, regulations, and policies, and may not be applicable to all situations. This policy does not replace applicable RCW or WAC standards. If additional clarification is required, the Program Manager for Prevailing Wage should be consulted.

This document is effective as of the date of print and supersedes all previous interpretations and guidelines. Changes may occur after the date of print due to subsequent legislation, administrative rule, or judicial proceedings. The user is encouraged to notify the Program Manager to provide or receive updated information. This document will remain in effect until rescinded, modified, or withdrawn by the Director or his or her designee.

Work upon a public work requires prevailing wages. For purposes of Washington State prevailing wage regulations, chapter 39.12 RCW and chapter 296-127 WAC, some work on office cubicles for state or municipal agencies does not amount to work upon a public work (and therefore would not require prevailing wages).

This policy addresses prevailing wage requirements for the assembly, installation, disassembly and delivery of cubicles, furniture, modular furniture systems, partitions or a similar product.

The moving, transport, delivery, assembly and placement of furniture (chairs, tables, cabinets, modular work stations, etc.) does not require the payment of prevailing wages with the following three exceptions:

1. Attachment to a building or other structure requires the payment of prevailing wages. Electrical work (including connecting electricity between modular work station panels), plumbing work and attachment of furniture (work station panels, stadium seats, etc.) are examples of attaching furniture to a structure.
2. Disassembly, moving and reassembly necessitated by a public works contract. For example, furniture sometimes must be moved in order to accomplish work such as painting, floor covering, ceiling work, etc. This furniture-handling must be paid at prevailing wage rates.
3. The transport and delivery of nonstandard items to be installed as fixtures including custom-fabricated furniture made and installed to contract specifications must be paid at prevailing wage rates.