

Corrected: 5/25/10
Adopted: 1/29/10

CORRECTED PARAMETERS AND GUIDELINES

Labor Code Section 1776

Statutes 1978, Chapter 1249

California Code of Regulations, Title 8,
Sections 16400, Subdivisions (c), and (d), 16403, Subdivision (a),
and 16408, Subdivision (b)

Prevailing Wage Rate
01-TC-28

I. SUMMARY OF THE MANDATE

On January 30, 2009, the Commission on State Mandates (Commission) adopted a Statement of Decision finding that the test claim legislation imposes a partially reimbursable state-mandated program upon school districts within the meaning of article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution and Government Code section 17514. The Commission approved this test claim for the following reimbursable activities:

- Upon a request made to the awarding body by the public for certified payroll records:
 - Obtain certified payroll records from the contractor, including specified information in the request. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, § 16400, subd. (c).)
 - Send an acknowledgment to the requestor including notification of the costs to be paid for preparing the records. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, § 16400, subd. (d).)
 - Provide copies of the records to the requestor. (Lab. Code, § 1776, subd. (b)(3).)
 - Retain copies of payroll records requested by the public and provided by the awarding body for at least 6 months. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, § 16403, subd. (a).)
- Withhold penalties from contractor progress payments for noncompliance with the requirement to provide certified payroll records under Labor Code section 1776, upon request of the Department of Industrial Relations' Division of Apprenticeship Standards or the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement. (Lab. Code, § 1776, subd. (g) (as amended by Stats. 1978, ch. 1249).)
- Insert stipulations regarding the contractor's and subcontractor's requirements pursuant to Labor Code section 1776 in the contract. (Lab. Code, § 1776, subd. (h) (as amended by Stats. 1978, ch. 1249); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, § 16408, subd. (b).)

The above-named activities are only reimbursable when those activities are triggered by projects for repair or maintenance to school facilities and property, pursuant to Education

Code sections 17002, 17565, 17593 and 81601, when the project constitutes a public works project pursuant to the CPWL, and when the project must be let to contract under the following circumstances:

1. For *K-12 school districts*, when the project is not an emergency as set forth in Public Contract Code section 20113, and
 - a. for districts with an average daily attendance of less than 35,000, when the total number of hours on the job exceeds 350; or
 - b. for districts with an average daily attendance of 35,000 or greater, the total number of hours on the job exceeds 750 hours or the material cost exceeds \$21,000. (Pub. Contract Code, § 20114.)
2. For *community college districts*, when the project is not an emergency as set forth in Public Contract Code section 20654; and
 - a. for districts with full-time equivalent students of fewer than 15,000, when the total number of hours on the job exceeds 350; or
 - b. for districts with full-time equivalent students of 15,000 or more, the total number of hours on the job exceeds 750 hours or the material cost exceeds \$21,000. (Pub. Contract Code, § 20655.)
3. For any K-12 school district or community college district that is subject to the UPCCAA, when a project is not an emergency as set forth in Public Contract Code section 22035, and the project cost will exceed:
 - a. \$25,000 for projects completed on or before December 31, 2006;
 - b. \$30,000 for projects completed on or after January 1, 2007. (Pub. Contract Code, § 22032.)

II. ELIGIBLE CLAIMANTS

Any "school district" as defined in Government Code section 17519, including community colleges, which incurs increased costs as a result of this mandate, is eligible to claim reimbursement. Charter schools are not eligible claimants.

III. PERIOD OF REIMBURSEMENT

Government Code section 17557, subdivision (e), states that a test claim shall be submitted on or before June 30 following a given fiscal year to establish eligibility for that fiscal year. The claimant filed the test claim on June 28, 2002, establishing eligibility for the 2000-2001 fiscal year. Therefore, costs incurred are reimbursable on or after July 1, 2000.

Actual costs for one fiscal year shall be included in each claim. Pursuant to Government Code section 17561, subdivision (d)(1)(A), all claims for reimbursement of initial fiscal year costs shall be submitted to the State Controller within 120 days of the issuance date for the claiming instructions.

If the total costs for a given fiscal year do not exceed \$1,000, no reimbursement shall be allowed except as otherwise allowed by Government Code section 17564.

There shall be no reimbursement for any period in which the Legislature has suspended the operation of a mandate pursuant to state law.

IV. REIMBURSABLE ACTIVITIES

To be eligible for mandated cost reimbursement for any fiscal year, only actual costs may be claimed. Actual costs are those costs actually incurred to implement the mandated activities. Actual costs must be traceable and supported by source documents that show the validity of such costs, when they were incurred, and their relationship to the reimbursable activities. A source document is a document created at or near the same time the actual cost was incurred for the event or activity in question. Source documents may include, but are not limited to, employee time records or time logs, sign-in sheets, invoices, and receipts.

