



MODEL PLA

The attached Project Labor Agreement is a model for the use of State and Local Building Trades Councils. While each PLA should be tailored to suit the needs of the particular project(s), the following rules apply:

I. Content

A. Each PLA *must* contain the following five articles from the Model PLA:

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| 1. Clearly defined scope | Article II |
| 2. Dispute and grievance resolution procedures | Article VI |
| 3. Resolution of jurisdictional disputes (Plan language) | Article VII |
| 4. Subcontracting language | Article VIII |
| 5. Helmets to Hardhats language | Article IX |

B. No *public sector* PLA can contain a Union Security provision.

II. Approval

All PLAs *must* be submitted to NABTU for approval:

A. At the outset of negotiations, the Council must advise the project/construction manager, general contractor or other entity with which it is negotiating that the agreement will become effective only upon approval by NABTU.

B. Once negotiations conclude, and before the agreement is signed, the Council must submit the agreement to NABTU for approval. The agreement can be submitted through the portal on NABTU's website under the Field Services tab, or via email to Director of Field Services, Kevin Adkisson at kevin@nabtu.org or his assistant, Shari McGarvey at shari@nabtu.org



MODEL PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENT (rev. 04/2020)

ARTICLE I

PURPOSE

This Agreement is entered into this _____ day of _____ 20 __, by and between _____, its successors or assigns ("Project Contractor") and the [insert names of unions], acting on their own behalf and on behalf of their respective affiliates and members whose names are subscribed hereto and who have, through their duly authorized officers, executed this Agreement, hereinafter collectively called the "Union or Unions," with respect to the construction of the [name of Project], hereinafter "Project."

The term "Contractor" shall include all construction contractors and subcontractors of whatever tier engaged in onsite construction work within the scope of this Agreement, including the Project Contractor when it performs construction work within the scope of this Agreement. Where specific reference to [name of Project Contractor] alone is intended, the term "Project Contractor" is used.

The Parties to this Project Labor Agreement acknowledge that the construction of the [Project] is important to the development of _____ [description of Project and the specific needs it will serve]. The Parties recognize the need for the timely completion of the Project without interruption or delay. This Agreement is intended to enhance this cooperative effort through the establishment of a framework for labor-management cooperation and stability and to avoid workplace tension when union and non-union employees work side-by-side.

The Contractor(s) and the Unions agree that the timely construction of this Project will require substantial numbers of employees from construction and supporting crafts possessing skills and qualifications that are vital to its completion. They will work together to furnish skilled, efficient craftworkers for the construction of the Project.

Further, the parties desire to mutually establish and stabilize wages, hours and working conditions for the craftworkers on this construction project, to encourage close cooperation between the Contractor(s) and the Unions to the end that a satisfactory, continuous and harmonious relationship will exist between the parties to this Agreement.

Therefore, in recognition of the special needs of this Project and to maintain a spirit of harmony, labor-management peace, and stability during the term of this Agreement, the parties agree to abide by the terms and conditions in this Agreement, and to establish effective and binding methods for the settlement of all misunderstandings, disputes or grievances which may arise. Further, the Contractor(s) and all contractors of whatever tier, agree not to engage in any lockout, and the Unions agree not to engage in any strike, slow-down, or interruption or other disruption of or interference with the work covered by this Agreement.

ARTICLE II
SCOPE OF AGREEMENT

Section 1. This Project Agreement shall apply and is limited to the recognized and accepted historical definition of new construction work under the direction of and performed by the Contractor(s), of whatever tier, which may include the Project Contractor, who have contracts awarded for such work on the Project. Such work shall include site preparation work and dedicated off-site work.

