

STATE

OF

TENNESSEE

December 12, 2022
(Rev. 9-12-23)
(Rev. 11-21-23)

January 1, 2021

SPECIAL PROVISION

REGARDING

BUILD AMERICA, BUY AMERICA ACT

REQUIREMENTS

The Build America, Buy America Act (BABA) Public Law No. 117-58 SEC. 70914 that all of the iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used are subject to Build America, Buy America requirements and are produced in the United States.

Effective 10/23/2023, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) revised guidance in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) title 2 and add a new part 184 – Buy America Preferences For Infrastructure Projects and revised 200.322.

- A. Iron and steel: FHWA existing requirements SP106A Regarding Buy America.
- B. Manufactured products: FHWA Buy America Final Rule 11/25/1983, 48 FR 53099; Waiver for Manufactured Products.
- C. Construction materials includes an article, material, or supply that is or consists of only one of the materials listed except as provided in 2).
 - 1) Construction materials:
 - non-ferrous metals;
 - plastic and polymer-based products (including polyvinylchloride, composite building materials, and polymers used in fiber optic cables);
 - Glass (including optic glass);
 - Fiber optic cable (including drop cable);
 - Optical fiber;
 - Lumber;
 - Engineered wood; and
 - Drywall.
 - 2) Minor additions of articles, materials, supplies, or binding agents to a construction material do not change the categorization of the construction material.

Construction materials incorporated into the project must meet one of the following construction material standards to be considered “**produced in the United States**”.

- 1) Non-ferrous metals. All manufacturing processes, from initial smelting or melting through final shaping, coating, and assembly, occurred in the United States.
- 2) Plastic and polymer-based products. All manufacturing processes, from initial combination of constituent plastic or polymer-based inputs, or, where applicable, constituent composite materials, until the item is in its final form, occurred in the United States.
- 3) Glass. All manufacturing processes, from initial batching and melting of raw materials through annealing, cooling, and cutting, occurred in the United States.
- 4) Fiber optic cable (including drop cable). All manufacturing processes, from the initial ribboning (if applicable), through buffering, fiber stranding and jacketing, occurred in the United States. All manufacturing processes also include the standards for glass and optical fiber, but not for non-ferrous metals, plastic and polymer-based products, or any others.
- 5) Optical fiber. All manufacturing processes, from the initial preform fabrication stage through the completion of the draw, occurred in the United States.
- 6) Lumber. All manufacturing processes, from initial debarking through treatment and planing, occurred in the United States.
- 7) Drywall. All manufacturing processes, from initial blending of mined or synthetic gypsum plaster and additives through cutting and drying of sandwiched panels, occurred in the United States.
- 8) Engineered wood. All manufacturing processes from the initial combination of constituent materials until the wood product is in its final form, occurred in the United States.

Provide certifications to the Engineer for the construction materials that they meet the Build America Buy America Act requirements. Assure all submittals required for Buy America are submitted to the Engineer prior to the products and or materials being incorporated in the project.

Effective August 16, 2023, with the US Department of Transportation (DOT) Office of the Secretary Docket No.: DOT-OST-2022-0124:

Waiver of Buy America Requirements for De Minimis Costs and Small Grants, decision, certain waivers to the requirements stated herein are allowed.

The BABA's domestic preferences for iron and steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in projects funded under DOT administered financial assistance programs will not apply under a single financial assistance award for the following situations:

- 1) The total value of the noncompliant products is no more than the lesser of \$1,000,000 or 5% of total applicable costs for the project; where the "total value of the non-compliant products" does not include the value of those products subject to a separate Buy America waiver. "Total applicable project costs" are defined as the cost of materials (including the cost of any manufactured products) used in the project that are subject to a domestic preference requirement, including materials that are within the scope of an existing waiver and the de minimis cost portion of the waiver does not apply to iron and steel subject to the requirements of 23 U.S.C. 313/ 23 CFR 635.410 (b)(4), or
- 2) The total amount of Federal financial assistance applied to the project, through awards or subawards, is below \$500,000 but this does not apply to iron, steel, and manufactured goods subject to the requirements of 49 U.S.C. 22905(a).

The waiver does not apply to products that are the subject of two separate product-specific Buy America waivers from the Department:

- 1) For awards administered by FHWA that are subject to 23 U.S.C. 313, the waiver does not apply to electric vehicle chargers, as defined in the notice at 88 FR 10619.
- 2) For awards that are subject to 49 U.S.C. 5323(j), the waiver does not apply to mass-produced, unmodified non-ADA accessible vans and minivans with seating capacity for at least six adults not including the driver, as those terms are used in the notice at 87 FR 64534.

DOT Waiver of Buy America Requirements for De Minimis Costs requirements:

Provide certifications, documents, and calculations to the Engineer for all of the noncompliant products anticipated to be used in the project before being incorporated.

The contractor shall be responsible for all cost associated with products that are permanently incorporated into the project that does not meet the requirements of this Special Provision without prior written approval from the Department, up to and including removal and replacement.