

# Governor announces new prevailing wage rates

By **Pacific News Center** - December 16, 2019



*Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero says Guam continues to face a labor shortage even as the demand for construction projects continues to rise. (PNC photo)*

Governor Lou Leon Guerrero has announced that the new H-2B prevailing wage rates for common construction occupations were recently approved by USCIS through a labor certification process using Guam data gathered from the USDOL OES Survey.

These rates will not change again until December 2021.

The new rates only affect new applications filed with the Guam Department of Labor on or after December 13, 2019. Rates for current approvals remain at the old rate until the valid labor certification expires.

“We continue to face a labor shortage even as the demand for construction projects continues to rise. I am pleased that the prevailing wage rates were approved for construction jobs,” said the Governor. “We have placed more than 1,000 people in apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship programs since the start of this Administration because we know that skilled labor is a passport to economic success for Guam’s families.”

The three most common H-2B occupations for which H-2B workers are imported increases in the wage rates.

Carpenters and reinforcing metalworkers saw about a 6% increase and cement n were increased by about 4.5%.

Under the new rates, welders, electricians, HVAC mechanics and construction ec mechanics all command wages in excess of \$18 per hour when working alongsid guest workers.

Similarly, U.S. workers employed in the same companies and occupations as H-2 will see pay increases as new or extended workers get certified under the new r next year.

The new rates are published on GDOL’s website at dol.guam.gov.

##

Related

[U.S. Immigration Seeks Comment on Prevailing Wage Rate for Guam H-2B Workers](#)

March 17, 2011  
In "Guam News"

[Vice-Speaker Applauds USCIS for Assessing Prevailing Guam Wage Rates](#)

March 30, 2011  
In "Guam News"

[U.S. Attorney: Vavivello Confinement, Probation Pay Restitution in H2-B Fraud Case](#)

May 14, 2014  
In "Guam News"

**Pacific News Center**