

FDOT Newsletter

September 2021
Volume 65



SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

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Governor DeSantis Announces \$250 Million to Support Economic Recovery for Florida Ports

Florida ports provide major economic impact of \$117.6 billion, and support 900,000 jobs in Florida

Today, Governor Ron DeSantis announced \$250 million in funding for Florida's ports to assist in recovery from decreased revenue in 2020, and to invest in infrastructure at Florida's ports. Florida's ports generate an economic impact of \$117.6 billion and support 900,000 jobs.

"Not only are Florida ports a key economic driver for their surrounding communities, but also for our state as a whole," said Governor Ron DeSantis. "From the cruise industry, to cargo, to supporting military operations, our ports provide nearly 1 million jobs for Floridians. This \$250 million investment in our ports is a commitment to our future economic prosperity for generations to come."

"The impact seaports have on every region in our state is enormous and, under the Governor's leadership, the state continues to make key investments in our transportation network to keep our state moving forward and ensure that goods make it to consumers efficiently," said FDOT Secretary Kevin J. Thibault, P.E. "The funding announced today will have lasting positive impacts and significantly assist our seaport partners, as well as their surrounding communities."

This funding is specifically to support the financial recovery of Florida's ports through the America Rescue Plan and the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund.

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Overcome Troublesome Time-Tracking Challenges

Tracking time might not seem like the most vital administrative task, but for construction companies that do prevailing wage work, it is difficult and critical. Although it might seem to be fairly straightforward to capture hours worked and issue paychecks, many things can go wrong. By using the following strategies, construction companies can identify and overcome their most troublesome time-tracking challenges.

Tracking Work Classifications

There is a lot going on at the jobsite, so changing work classifications on the go often gets overlooked. The problem is that work classifications are directly tied to prevailing wage rates. When a worker changes from task to task in the field, it must be tracked so that wage determinations can be correctly assigned. Any mistake at this point will lead to additional payroll mistakes and leave you out of compliance with prevailing wage laws.

Inaccurate Time Tracking

Accurate time tracking is directly tied to profit for every business, but for construction companies it is even more critical. Having a clear understanding of the labor costs involved in completing tasks and projects is key to creating competitive bids. For this reason, every hour needs to be correctly tracked in accordance with the task being done. It must also be attributed to the project being worked on to get a complete picture of the true labor costs involved.

Wage Determination Errors

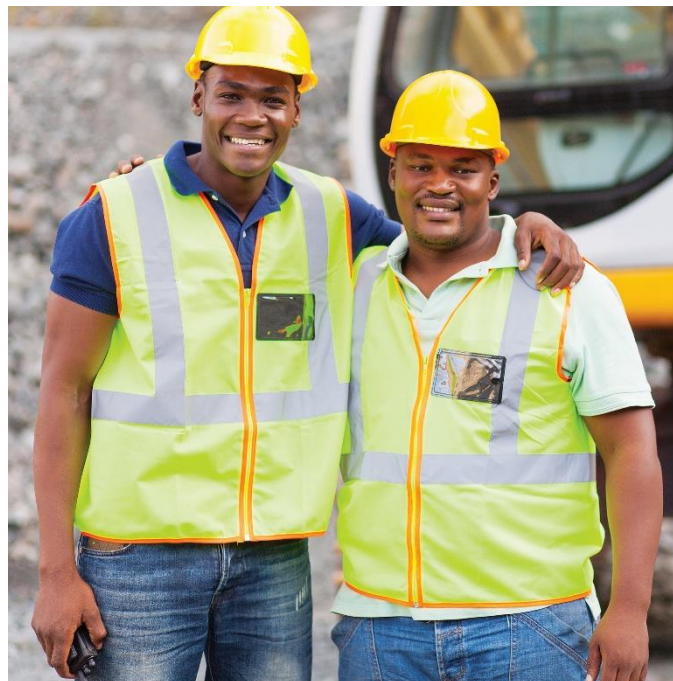
Wage determinations set the hourly wage and fringe benefit rate for every classification of laborer and mechanic. These rates apply to federally funded prevailing wage jobs, and they come from wage surveys conducted by the Department of Labor. Some states have similar laws in place and publish their own wage determinations that apply to state-funded jobs. Selecting the wrong wage determination for the work being performed is easy to do, but it leads to significant errors throughout the entire payroll process.

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About The FDOT

The goal of the DBE Supportive Services Program is to increase the number of DBEs participating on FDOT contracts and facilitate the opportunity for DBEs to obtain contracts. The services are designed to:

- Assist established construction firms to move them from bidding as a subcontractor to bidding as a Prime Contractor to produce sound bids.
- Provide access to training increases DBE expertise in handling of daily business operations.



CEI DBE Supportive Services

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