

# South Dakota Department of Transportation (SDDOT)

## Significant Revisions (after April 1998)

To the Defined Work Classifications of the SDDOT's Highway-Heavy Wage Rates

### Group Code

- GL1 Air Tool Operator:** Any worker who uses tools driven by compressed air. May perform such work as breaking old pavement, loosening or digging hard earth, trimming bottom and sides of trenches, breaking large rocks, ~~driving sheeting~~, driving pins into concrete forms, chipping concrete, trimming or cutting stone, or compaction of earthen backfill. May perform other related duties. May not perform related welding. (Updated verbiage to more reflect the construction industry's current standards. Effective on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)
- GL1 Common Laborer:** A general term used on construction covering many unskilled occupations. A laborer may work alone or with crews performing a number of tasks including pick and shovel work, cleaning up lumber, shoveling and placing concrete, applying coating of oil to inside face of forms, placing mats on newly poured concrete and keep them moist for curing purposes, opening cement sack at batch plant, assisting with preparation of ground for seeding or sodding, **laying culvert pipe into a grading project.**
- ~~Duties may also include carrying, placing, tying reinforcing steel under supervision, cutting or bending rods with bending machine. Placing steel or prefabricated reinforcement assembly for placement in concrete forms. May rub concrete surfaces with abrasive stone to remove rough spots. May refuel equipment. (Updated verbiage to more reflect the construction industry's current standards. The portion highlighted in yellow was moved to the new classification, I01 on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)~~
- GL1 Flagger:** A flagger must be **certified per** South Dakota ~~certified~~ Specifications. Controls and directs vehicular or pedestrian traffic around the work site manually, using a flag and/or a stop-slow paddle. Flaggers may also be required to set up barriers, set out traffic warning cones, or tend flashing warning lights. (Updated verbiage per the SDDOT and effective on the 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)
- GL1 Blue-top Checker:** ~~(stake jumpers) Duties include pulling stakes that have been inserted by the Grade Checker, to keep construction layout stakes away from dirt moving equipment. Duties may include giving hand signals to the grader operator for the depth of a cut needed. (New classification on the SDDOT's 09-23-1999 Wage Decision.) (Removed per industry standard suggestions and effective on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Wage Decision)~~
- GL1 Materials Checker:** Duties include using a tape measure and directing the trucks dumping granular material to back up, if required. Duties may include bundling the daily weigh delivery tickets for the Superintendent's summary and certification. (New classification on the SDDOT's 09-23-1999 Wage Decision.)
- GL1 Special Surface Finish Applicator:** Duties include preparing structure surface using sand blaster or power water sprayer to provide absorptive surface and **apply** commercial texture finish ~~may be applied~~ by brushing, rolling or by spraying - as per manufacturer's recommendations. (New classification on the SDDOT's 09-23-1999 Wage Decision.) (Originally a GL2, was moved to a GL1 and updated on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Wage Decision.)

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- GL2 Pipe Layer (except laying culvert pipe):** Lays glazed or unglazed clay, concrete, steel or cast-iron pipe to form water lines, gas lines, sanitary sewers; smooths bottom of trench to proper elevation by scooping with a shovel; receives pipe lowered from top of trench; inserts spigot end of pipe into bell end of last pipe; adjusts pipe to line and grade, caulks joint with oakum or yarn and seals joint with cement or other sealing compound; may connect threaded or flanged joint pipe. May perform other related duties. (Updated minor verbiage to conform more to current industry standards. Effective on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)
- GL3 Oiler-Greaser:** (This classification was moved from the GO4 to the GL3 Group Code on the SDDOT's 09-23-1999 Wage Decision, to reflect the construction industry's opinion of skill level required to perform this duty.)
- GL6 Grade Checker:** (This classification was moved from the GL4 to the GL6 Group Code on the SDDOT's 09-23-1999 Wage Decision, to reflect the construction industry's opinion of skill level required to perform this duty. The GL4 Group Code was eliminated on the SDDOT's 09-23-1999 Wage Decision.)
- G01 Conveyor:** ~~Operates conveyor with or without screening and or mixing attachment. May oil, grease or otherwise service and make necessary adjustments and repairs to the machine. May perform other related duties.~~ (This classification was eliminated per current industry standards on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)
- G01 Self-Propelled Broom:** Operates a self-propelled gasoline or diesel powered broom to include street sweeper/pickup brooms. Works controls or levers to lower or raise and/or control angle of the broom. May oil, grease or otherwise service and make necessary adjustments to equipment as needed. May perform other related duties. (Updated verbiage to conform more with current industry standards. Effective on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)
- G01 Paver Feeder:** Duties include operating levers of the feeder that is attached to the front of a paving machine to engage the conveyor to pick up the asphalt from the roadbed and feeds the asphalt into the paving machine. (New classification on the SDDOT's 08-24-2000 Wage Decision.)
- G01 Pugmill:** Duties include processing subbase, or base course material by road mix or plant mix methods, which includes operating levers to uniformly feed material into mixer at a pre-determined rate. May oil, grease or otherwise service equipment as needed. (New classification on the SDDOT's 08-24-2000 Wage Decision.)
- G01 Skid Steer:** Operates a small powered (Bobcat like) machine that is used to dig, move landscaping and building materials, grade, jackhammer cement, and load trucks. Machine may have other attachments. May oil, grease or otherwise service and make necessary adjustments to equipment as needed. May perform other related duties. (New classification that the DOL approved with South Dakota's Davis-Bacon Highway Heavy Wage Decision, dated 10-28-2011.)

