

NJ Child Care Facilities Improvement Program – Phase 1

Tips on Finding a Public Works Registered Contractor

In order to apply for the NJ Child Care Facilities Improvement Grant program, child care providers **must** find and utilize the services of a New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (NJDOL) Public Works registered contractor(s) to provide a quote and eventually to complete the work of the project. You can find a searchable list of approximately 6,000 Public Works contractors <u>here maintained by NJDOL</u>¹. To help with that process, NJEDA has prepared this tips guide make the process easier. Phone numbers and websites are not included on the NJDOL searchable list, so you may need to use a search engine (e.g. Google) to find contact information for the contractors.

NJEDA is also creating a list of Public Works registered contractor(s) who are specifically interested in working on projects funded by the Child Care Facilities Improvement Program. That list can be found here².

TIP #1: Public Works Contractors are accustomed to responding to bids rather than developing quotes themselves, which is what they will be doing for you. Some may have never worked with a child care facility before. Prior to contacting any contractor, use the **Project Idea Board** (found here) resource in the Planning Guide to help you think through how you'd use the grant funding if awarded it. That planning will give you a better idea of the work needed, the kind of contractor(s) you'll want to contact and will guide your conversations with them. Then, when you're ready you can begin searching the list of Public Works registered contractors.

TIP #2: If you determine your project will need several crafts or specialties (like plumbing, electrical work, or carpentry), consider searching for a General Contractor (GC) who would manage all those projects and the registered contractors with specialties completing the work. For example, if your project includes replacing windows, installing new flooring, building a storage closet, and installing a new playground structure, consider

¹ Department of Labor Public Works registered contractor list can be found at https://app.powerbigov.us/view?r=eyJrljoiN2E4MDhiZjQtMTQyNi00YzliLTk3NDAtNjhhNGY0MTQ3Mzg1liwidCl6ljUwNzZjM2QxLTM4MDltNGI5Zi1iMzZhLWUwYTQxYmQ2NDJhNyJ9

² NJEDA Interested DOL Public Works registered contractor list can be found at www.njeda.com/child-care-improvement-program

reaching out to a GC). Please note in any conversations with any GC that it is required that **all subcontractors** must also be Public Works registered contractors.

TIP #3: If you have a contractor in mind and want to know if they are registered, enter their name in the **Search Business Name** field on the <u>Public Works Registered Contractors</u> list. Reminder that at the time of your application, all contractors and subcontractors must be a registered Public Works contractor. If a contractors would like to become certified, they must meet certain requirements including participation in an approved apprenticeship program and pay a registration fee. More information can be found here contract NJDOL at pwcr@dol.nj.gov with questions.

New Jersey Public Works Registered Contractors

WAGE AND HOUR DISCLAIMER: This list of registered Public Works contractors and subcontractors is provided for informational purposes only. The New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Wage & Hour Division and Contract Compliance makes the official Public Works Contractor Registration status determinations. For specific and current registration information status, contact Wage & Hour Division and Contract Compliance at pwcr@dol.nj.gov or 609-292-9464.

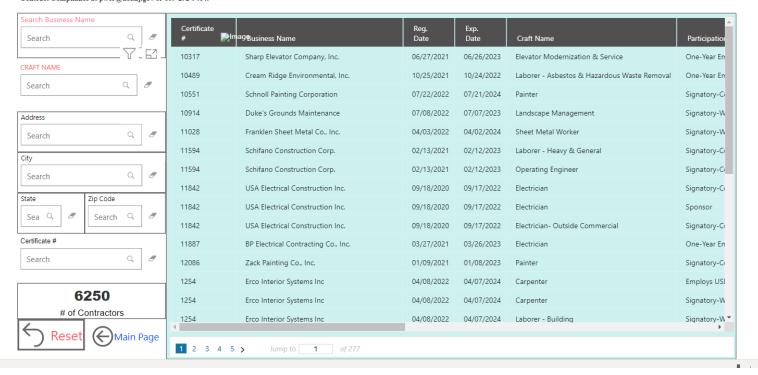


This is what the searchable list looks like once you've clicked on the link. Note: from this view you cannot see a contractor's craft or specialty.

TIP #4: From the main search page, click on the **Contractors with Crafts** button in the bottom left of the screen. You will then see Crafts listed next to the contractor's name. A craft is the specialty the contractor has like electrician, carpenter, painter or plumber.

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TIP #5: If you know the kind of specialty you are looking for, type it in the **Craft Name** field. You can also look for that specialty within a specific city or zip code.