Evidence corroborating the source documents may include, but is not limited to, worksheets, cost allocation reports (system generated), purchase orders, contracts, agendas, and declarations. Declarations must include a certification or declaration stating, "I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct," and must further comply with the requirements of Code of Civil Procedure section 2015.5. Evidence corroborating the source documents may include data relevant to the reimbursable activities otherwise in compliance with local, state, and federal government requirements. However, corroborating documents cannot be substituted for source documents.

The claimant is only allowed to claim and be reimbursed for increased costs for reimbursable activities identified below. Increased cost is limited to the cost of an activity that the claimant is required to incur as a result of the mandate.

For each eligible claimant, the following activities are reimbursable:

- A. Upon a request made to the awarding body by the public for certified payroll records:
 - o Obtain certified payroll records from the contractor, including specified information in the request. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, § 16400, subd. (c).)
 - o Send an acknowledgment to the requestor including notification of the costs to be paid for preparing the records. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, § 16400, subd. (d).)
 - o Provide copies of the records to the requestor. (Lab. Code, § 1776, subd. (b)(3).)
 - o Retain copies of payroll records requested by the public and provided by the awarding body for at least 6 months. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, § 16403, subd. (a).)
- B. Withhold penalties from contractor progress payments for noncompliance with the requirement to provide certified payroll records under Labor Code section 1776, upon request of the Department of Industrial Relations' Division of Apprenticeship Standards or the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement. (Lab. Code, § 1776, subd. (g) (as amended by Stats. 1978, ch. 1249).)

- C. Insert stipulations regarding the contractor's and subcontractor's requirements pursuant to Labor Code section 1776 in the contract. (Lab. Code, § 1776, subd. (h) (as amended by Stats. 1978, ch. 1249); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 8, § 16408, subd. (b).)

The above-named activities are only reimbursable when those activities are triggered by projects for repair or maintenance to school facilities and property, pursuant to Education Code sections 17002, 17565, 17593 and 81601, when the project constitutes a public works project pursuant to the CPWL, and when the project must be let to contract under the following circumstances:

1. For *K-12 school districts*, when the project is not an emergency as set forth in Public Contract Code section 20113, and
 - a. for districts with an average daily attendance of less than 35,000, when the total number of hours on the job exceeds 350; or
 - b. for districts with an average daily attendance of 35,000 or greater, the total number of hours on the job exceeds 750 hours or the material cost exceeds \$21,000. (Pub. Contract Code, § 20114.)
2. For *community college districts*, when the project is not an emergency as set forth in Public Contract Code section 20654; and
 - a. for districts with full-time equivalent students of fewer than 15,000, when the total number of hours on the job exceeds 350; or
 - b. for districts with full-time equivalent students of 15,000 or more, the total number of hours on the job exceeds 750 hours or the material cost exceeds \$21,000. (Pub. Contract Code, § 20655.)
3. For any K-12 school district or community college district that is subject to the UPCCAA, when a project is not an emergency as set forth in Public Contract Code section 22035, and the project cost will exceed:
 - a. \$25,000 for projects completed by December 31, 2006;
 - b. \$30,000 for projects completed on or after January 1, 2007. (Pub. Contract Code, § 22032.)

Activities that are performed as a result of a district's implementation of the Labor Compliance Program pursuant to labor Code section 1771.5 are **not** reimbursable.

V. CLAIM PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION

Each of the following cost elements must be identified for each reimbursable activity identified in Section IV, Reimbursable Activities, of this document. Each claimed reimbursable cost must be supported by source documentation as described in Section IV. Additionally, each reimbursement claim must be filed in a timely manner.

A. Direct Cost Reporting

Direct costs are those costs incurred specifically for the reimbursable activities. The following direct costs are eligible for reimbursement.

1. Salaries and Benefits

Report each employee implementing the reimbursable activities by name, job classification, and productive hourly rate (total wages and related benefits divided by productive hours). Describe the specific reimbursable activities performed and the hours devoted to each reimbursable activity performed.

2. Materials and Supplies

Report the cost of materials and supplies that have been consumed or expended for the purpose of the reimbursable activities. Purchases shall be claimed at the actual price after deducting discounts, rebates, and allowances received by the claimant. Supplies that are withdrawn from inventory shall be charged on an appropriate and recognized method of costing, consistently applied.

3. Contracted Services

Report the name of the contractor and services performed to implement the reimbursable activities. Attach a copy of the contract to the claim. If the contractor bills for time and materials, report the number of hours spent on the activities and all costs charged. If the contract is a fixed price, report the dates when services were performed and itemize all costs for those services.

4. Fixed Assets and Equipment

Report the purchase price paid for fixed assets and equipment (including computers) necessary to implement the reimbursable activities. The purchase price includes taxes, delivery costs, and installation costs. If the fixed asset or equipment is also used for purposes other than the reimbursable activities, only the pro-rata portion of the purchase price used to implement the reimbursable activities can be claimed.