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- G02 Concrete Paving Cure Machine:** Operate a self-propelled **or manual** machine which travels on concrete paving forms, and operates pump on the machine which sprays curing compound on freshly poured concrete. May oil, grease or otherwise service and make necessary adjustments to equipment as needed. May perform other related duties. (Updated verbiage and moved this classification from a G01 to conform more to current industry standards. Effective on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)
- G02 Concrete Paving Joint Sealer:** Operates a powered machine that mixes sealing compound for sealing expansion and contraction joints in pavement. Machine may have heater attachment. Operator guides machine over joint as sealing compound is pumped directly into joint. May oil, grease or otherwise service and make necessary adjustment. May perform other related duties. (Moved from a G01 to more conform with current industry standards. Effective on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)
- G02 Concrete Grooving:** Creates grooves precise locations in concrete and asphalt surfacing preceding the application of pavement markings and installs non-sinusoidal rumble strips. Involves the use of grinders, vacuums and pressure washers used to remove excess material off roads. (New classification added to conform with industry standards approved by the USDOL. Effective on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)
- G03 Material Spreader:** (This classification was moved from the G01 to the G03 Group Code on the SDDOT's 09-23-1999 Wage Decision, to reflect the construction industry's opinion of skill level required to perform this duty.)
- G03 Rumble Strip Machine:** Operates small machines used to cut wide grooves on concrete or asphalt. May oil, grease or otherwise service and make necessary adjustments to equipment as needed. May perform other related duties. (New classification that the DOL approved with South Dakota's Davis-Bacon Highway Heavy Wage Decision, dated 10-28-2011.)
- G03 Backhoes/Excavators – 20 tons or less equipment operating weight:** Operates boom type excavation equipment **and includes operating attachments**. May oil, grease or service and make necessary adjustments to equipment as needed. May perform other related duties. (Updated verbiage to conform more to current industry standards. Effective on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)
- G03 Off-Highway Haul Trucks Euclid or Dumpster:** Operates a self-propelled, rubber tired, truck type machine, designed primarily for rugged, heavy duty, off-road use, to haul any single or variety of materials, except water. May be forward, rear or belly dump. May oil, grease or otherwise service and make necessary adjustments to equipment as needed. May perform other related duties. (Updated verbiage to conform more to current industry standards. Effective on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)

