



Public Works Apprenticeship Compliance - Quick Kit

Who This Is For

Owners/awardees, prime contractors, and subcontractors performing apprenticeable **telecom and/or low-voltage** scopes on California Public Works (Telecommunications Technician / Sound & Communications).

A. 5-Step Launch Checklist

1. Confirm Scope & Craft

Telecommunications Technician or Sound & Communications Installer (verify county determination).

2. File DAS-140 (Award Notice)

Send the DAS-140 to **all apprenticeship committees** for the applicable craft that cover the jobsite area. The CWA D9 Apprenticeship program is listed and must receive a copy of the DAS-140. Visit the DIR website to search all other apprenticeship programs near you. [California DIR](#)

3. Request Apprentices Via Das-142 (Dispatch Request)

Submit the request **to the apprenticeship committee(s) in that craft/area** at least **72 hours** (excluding weekends/holidays) before you need apprentices; it is **not sent to DAS**. If more than one committee can dispatch, you're expected to **request from all of them**. Include start window, site address, contact, expected apprentice hours.

4. Name A Qualified Supervisor

Journeyman/lead responsible for day-to-day oversight and hour sign-off.

5. Track Hours & Pay Correctly

Pay **prevailing wage + fringes**. Our program works directly with your Human Resources department to ensure prevailing wage rates are paid correctly. Note: Required onboarding/safety training is **paid** time.

B. Ratios - Quick Reference

- Follow the ratio for **Telecommunications Technician / Sound & Communications** in your area.
- Practical planning rule: **1 apprentice hour per 5 journeymen hours** (verify local ratio).
- Projects of any size, even short scopes still require **notification** and **apprentice** utilization.

C. Typical Apprenticeable Tasks (examples)

Many companies ask the scope of work a Telecommunications Technician / Sound & Communications can do. Below is a list of the most common tasks, but it is not a complete list.

- **Pathways & support:** J-hooks, tray, backboards, low-voltage conduit, firestop.
- **Cabling:** Pull/dress/label copper & fiber; RJ-45, LC/SC terminations; basic fiber splicing.
- **Testing & documentation:** Copper cert (up to Cat6A), OTDR/power meter, labeling, photo logs, as-builts.
- **Racks & panels:** Set/anchor racks/cabinets; grounding/bonding; mount low-voltage controllers/panels.
- **Security systems:** CCTV, access control (readers, REX, door contacts), intrusion devices, intercom/PA.
- **Controls assist:** Mount/terminate low-voltage I/O; point-to-point with commissioning lead.
- *Not included for apprentices (observe only):* line-voltage electrical, proprietary controller programming, AHJ acceptance tests requiring specific licenses.

D. FAQs

Do short scopes need apprentices? If the craft is apprenticeable and the project is more than \$30,000, **Yes**. File DAS-140 and request via DAS-142; we'll **size dispatch to actual hours**.

Who files the forms? Primes or Subcontractors? **Each contractor** performing apprenticeable work files its own **DAS-140/142**.

We require onboarding/safety - paid or unpaid? If your company or the project requires training in order to work, the training must be **paid** at the applicable prevailing wage rate. Training and Apprentice utilization is required even if the training time is longer than the project time. If the project is estimated at 20 apprentice hours, but your company requires 40 hours of onboarding and training, the apprentice will be paid a total of 60 hours.

We have our own “trainees.” Do they count? Only **registered apprentices** in a **state-approved program** count toward utilization. If you would like to register current employees as apprentices, speak to our team about enrollment and participation requirements.

Certified payroll tips? Use the **correct classification/title**. List apprentice hours (ST/OT) and **fringes**; retain copies of **DAS-140/142** in the project file. If your company does not already offer healthcare or pension options, our program provides Healthcare and 401(k) (Pension) vendors to meet DAS requirements.

Do I pay the Training Fee and Admin fee to the CAC? Our apprenticeship program is registered with the California Apprenticeship Council (CAC) and can accept training contributions on behalf of the CAC. Contributions are used by our program to support apprentices and signatory companies.

Contact:

Facilities Administrator - Dispatch: Jeneen Doctor | jeneen@cwaattf.org | 707-563-3944
Program Administrator: Jonathan Alvarado | jonathan@cwaattf.org | 951-598-4771

**This quick kit is an educational aid; verify craft ratios and county wage determinations for your specific project.*

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