5. Travel

Report the name of the employee traveling for the purpose of the reimbursable activities. Include the date of travel, destination point, the specific reimbursable activity requiring travel, and related travel expenses reimbursed to the employee in compliance with the rules of the local jurisdiction. Report employee travel time according to the rules of cost element A.1., Salaries and Benefits, for each applicable reimbursable activity.

B. Indirect Cost Rates

Indirect costs are costs that have been incurred for common or joint purposes. These costs benefit more than one cost objective and cannot be readily identified with a particular final cost objective without effort disproportionate to the results achieved.

After direct costs have been determined and assigned to other activities, as appropriate, indirect costs are those remaining to be allocated to benefited cost objectives. A cost may not be allocated as an indirect cost if any other cost incurred for the same purpose, in like circumstances, has been claimed as a direct cost.

Indirect costs include: (a) the indirect costs originating in each department or agency of the governmental unit carrying out state mandated programs, and (b) the costs of central governmental services distributed through the central service cost allocation plan and not otherwise treated as direct costs.

School districts must use the J-380 (or subsequent replacement) non-restrictive indirect cost rate provisionally approved by the California Department of Education.

County offices of education must use the J-580 (or subsequent replacement) non-restrictive indirect cost rate provisionally approved by the California Department of Education.

Community colleges have the option of using: (1) a federally approved rate, utilizing the cost accounting principles from the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-21, "Cost Principles of Educational Institutions"; (2) the rate calculated on State Controller's Form FAM-29C; or (3) a 7% indirect cost rate.

VI. RECORD RETENTION

Pursuant to Government Code section 17558.5, subdivision (a), a reimbursement claim for actual costs filed by a local agency or school district pursuant to this chapter¹ is subject to the initiation of an audit by the Controller no later than three years after the date that the actual reimbursement claim is filed or last amended, whichever is later. However, if no funds are appropriated or no payment is made to a claimant for the program for the fiscal year for which the claim is filed, the time for the Controller to initiate an audit shall commence to run from the date of initial payment of the claim. In any case, an audit shall be completed not later than two years after the date that the audit is commenced. All documents used to support the reimbursable activities, as described in Section IV, must be retained during the period subject to audit. If an audit has been initiated by the Controller during the period subject to audit, the retention period is extended until the ultimate resolution of any audit findings.

VII. OFFSETTING REVENUES AND REIMBURSEMENTS

Any offsets the claimant experiences in the same program as a result of the same statutes or executive orders found to contain the mandate shall be deducted from the costs claimed. In addition, reimbursement for this mandate from any source, including but not limited to, service fees collected, federal funds, and other state funds, shall be identified and deducted from this claim.

Any fees received by school districts pursuant to Labor Code section 1776, subdivision (e), and title 8, California Code of Regulations, section 16402 for obtaining certified payroll records from the contractor, sending an acknowledgment to the requestor, and providing copies of the records to the requestor shall be identified as offsetting revenue in

¹ This refers to Title 2, division 4, part 7, chapter 4 of the Government Code.

the parameters and guidelines. Furthermore, any grant funds available to awarding bodies under the deferred maintenance program, or any other eligible grant program, when used for the newly mandated activities in this test claim, shall be identified in the parameters and guidelines as possible offsetting revenues.

VIII. STATE CONTROLLER'S CLAIMING INSTRUCTIONS

Pursuant to Government Code section 17558, subdivision (b), the Controller shall issue claiming instructions for each mandate that requires state reimbursement not later than 60 days after receiving the adopted parameters and guidelines from the Commission, to assist local agencies and school districts in claiming costs to be reimbursed. The claiming instructions shall be derived from the test claim decision and the parameters and guidelines adopted by the Commission.

Pursuant to Government Code section 17561, subdivision (d)(1), issuance of the claiming instructions shall constitute a notice of the right of the local agencies and school districts to file reimbursement claims, based upon parameters and guidelines adopted by the Commission.

IX. REMEDIES BEFORE THE COMMISSION

Upon request of a local agency or school district, the Commission shall review the claiming instructions issued by the State Controller or any other authorized state agency for reimbursement of mandated costs pursuant to Government Code section 17571. If the Commission determines that the claiming instructions do not conform to the parameters and guidelines, the Commission shall direct the Controller to modify the claiming instructions and the Controller shall modify the claiming instructions to conform to the parameters and guidelines as directed by the Commission.

In addition, requests may be made to amend parameters and guidelines pursuant to Government Code section 17557, subdivision (d), and California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 1183.2.

X. LEGAL AND FACTUAL BASIS FOR THE PARAMETERS AND GUIDELINES

The Statement of Decision is legally binding on all parties and provides the legal and factual basis for the parameters and guidelines. The support for the legal and factual findings is found in the administrative record for the test claim. The administrative record, including the Statement of Decision, is on file with the Commission.