

Electronic Standard Specifications for Road, Bridge and Municipal Construction, Implementation Plan

Overview

WSDOT will no longer be printing a paperback version of the Standard Specifications for Road, Bridge and Municipal Construction (Standard Specifications). The Standard Specifications will now be provided as an electronic file posted annually in early September of the year prior. The first distribution will be the 2020 Electronic Standard Specification posting in early September 2019.

Reasons for the Change

1. Simplify the contract administration process by eliminating the need for amendments
2. Supports the agency's movement toward more efficient and coordinated use of technology
3. Significant step towards having future, all-electronic, construction contract documents
4. Moves WSDOT away from functions not aligned with the agency's core business functions (i.e. printing and distribution of the Standard Specifications).

Options Available

1. The traditional book will be replaced with an electronic file available as a free download. An electronic file of the current book is available at <https://www.wsdot.wa.gov/publications/manuals/fulltext/M41-10/SS.pdf>. Files will readily download to devices such as tablets, laptops or smartphones. At a minimum, capabilities typically include zoom, search and active links.
2. Hard copies can be purchased through any online, on-demand publishers such as 48 Hour Books, Steuben Press, DiggyPOD or others. The price is dependent upon the company used and nature of the order. The price will typically range from \$20 to \$40.
3. Individuals outside of WSDOT can purchase an 8.5 inch by 11 inch printed paper copy suitable for a three ring binder from Washington State Department of Enterprise Services available at the following link. <https://prtonline.myprintdesk.net/DSF/SmartStore.aspx?6xni2of2cF1OAY5jHVvIUrUsqozrCjF3xgL/DdBBf+Sre9e470j4aMR+LcLIWmKS#!/CategoryHome/1013>. The price is dependent upon the nature of the order typically falling in the range of \$50 to \$60 per copy.
4. WSDOT employees can purchase an 8.5 inch by 11 inch printed paper copy suitable for a three ring binder from WSDOT HQ Printing Services. The price is dependent upon the nature of the order typically falling in the range of \$45 to \$50 per copy.

The future (2020 and beyond) Standard Specifications will include all changes that occurred during the previous year. This simplifies the process by creating one consistent Standard Specifications document for projects each year.

Updates to Standard Specifications

In the past, issues such as errors, law changes, or changes in wage rates required the release of an immediate update to the Standard Specifications in the form of an amendment. Going forward, these changes will take the form of mandatory General Special Provisions (GSPs). The next regular Standard Specifications will incorporate these GSPs for the previous year and note them as revisions. This will keep the Standard Specifications versions consistent during the year.

PUBLICATION OF THE 2020 STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS

- Posting of the file is scheduled for September 1, 2019
- The 2020 Standard Specifications will include all GSP revisions to date plus any other new specifications approved through August 2019

Version Control

The appropriate version of the Standard Specifications applicable to a particular contract will be identified by the contract provisions at the beginning of the General Special Provisions.

Future Goal

This effort serves a step towards the goal of an all-electronic environment.

Contact Information

You may email us at: standardspecifications@wsdot.wa.gov with any questions, suggestions or concerns related to this subject.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information: This material can be made available in an alternate format by emailing the Office of Equal Opportunity at wsdotada@wsdot.wa.gov or by calling toll free, 855-362-4ADA(4232). Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may make a request by calling the Washington State Relay at 711.

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