



Intro

This FAQ is intended to help C-Specialty contractors complete and understand the EBD Northern Region C-Specialty Contractor Interest Form.

The purpose of the Interest Form is to establish a directory of pre-qualified C-Specialty contractors. Approved General B contractors participating in the EBD Northern California Program may engage contractors from this directory to perform subcontracted work for the EBD Program. The directory is non-exclusive, meaning contractors listed in the directory may or may not be engaged by one or more approved General B contractors based on project needs, geography, trade, and availability. Submission of the Interest Form does not guarantee inclusion in the directory or assignment of work.

All C-10, C-36, and C-20 contractors interested in being eligible for subcontracting must be on this list. Other C-specialty contractors are encouraged to apply.

Before beginning your submission, we encourage you to review this FAQ document and gather any information or documentation that may be requested, such as your CSLB license information, company qualifications, relevant project experience, workforce information, and any applicable Preference Criteria documentation.

Contractor Information

This section provides basic information regarding your firm. This includes CSLB licensing information, business information, and industry experience under your CSLB license.

Service Territory

Select the communities and counties where your company is interested in providing services. Current Initial Community Focus Areas (ICFAs) are listed first, followed by additional counties that may become eligible as the Program expands. Refer to the [Service Territory Map](#) for additional information.

Program Requirements

To participate in the EBD Northern California Program, C-Specialty contractors must acknowledge that they understand and can comply with the Program requirements if engaged by a General B contractor. These requirements include:

Insurance Requirements

1. What insurance is required to participate as a C-Specialty contractor?

All participating C-Specialty contractors must maintain insurance that meets the EBD Northern Region Program minimum requirements. At a minimum, contractors must maintain:



- Commercial General Liability Insurance:
 - \$1 million per occurrence
 - \$2 million aggregate
- Workers' Compensation Insurance:
 - As required by California law for all employees performing Program work
- Automobile Liability Insurance:
 - \$1 million per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage
- Contractor Bonding:
 - As required by the California Contractors State License Board (CSLB)

2. Will I need to provide proof of insurance when submitting this form?

No. Proof of insurance is not required as part of the Interest Form submission. If you are engaged by a General B contractor to perform EBD Program work, you will be required to provide Certificates of Insurance (COIs), endorsements, and other supporting documentation upon request.

3. Will the Program need to be named as an additional insured?

Yes. Contractors should expect to provide additional insured documentation as part of the onboarding and contracting process.

Prevailing Wage Requirements

1. Are C-Specialty contractors required to comply with prevailing wage requirements?

Yes. All contractors and subcontractors performing EBD Northern California Program work must comply with the Program's prevailing wage requirements.

2. Are the requirements different for single-family and multifamily projects?

Yes.

Single-Family, Mobile Home, and Manufactured Home Projects

- Contractors must pay wages that align with the Program's approach which include prevailing wage and required benefits (e.g., medical, vacation, etc.).
- Wage rates are based on applicable DIR prevailing wage classifications and county straight hourly wage determinations.
- DIR Public Works compliance and reporting are not required.

Multifamily Projects (2+ units)

- Contractors and subcontractors must register with DIR and comply with all applicable DIR Public Works prevailing wage requirements.
- Contractors must be prepared to participate in certified payroll reporting and other DIR compliance activities.

As a reference: DIR residential rates by location:

<https://www.dir.ca.gov/oprl/residential/reslist.html>



Workforce Training and Safety Requirements

1. What OSHA training is required?

The Program requires:

Field Workers / Non-Management Personnel

- OSHA 10 (or Cal/OSHA equivalent)

Supervisors, Forepersons, Project Managers, and Management Personnel

- OSHA 30 (or Cal/OSHA equivalent)

2. What is the difference between OSHA 10 and OSHA 30?

OSHA 10

- Intended for workers performing installation and construction activities.
- Provides basic job site safety awareness training.
- Required for non-management personnel.

OSHA 30

- Intended for supervisors and managers.
- Provides more advanced training on workplace safety responsibilities, hazard recognition, and safety program oversight.
- Required for management personnel overseeing field work.

