



**GUAM PROPOSES NEW WAGE RATES FOR THE H-2B  
TEMPORARY WORKER PROGRAM**

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) is seeking comments from the public on the proposal of the Governor of Guam on the prevailing wage rates for construction workers in Guam under the H-2B temporary worker program.

The H-2B visa program allows U.S. employers to bring foreign nationals to the U.S. to fill temporary non-agricultural jobs, provided there are no qualified U.S. workers available to fill the positions and that hiring such foreign national will not adversely affect the wages or working conditions of U.S. workers.

The table below provides the current and proposed prevailing wage rates for construction occupations on Guam, as provided by the Guam Department of Labor to USCIS on January 10, 2010. The currently approved construction wage rates, which were based on 2007/2008 U.S. Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data, will remain in effect until any new prevailing wage rates are approved by USCIS.

<b><i>Occupations</i></b>	<b><i>Current Approved Hourly Wage Rate</i></b>	<b><i>Proposed Hourly Wage Rate</i></b>
Bricklayer	\$ 14.02	\$ 14.12
Camp Cook	11.85	12.83
Carpenter	13.56	13.75
Cement Mason	12.87	12.97
Construction Equipment Mechanic	14.14	15.15
Electrician	15.45	16.35
Heating, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration Mechanic	15.73	17.62
Operating Engineer	13.77	14.72

<b><i>Occupations</i></b>	<b><i>Current Approved Hourly Wage Rate</i></b>	<b><i>Proposed Hourly Wage Rate</i></b>
Painter	14.60	14.94
Pipe Fitter	16.80	15.24
Plasterer	10.98	11.61
Plumber	14.96	15.24
Reinforcing Metal Worker	12.56	12.88
Sheet Metal Worker	15.17	16.14
Structural Steel Worker	13.22	11.35
Surveyor Helper	15.98	15.20
Welder	16.09	16.19