



## Better Builder Certification

City of Austin Standards  
2016-2017

### Wage and Salary

Standard	Better Builder	Better Builder Silver
Owner ensures compliance with all relevant local, state, and federal laws	✓	✓
Owner ensures all construction workers receive a minimum wage as defined by the City of Austin's living wage, currently at \$13.50 per hour for the year 2016	✓	✓
All construction workers are paid by check	✓	✓
All construction workers are paid, at minimum, once per week	✓	✓
Owner ensures all construction workers receive the higher of either a prevailing wage, as defined by the Davis Bacon Act, or the living wage of \$13.50 per hour		✓

### Health and Safety

Standard	Better Builder	Better Builder Silver
Owner ensures compliance with all relevant local, state, and federal laws	✓	✓
Owner ensures all construction workers receive personal protective equipment, free of charge	✓	✓
Owner ensures all construction workers receive a 10-hour, OSHA approved construction worker safety class prior to commencing construction work	✓	✓



Owner ensures all safety supervisors receive a 30-hour, OSHA approved construction worker safety class prior to commencing construction work	✓	✓
Owner ensures all construction workers receive first aid training from a course offered on the <a href="#">City of Austin's website</a>		✓
Owner ensures all construction workers receive CPR training from a course offered on the <a href="#">City of Austin's website</a>		✓

## Benefits

Standard	Better Builder	Better Builder Silver
All construction workers covered by workers' compensation insurance	✓	✓
Owner ensures all construction workers receive health care		✓
Owner ensures all construction workers receive up to eight (8) hours of paid time off for medical treatment or examination during a regularly scheduled workday if such treatment is due to work-related injury or illness		✓

## Skills Training

Standard	Better Builder	Better Builder Silver
Owner makes commercially reasonable efforts to ensure 30% of the project's workforce be students or graduates of local, DOL-registered apprenticeship programs and bilingual craft training programs that offer hands-on instruction at no cost to the worker	✓	
Owner is required to ensure 30% of the project's workforce be students or graduates of local, DOL-registered apprenticeship programs and bilingual craft training programs that offer hands-on instruction at no cost to the worker		✓



## Compliance

Standard	Better Builder	Better Builder Silver
Owner allows reasonable signage on the jobsite in both English and Spanish with the standards met and Workers Defense Project-certified monitor contact information, where other federal and state regulatory signage is posted	✓	✓
Owner agrees to pay a total certification fee to Better Builder certified monitor at the rate of \$1.25 per square foot of the total project size per annum, or \$5,000 per month, whichever is the lesser of the two, until the project reaches substantial completion	✓	✓
Owner agrees to allow an independent, Better Builder certified monitor on-site once per pay period to speak directly with construction workers during lunch and rest breaks to ensure all laws and standards are upheld	✓	✓
Owner signs a Better Builder Certification Agreement and agrees to comply with corrective action plans when Better Builder standards are not being upheld on the site	✓	✓

To become Better Builder certified, please contact the Better Builder Program at Workers Defense Project. You can reach us by phone, or email:

Workers Defense Project  
5604 Manor Road  
Austin, Texas 78723  
ATTN: Bo Delp, Better Builder Program Director  
(202) 341-7191  
[bo@workersdefense.org](mailto:bo@workersdefense.org)