3. Does every worker need OSHA certification?

Yes. Every field worker performing the Program work must hold OSHA 10 or OSHA 30 certification appropriate to their role. This does not apply to office or administrative staff.

4. Is OSHA training the only workforce requirement?

No. At least one-third (33%) of construction workers on each installation project must meet one of the following qualifications:

Option 1

- Graduate of a state-approved apprenticeship program. State approved apprenticeship programs can be found [here](#).

Option 2

- At least three years of relevant installation experience; and
- Training and/or certification related to the equipment being installed.



5. How is the one-third workforce requirement applied to C-Specialty contractors?

The General B contractor is responsible for demonstrating overall project compliance. However, C-Specialty subcontractors may be required to provide documentation showing that their assigned workers meet the Program's experience and training requirements.

6. What documentation may be requested for workers assigned to EBD projects?

If engaged by a General B contractor, C-Specialty contractors may be asked to provide documentation demonstrating that workers assigned to EBD installation projects meet the Program's training and experience requirements. Examples of documentation may include:

- OSHA 10 or OSHA 30 certificates
- Apprenticeship completion certificates
- Trade certifications
- Manufacturer training certificates
- Documentation demonstrating relevant installation experience
- Other documentation requested by the General B contractor or the Program

7. Will training requirements be verified?

Yes. The Program and/or the General B contractor may request evidence supporting workforce qualifications and training claims at any time.

8. Is participation in apprenticeship programs required?

No. Participation in a state-approved apprenticeship program is not required for eligibility.

9. Will I need to complete Program-specific training?

Yes. Approved C-Specialty contractors must agree to complete any required Program onboarding, orientation, or rules training before performing EBD work.

Experience

Summarize your company's experience performing residential retrofit and electrification projects, including the building types and measures you have installed.

1. What experience is required?

To be eligible for the EBD Northern Region C-Specialty Contractor Directory, contractors must have at least three years of experience performing work in their licensed trade. Your submission should demonstrate your company's experience with residential retrofit and electrification projects.

2. What information should I include in my experience summary?

Describe the types of residential retrofit and electrification projects your company has completed. Include the types of measures installed (such as heat pump HVAC systems, heat pump water



heaters, electrical upgrades, induction cooking equipment, ventilation improvements, weatherization, or other energy efficiency measures) and the residential building types you have served.

3. Will the Program verify my experience?

Your experience is self-attested. However, a Gen

eral B contractor may request references or additional information to verify your experience.

Contractor Preference Criteria

The Preference Criteria are based on the EBD Program Guidelines. Select all criteria that apply to your company and be prepared to provide the required supporting documentation for each selected criterion.

1. What are the Preference Criteria?

The Preference Criteria are based on the EBD Program Guidelines and identify contractors that meet additional Program priorities. Contractors should select all criteria that apply to their company.

The EBD Guidelines recognize the following Preference Criteria:

- Comply with “skilled and trained workforce” standards as defined in [Public Contracts Code Section 2600](#), et seq.
- Are local to the community or county where the work will occur (geographic area Contractor is responding to in RFQ). Criteria for qualifying as local is a contractor business headquarters, satellite office, or previous program work completed in the area.
- Are owned by socially and economically disadvantaged individuals as indicated by the following certifications:
 - California’s Unified Certification Program for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises for socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, and/or
 - California’s Small Business and/or Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise, and/or
 - Other state or federally recognized certifications to verify that the business is a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise, Small Business, or Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE).
- Participate in relevant state-approved apprenticeship programs.
- Employ targeted hiring strategies to create jobs for residents of under resourced, tribal, or low-income communities, and individuals with barriers to employment.

2. How does Union Signatory status affect the Program Preference Criteria?

A Union signatory agreement qualifies as documentation for 3 of the preference criteria: Comply with “skilled and trained workforce” standards, participate in relevant state-approved apprenticeship programs, and employ targeted hiring strategies.



3. Do I have to meet any Preference Criteria to submit an Interest Form?

No. Preference Criteria are not required to submit an Interest Form. However, the initial C-Specialty Contractor Directory is expected to include contractors that meet at least three Preference Criteria. If additional contractors are needed to support Program implementation, the Program may expand the directory to include other qualified contractors.