The Project is defined as: (list all aspects of the construction work involved.) It is agreed that the Project Contractor shall require all Contractors of whatever tier who have been awarded contracts for work covered by this Agreement, to accept and be bound by the terms and conditions of this Project Agreement by executing the Letter of Assent (Attachment A) prior to commencing work. The Project Contractor shall assure compliance with this Agreement by the Contractors. It is further agreed that, where there is a conflict, the terms and conditions of this Project Agreement shall supersede and override terms and conditions of any and all other national, area, or local collective bargaining agreements, except for all work performed under the NTD Articles of Agreement, the National Stack/Chimney Agreement, the National Cooling Tower Agreement, the National Agreement of the International Union of Elevator Constructors; and all instrument calibration work and loop checking shall be performed under the terms of the UA/IBEW Joint National Agreement for Instrument and Control Systems Technicians; with the exception of Articles V, VI, and VII of this Project Agreement, which shall apply to such work. [It is understood that this is a self-contained, stand-alone Agreement and that by virtue of having become bound to this Project Agreement, neither the Project Contractor nor the Contractors will be obligated to sign any other local, area, or national agreement.]¹

Section 2. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to prohibit, restrict or interfere with the performance of any other operation, work, or function which may occur at the Project site or be associated with the development of the Project.

Section 3. This Agreement shall only be binding on the signatory parties hereto and shall not apply to their parents, affiliates or subsidiaries.

Section 4. The Owner and/or the Project Contractor have the absolute right to select any qualified bidder for the award of contracts on this Project without reference to the existence or non-existence of any agreements between such bidder and any party to this Agreement; provided, however, only that such bidder is willing, ready and able to become a party to and comply with this Project Agreement, should it be designated the successful bidder.

Section 5. Items specifically excluded from the scope of this Agreement include but are not

¹ The bracketed sentence is required on project agreements on public works. On private projects, it is subject to collective bargaining.

limited to the following: [list all items to be excluded].

Section 6. The provisions of this Project Agreement shall not apply to _____ (Owner), and nothing contained herein shall be construed to prohibit or restrict _____ (Owner) or its employees from performing work not covered by this Project Agreement on the Project site. As areas and systems of the Project are inspected and construction tested by the Project Contractor or Contractors and accepted by the Owner, the Project Agreement will not have further force or effect on such items or areas, except when the Project Contractor or Contractors are directed by the Owner to engage in repairs, modifications, check-out, and warranty functions required by its contract with the Owner during the term of this Agreement.

Section 7. It is understood that the Owner, at its sole option, may terminate, delay and/or suspend any or all portions of the Project at any time.

Section 8. It is understood that the liability of any employer and the liability of the separate unions under this Agreement shall be several and not joint. The unions agree that this Agreement does not have the effect of creating any joint employer status between or among the Owner, Contractor(s) or any employer.

ARTICLE III UNION RECOGNITION

Section 1. The Contractors recognize the signatory Unions as the sole and exclusive bargaining representatives of all craft employees within their respective jurisdictions working on the Project within the scope of this Agreement.

ARTICLE IV MANAGEMENT'S RIGHTS

The Project Contractor and Contractors of whatever tier retain full and exclusive authority for the management of their operations. Except as otherwise limited by the terms of this Agreement, the Contractors shall direct their working forces at their prerogative, including, but not limited to hiring, promotion, transfer, lay-off or discharge for just cause. No rules, customs, or practices shall be permitted or observed which limit or restrict production, or limit or restrict the working efforts of employees. The Contractors shall utilize the most efficient method or techniques of construction, tools, or other labor saving devices. There shall be no limitations upon the choice of materials or design, nor shall there be any limit on production by workers or restrictions on the full use of tools or equipment. There shall be no restriction, other than may be required by safety regulations, on the number of employees assigned to any crew or to any service.

ARTICLE V
WORK STOPPAGES AND LOCKOUTS

Section 1. During the term of this Agreement there shall be no strikes, picketing, work stoppages, slow downs or other disruptive activity for any reason by the Union, its applicable Local Union or by any employee, and there shall be no lockout by the Contractor. Failure of any Union, Local Union or employee to cross any picket line established at the Project site is a violation of this Article.

Section 2. The Union and its applicable Local Union shall not sanction, aid or abet, encourage or continue any work stoppage, strike, picketing or other disruptive activity at the Contractor's project site and shall undertake all reasonable means to prevent or to terminate any such activity. No employee shall engage in activities which violate this Article. Any employee who participates in or encourages any activities which interfere with the normal operation of the Project shall be subject to disciplinary action, including discharge, and if justifiably discharged for the above reasons, shall not be eligible for rehire on the Project for a period of not less than ninety (90) days.

