Under the Davis-Bacon Act, if you work for a contractor or subcontractor on a Federal or District of Columbia Government construction job you are required to be paid at least the prevailing wage and fringe benefits for the work that you do. Under many other federal laws, such as the Recovery Act, if you work for a contractor or subcontractor on a state or local construction job that receives federal funding or assistance, you are required to be paid at least the prevailing wage and fringe benefits for the work you do. Your contractor is required to post the scale of wages at the worksite.

You must work as a laborer or mechanic directly on the site of the work to get the prevailing wages under these federal laws.

You may be paid less than the rates listed in the contract wage determination if you are an apprentice or trainee in an apprenticeship program registered with the Department of Labor or with a state apprenticeship agency recognized by the Department.

You may also be subject to additional prevailing wage pay requirements under state and local laws. In addition, you may be entitled to overtime pay under other federal, state, and local laws. If you are uncertain about the wages or fringe benefits you should be paid, contact the Wage and Hour Division.
This card provides summary information on protections and requirements for construction workers under Davis-Bacon and Related Acts. For more information call toll-free: 1-866-4US-WAGE (1-866-487-9243) or visit our website at www.dol.gov/whd