
ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 1173

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Bronoske, Berry, Reed, Ramel, Obras, Fosse, Simmons, Ortiz-Self, Goodman, Gregerson, Pollet, Nance, Ormsby, Lekanoff, and Hill

Prefiled 01/06/25. Read first time 01/13/25. Referred to Committee on Labor & Workplace Standards.

1 AN ACT Relating to wages for journeypersons in high-hazard
2 facilities; amending RCW 49.80.010 and 49.80.040; and providing an
3 effective date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 49.80.010 and 2019 c 306 s 1 are each amended to
6 read as follows:

7 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter
8 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

9 (1) "Applicable occupation" means the specific trade or
10 occupation for the work performed under this chapter. Where there is
11 an applicable scope of work description under chapter 39.12 RCW and
12 associated rules for a specific trade or occupation, or defined by
13 the standard occupational classification, for work performed under
14 this chapter, the scope of work description is the applicable
15 occupation.

16 (2) "Apprenticeable occupation" means an occupation for which an
17 apprenticeship program has been approved by the Washington state
18 apprenticeship and training council pursuant to chapter 49.04 RCW.

19 (~~(2)~~) (3) "Department" means the department of labor and
20 industries.

1 ~~((3))~~ (4) "On-site work" does not include ship and rail car
2 support activities; environmental inspection and testing; security
3 guard services; work which is performed by an original equipment
4 manufacturer for warranty, repair, or maintenance on the vendor's
5 equipment if required by the original equipment manufacturer's
6 warranty agreement between the original equipment manufacturer and
7 the owner; industrial cleaning not related to construction; safety
8 services requiring professional safety certification; nonconstruction
9 catalyst loading, regeneration, and removal; chemical purging and
10 cleaning; refinery by-product separation and recovery; inspection
11 services not related to construction; and work performed that is not
12 in an apprenticeable occupation.

13 ~~((4))~~ (5) "Prevailing (~~hourly wage~~) rate of wage" has the
14 same meaning as provided (~~for "prevailing rate of wage"~~) in RCW
15 39.12.010.

16 ~~((5))~~ (6) "Registered apprentice" means an apprentice who meets
17 all the following criteria:

18 (a) Is registered in an apprenticeship program approved by the
19 Washington state apprenticeship and training council according to
20 chapter 49.04 RCW;

21 (b) Has received written notification from the employer
22 identifying his or her applicable occupation and wage rates prior to
23 performing work, a copy of which must be maintained in the employee's
24 personnel file by the employer; and

25 (c) Is only performing work within the applicable occupation of
26 the apprenticeship program in which he or she is registered.

27 ~~((6))~~ (7) "Skilled and trained workforce" means a workforce
28 that meets both of the following criteria:

29 (a) All the workers are either registered apprentices or skilled
30 journeypersons; and

31 (b) The workforce meets the apprenticeship graduation and
32 approved advanced safety training requirements established in RCW
33 49.80.030.

34 ~~((7))~~ (8) "Skilled journeyperson" means a worker who meets all
35 of the following criteria:

36 (a) The worker either graduated from an apprenticeship program
37 for the applicable occupation that was approved by the Washington
38 state apprenticeship and training council according to chapter 49.04
39 RCW, or has at least as many hours of on-the-job experience in the
40 applicable occupation that would be required to graduate from an

1 apprenticeship program approved by the Washington state
2 apprenticeship and training council according to chapter 49.04 RCW;
3 and

4 (b) The (~~worker is being paid~~) worker's wage payment
5 requirement is at least a rate commensurate with the wages typically
6 paid for the occupation in the applicable geographic area, subject to
7 the following provisions:

8 (i) The prevailing wage rate paid for a worker in the applicable
9 occupation and geographic area on public works projects may be used
10 to determine the appropriate rate of pay, however, this subsection
11 (~~(7)(b)~~) (8)(b) does not require a contractor to pay prevailing
12 wage rates; and

13 (ii) In no case may the worker be paid at a rate less than an
14 hourly rate consistent with the seventy-fifth percentile in the
15 applicable occupation and geographic area in the most recent
16 occupational employment statistics published by the employment
17 security department.

18 **Sec. 2.** RCW 49.80.040 and 2019 c 306 s 4 are each amended to
19 read as follows:

20 (1) Failure to comply with the skilled and trained workforce
21 requirements of this chapter, except the requirement that a worker be
22 paid at a rate commensurate with wages typically paid for the
23 occupation, constitutes a violation of chapter 49.17 RCW.

24 (2) The wage rate requirement of RCW 49.80.010(~~(7)(b)~~) (8)(b)
25 constitutes a wage payment requirement as defined in RCW 49.48.082.

26 (3) A worker in an apprenticeable occupation performing work
27 under this chapter who does not meet the definition of a registered
28 apprentice in RCW 49.80.010(6) or the definition of a skilled
29 journey person in RCW 49.80.010(8) constitutes a skilled journey person
30 solely for the purposes of the wage requirement owed to the worker.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act takes effect January 1, 2026.

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