Section 3. Neither the Union nor its applicable Local Union shall be liable for acts of employees for whom it has no responsibility. The International Union General President or Presidents will immediately instruct, order and use the best efforts of his office to cause the Local Union or Unions to cease any violations of this Article. An International Union complying with this obligation shall not be liable for unauthorized acts of its Local Union. The principal officer or officers of a Local Union will immediately instruct, order and use the best efforts of his office to cause the employees the Local Union represents to cease any violations of this Article. A Local Union complying with this obligation shall not be liable for unauthorized acts of employees it represents. The failure of the Contractor to exercise its right in any instance shall not be deemed a waiver of its right in any other instance.

ARTICLE VI
DISPUTES AND GRIEVANCES

Section 1. This Agreement is intended to provide close cooperation between management and labor. Each of the Unions will assign a representative to this Project for the purpose of completing the construction of the Project economically, efficiently, continuously, and without interruptions, delays, or work stoppages.

Section 2. The Contractors, Unions, and the employees, collectively and individually, realize the importance to all parties to maintain continuous and uninterrupted performance of the work of the Project, and agree to resolve disputes in accordance with the grievance-arbitration provisions set forth in this Article.

Section 3. Any question or dispute arising out of and during the term of this Project Agreement

(other than trade jurisdictional disputes) shall be considered a grievance and subject to resolution under the following procedures:

Step 1. (a) When any employee subject to the provisions of this Agreement feels he or she is aggrieved by a violation of this Agreement, he or she, through his or her local union business representative or job steward, shall, within five (5) working days after the occurrence of the violation, give notice to the work-site representative of the involved Contractor stating the provision(s) alleged to have been violated. The business representative of the local union or the job steward and the work-site representative of the involved Contractor and the Project Contractor shall meet and endeavor to adjust the matter within three (3) working days after timely notice has been given. The representative of the Contractor shall keep the meeting minutes and shall respond to the Union representative in writing (copying the Project Contractor) at the conclusion of the meeting but not later than twenty-four (24) hours thereafter. If they fail to resolve the matter within the prescribed period, the grieving party may, within forty-eight (48) hours thereafter, pursue Step 2 of the Grievance Procedure, provided the grievance is reduced to writing, setting forth the relevant information concerning the alleged grievance, including a short description thereof, the date on which the grievance occurred, and the provision(s) of the Agreement alleged to have been violated.

(b) Should the Local Union(s) or the Project Contractor or any Contractor have a dispute with the other party and, if after conferring, a settlement is not reached within three (3) working days, the dispute may be reduced to writing and proceed to Step 2 in the same manner as outlined herein for the adjustment of an employee complaint.

Step 2. The International Union Representative and the involved Contractor shall meet within seven (7) working days of the referral of a dispute to this second step to arrive at a satisfactory settlement thereof. Meeting minutes shall be kept by the Contractor. If the parties fail to reach an agreement, the dispute may be appealed in writing in accordance with the provisions of Step 3 within seven (7) calendar days thereafter.

Step 3. (a) If the grievance has been submitted but not adjusted under Step 2, either party may request in writing, within seven (7) calendar days thereafter, that the grievance be submitted to an Arbitrator mutually agreed upon by them. The Contractor and the involved Union shall attempt mutually to select an arbitrator, but if they are unable to do so, they shall request the American Arbitration Association to provide them with a list of arbitrators from which the Arbitrator shall be selected. The rules of the American Arbitration Association shall govern the conduct of the arbitration hearing. The decision of the Arbitrator shall be final and binding on all parties. The fee and expenses of such Arbitration shall be borne equally by the Contractor and the involved Local Union(s).

(b) Failure of the grieving party to adhere to the time limits established herein shall render the grievance null and void. The time limits established herein may be extended only by written consent of the parties involved at the particular step where the extension is agreed upon. The Arbitrator shall have the authority to make decisions only on issues presented to him or her, and he or she shall not have authority to change, amend, add to or detract from any of the provisions of this Agreement.

Section 4. The Project Contractor and Owner shall be notified of all actions at Steps 2 and 3 and shall, upon their request, be permitted to participate in all proceedings at these steps.

ARTICLE VII JURISDICTIONAL DISPUTES

Section 1. The assignment of work will be solely the responsibility of the Contractor performing the work involved; and such work assignments will be in accordance with the Plan for the Settlement of Jurisdictional Disputes in the Construction Industry (the "Plan") or any successor Plan.

