**Section 2000.540 Prevailing Wage Required**

a) No Bidder will be awarded a contract for construction on public works unless its employees are paid wages and benefits and are working under conditions prevalent in the location where the work is to be performed.

b) Prevailing wage and conditions prevalent means the hourly wages *plus fringe benefits for health and welfare (such as, unemployment compensation, workman's compensation, liability insurance and health insurance), insurance, vacations and pensions paid generally, in the locality in which the work is being performed, to employees engaged in work of a similar character,* as determined by the Department of Labor (Ill. Rev. Stat. 1991, ch. 48, par. 39s-2).

c) Prevailing wage rates, benefits and conditions will be those in effect on the first date of the contract, provided that if the rate changes during the contract term and the amount of change is known before execution of the contract, then the contract rate will reflect the change in rate. Any increases in costs to the contractor due to changes in the prevailing rate of wages or labor law during the term of any contract shall be at the expense of the contractor and not at the expense of the Secretary of State.

(Source: Amended at 16 Ill. Reg. 10068, effective June 15, 1992)