



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIES

Prevailing Wage  
PO Box 44540 • Olympia, Washington 98504-4540  
360/902-5335 Fax 360/902-5300

October 17, 2008

Mr. Dennis Becker  
President  
Bricklayers and Allied Crafts  
Local No. 1 of Washington  
15208 52<sup>nd</sup> Avenue S  
Tukwila, WA 98188

Re: Brick and Block Finisher Classification

Dear Mr. Becker:

You have asked for a new sub-classification and rate for Brick and Block Finishers. We have met about this issue. We have spoken on the phone and you have provided me with documents including a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between Local 1 and the Washington State Conference of Mason Contractors or Local 1 and the Independent Mason Contractors. The MOU relates to the work and rates for brick and block finisher.

As is our normal procedure, in addition to considering the material you sent including the MOU, your scope of work, and the Laborer's scope of work, I spoke with the Laborers as an interested party. The revised MOU corrects the open ended duty assignment and is presently not signed.

After careful consideration of the issue including the revised MOU you provided, I am still unable to find sufficient distinction between the requested brick and block finisher you are requesting and the hod carriers, mason tenders and mortarmen classification to warrant a new classification.

If you and the laborers provide me additional information that sufficiently delineates the work of a laborer-hod carrier and brick and block finisher, I will be willing to reevaluate my determination and consider a new classification. However, without additional compelling documentation distinguishing the brick and block finisher from the hod carriers, mason tenders and mortarmen I am unable to add a classification that is already covered by another scope.

Mr. Dennis Becker

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Washington State prevailing wage information, including the WACs, are available on the Department's web site: <http://www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/PrevWage/default.asp>.

I hope this answers your questions. If you need additional information or have questions, please call or email me at 360 902-5330 or [somd235@lni.wa.gov](mailto:somd235@lni.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

David J. Soma

Industrial Statistician

Prevailing Wage Program Manager

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

The Washington State Conference of Mason Contractors / Independent Mason Contractors and Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Local 1 of Washington agree as follows:

*Effective January 1, 2008, all contractors bound to the collective bargaining agreement between the Washington State Conference of Mason Contractors and BAC Local #1 Washington or the agreement between the Independent Mason Contractors and BAC Local #1 Washington agree to the following addition of Brick and Block Finisher language.*

1. Brick and Block Finishers may be employed to assist the journeyman or apprentice with such duties as sawing, cleaning, washing, grouting or any other BAC work assigned by the BAC foreman to increase the productivity of the journeyman or apprentice. Under no circumstances shall their duties consist of laying, setting or striking of any materials.

The intent of this section is not to replace any journeyman or apprentice but rather to increase to productivity for the benefit of the masonry industry. Brick and Block Finisher wage rates shall be shown on Schedule B for Wages and Benefits.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall be considered as part of the Agreement now in place between the parties.

DATED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2007.

LABOR:

MANAGEMENT:

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**WESTERN WASHINGTON MASONRY TRADES APPRENTICESHIP COMMITTEE**

**VIII. WORK PROCESSES:**

The apprentice shall receive on the job instruction and experience as is necessary to become a qualified journey-level worker versed in the theory and practice of the occupation covered by these Standards. The following is a condensed schedule of work experience, which every apprentice shall follow as closely as conditions will permit.

Employers/training agents shall only use registered apprentices to perform the work processes as stated in this section. (WAC 296-05-003 - Definitions)

**A. Brick and Block Finisher: Approximate Hours**

During his/her Apprenticeship, the finisher apprentice shall receive such instruction and experience in all branches of the trade, as are necessary to assist the Journey Level Bricklayer, in the performance of his/her duties. He/she shall also perform such duties on the job that are commonly related to the finisher apprentice.

1. Proper knowledge of tools and equipment .....	450
2. Proper knowledge of materials .....	450
3. Proper method of joining and finishing .....	650
4. Proper method of cleaning walls and floors .....	300
5. Mixing mud, by hand and with mixer.....	400
6. Proper knowledge of grout pumps and their uses .....	500
7. Proper method of grouting masonry walls .....	500
8. Proper knowledge of reinforcing steel .....	250
9. Proper knowledge of steel placement.....	<u>250</u>
<b>TOTAL HOURS:</b>	<b>3750</b>