Section 2. All jurisdictional disputes on this Project, between or among building trades unions and employers shall be settled and adjusted according to the present Plan established by North America's Building Trades Unions or any other plan or method of procedure that may be adopted in the future by North America's Building Trades Unions. Decisions rendered shall be final, binding and conclusive on the employers and unions.

Section 3. All jurisdictional disputes shall be resolved without the occurrence of any strike, work stoppage, or slow-down of any nature, and the Contractor's assignment shall be adhered to until the dispute is resolved. Individuals violating this section shall be subject to immediate discharge.

Section 4. Each Contractor will conduct a pre-job conference with the appropriate Building and Construction Trades Council prior to commencing work. The Project Contractor and the Owner will be advised in advance of all such conferences and may participate if they wish.

ARTICLE VIII SUBCONTRACTING

The Project Contractor agrees that neither it nor any of its contractors or subcontractors will subcontract any work to be done on the Project except to a person, firm or corporation who is or agrees to become party to this Agreement. Any contractor or subcontractor working on the Project shall, as a condition to working on said Project, become signatory to and perform all work under the terms of this Agreement.

ARTICLE IX HELMETS TO HARDHATS

[There are several options for Helmets to Hardhats language. The recommended language provides for employer contributions to Helmets to Hardhats. If the Council is unable to obtain funding for Helmets to Hardhats, just include Sections 1 and 2 in the PLA.]

Section 1. The Employers and the Unions recognize a desire to facilitate the entry into the

building and construction trades of veterans who are interested in careers in the building and construction industry. The Employers and Unions agree to utilize the services of the Center for Military Recruitment, Assessment and Veterans Employment (hereinafter "Center") and the Center's "Helmets to Hardhats" program to serve as a resource for preliminary orientation, assessment of construction aptitude, referral to apprenticeship programs or hiring halls, counseling and mentoring, support network, employment opportunities and other needs as identified by the parties.

Section 2. The Unions and Employers agree to coordinate with the Center to create and maintain an integrated database of veterans interested in working on this Project and of apprenticeship and employment opportunities for this Project. To the extent permitted by law, the Unions will give credit to such veterans for bona fide, provable past experience.

Section 3. [Option 1] In recognition of the work of the Center and the value it will bring to the Project, [name of Construction Manager or General Contractor] shall make a one-time contribution of \$_____ to the Center on behalf of itself and all other Employers employing workers under the terms of this Agreement based upon the total number of estimated hours to be worked under this Agreement multiplied by one (1) cent per hour.

Section 3. [Option 2] Each Employer performing work on this Project shall contribute to the Center the amount of one cent (\$0.01) per hour for each hour worked by each individual employee covered by this Agreement. Payment shall be forwarded monthly to the Center in a form and manner to be determined by the Center's Trustees.

Section 4. The Center shall function in accordance with, and as provided in the Agreement and Declaration of Trust, and any amendments thereto, and any other of its governing documents. Each Employer performing work covered by this Agreement approves and consents to the appointment of the Trustees designated pursuant to the Trust Agreement establishing the Center and hereby adopts and agrees to be bound by the terms and provisions of the Trust Agreement.

Section 5. Employers who fail to pay contributions or other payments owed to the Center within thirty (30) days of the date when such contributions or other payments are due shall be liable to the Trust for all costs of collection incurred by the Trust, including, attorneys' fees and court costs. The Trustees are empowered to initiate proceedings at law or equity, and to take any other lawful action necessary to collect contributions and all other payments due.

NOTE: The following provisions are to be determined by local collective bargaining:

1. Referral Procedures

[Note, however, that any referral provision must contain the following: "There shall be no discrimination against any employee or applicant for employment because of his or her membership or non-membership in the union or based upon race, creed, color, sex, age or national origin of such employee or applicant."]

2. Apprentices/Trainees/Helpers/Subjourneymen

3. Wages and Benefits

4. Work Rules

5. Union Security (Private sector PLAs only)

6. Union Representation

7. Hours of Work, Etc.

8. Safety and Health

9. General Savings Clause

10. Term of Agreement

Separate Signature Page