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- G03 Material Spreader or Placer:** Operates various types of spreader boxes, **placers** or devices, including shouldering machine, for the purpose of spreading **or placing concrete**, gravel, rock chips, lime or similar materials on roadbed. Duties may include interpretation of plan grade and elevations. May oil, grease or otherwise service and make necessary adjustments and repairs to equipment. May perform other related duties. (Updated verbiage to conform more to current industry standards. Effective on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)
- G03 Pavement Marking Equipment:** Pavement marking grinding, grooving and pavement marking removal trucks. Read and interpret plans, lay out of roads to be marked, ensure proper depth and placement of grooves for pavement marking to be applied in ensure proper alignment of markings, service and maintain equipment. (New classification to conform with industry standards. The USDOL approved and will be effective on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)
- G04 Concrete Paving Finishing Machine:** Operates a self-propelled machine (mainline or curb and gutter) which levels fresh concrete to approximate grade and contour. May oil, grease or otherwise and make necessary adjustments to equipment as needed. May perform other related duties. (Moved from a G03 to more conform to current industry standards. Effective on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)
- G04 Concrete Pump Truck:** Operates a large diesel-powered truck mounting a powerful pump, sectioned hose or cylinder, and cylinder frame used to dispense concrete. May oil, grease or otherwise service and make necessary adjustments to equipment as needed. May perform other related duties. (New classification that the DOL approved with South Dakota's Davis-Bacon Highway Heavy Wage Decision, dated 10-28-2011.)
- G05 Bridge Certified Welder:** Duties of a ~~qualified~~ certified **bridge** welder may include welds of position 3G (vertical) and/or position 4G (overhead) on steel structures. Steel structure welding shall be done in accordance with the latest edition of the ANSI/AASHTO/AWS D1.5 Bridge Welding Code (~~Code~~) and/or D1.1 Structural Welding Code-Steel (Code). Approved Welding Procedure Specifications are required for all (steel structure) welding and shall be based upon Procedure Qualification Testing in accordance with the Code. Such welding will not be allowed without a valid Welder Certification Card. (New classification on the SDDOT's 09-27-2001 Wage Decision.)
- GT1 Single Axle Truck over 26,000 GVW (with or without trailer):** May drive a single rear axle type truck, over 26,000 GVW, to transport loads of water or construction material. May have various beds attached which include, but are not limited to, dump, flatbed, and tank. May oil, grease or otherwise service a single-axle truck and make necessary adjustments as needed. (Updated verbiage to more conform with industry standards. Effective on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)

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- GT2** **Tandem Truck (with pup or trailer)**: Drives a heavy-duty gasoline or diesel-powered tandem truck with pup; rear axled, single unit truck used to haul water, materials and equipment. May oil, grease or otherwise service and make necessary adjustments to equipment as needed. May perform other related duties. (Updated verbiage to conform more to current industry standards. Effective on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)
- I01** **Steel Rebar**: Position and secure steel bars or mesh in concrete for reinforcement, steel tyers, saw. Duties may also include carrying, placing, tying reinforcing steel under supervision, cutting. Placing steel or prefabricated reinforcement assembly for placement in concrete forms. (New classification added under the direction of the USDOL on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)
- I02** **Structural Steel**: Erect, place and join steel girders, columns, structural framework, air wrenches, spud bars, grinders, drills, sledgehammers, tag lines, plumb bobs, lasers, levels, bolts, wire, welds, shears, rod-bending machines, torches. (New classification added under the direction of the USDOL on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)
- P01** **Painter**: (This classification was moved from the GL7 to the GL6 Group Code on the SDDOT's 09-23-1999 Wage Decision, to reflect the construction industry's opinion of skill level required to perform this duty. The GL7 Group Code was eliminated on the SDDOT's 09-23-1999 Wage Decision.) (This classification was moved from a GL6 to its own Group Code with two classifications under recommendations from the USDOL on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Wage Decision.)
- P01** **Striping**: Duties include applying paint pavement markings using a self-propelled pneumatic spraying machine or operates control knobs on the back of a paint truck. (New classification on the SDDOT's 08-24-2000 Wage Decision.) (This classification was moved and updated from the GL2 to the new P01 Group Code on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Wage Decision as recommended by the USDOL.)
- P01** **Pavement Marking Installer/Applicator**: Line striping machine, to include paint trucks, epoxy trucks (to include all plural component material), thermoplastic trucks, cold applied plastic/and performed thermoplastic pavement marking application equipment for both permanent and temporary applications. They are required to ensure proper application rates of materials, layout and alignment of the markings being installed. To include hand spraying all liquid products, installation of cold applied plastic pavement markings, installation of preformed thermoplastic pavement markings and pavement marking removal using small hand machines. Operating pavement marking equipment to include epoxies, paints, primers, sealers, cold applied tapes, thermoplastics used for traffic marking purposes. (New classification added under the direction of the USDOL on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)
- P02** **Bridge Painter**: Painting or protective coating bridges, apply varnish, anti-rust materials, prepare steel or other surfaces with primer or sandblasting, paints structural steel framework of bridges, guardrails and cables or bridges and other structures. May perform other related duties. (New classification added under the direction of the USDOL on the SDDOT's 01-30-2026 Davis Bacon Wage Decision.)