

ITS HISTORY

The Davis-Bacon Act was first passed in 1931 to prevent the undercutting of wage standards by contractors on federal building projects. It was later amended to cover other public works projects and to protect fringe benefits.



ITS GOAL

Davis-Bacon was designed to protect prevailing standards of construction workers, to provide equality of opportunity for contractors, and to prevent disturbance of local economies.

ITS REQUIREMENTS

Under Davis-Bacon, contractors on federal construction projects are required to pay workers in each construction craft no less than wage rates prevailing in the local area for each craft engaged on like projects.

ITS MECHANISM

The U.S. Department of Labor determines prevailing rates in the locality of the project for like projects and makes these known before contract bidding.

ITS IMPACT

Davis-Bacon wage standards affect about 30 percent of all construction in the country.



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THE DAVIS-BACON ACT