

## **LPA Specification Information**

1. Review the LaDOTD Standard and Supplemental Specifications and Spec Items Report which can be found at <https://www.dotd.la.gov/about/office-of-engineering/publications-and-downloads/specifications-and-standards/specifications/> to choose the appropriate pay items and confirm the scope of work and units meet your project's needs.
  - a. If you see a listed Non-Standard (NS) pay item that you think will apply, contact your Project Manager to get a copy of the associated specification and direction as to what information is necessary for approval to use the specification. NS pay items designate items with approved specifications that are not included in the Standard Specification book. NS pay items cannot be modified. If NS pay items do not fit the need of your project, notify your Project Manager that you may need to create a Technical Specification.
  - b. If the Standard and Supplemental Specifications do not contain a pay item matching your description in type, scope of work, and pay item units, notify your Project Manager that you may need to create a Technical Specification.
  - c. If you want to use an existing LaDOTD pay item but do not want to use its associated specification, notify your Project Manager that you may need to create a Technical Specification.
2. Technical Specifications are specifications, of a unique or highly technical nature, prepared, signed, and sealed by an Engineer or Architect registered in the State of Louisiana with recognized expertise in the field, that are made part of the Contract as an attachment to the Contract Documents. LaDOTD must review the Technical Specification and justification for use. FHWA approval may be required. To avoid potential letting date delays, notify your Project Manager as early as possible in the design process if a Technical Specification is needed.
  - a. To create a Technical Specification, submit your draft Technical Specification to your Project Manager with documented engineering reasons for not using LaDOTD's Specification.
    - If the Technical Specification refers to LPA standard plans or details, include a copy of the plan or detail for review. Ensure that the LPA standard plan or detail is included in the final plan submittal.
    - Technical Specifications that are proprietary and/or sole sourced products require that a proprietary letter be approved by the Chief Engineer before use. Contact your Project Manager for direction on proprietary product approval.
  - b. After review by appropriate DOTD sections, your Project Manager will give you recommended changes and pay item numbers for your specification. Incorporate the necessary changes and submit a final version of the specification with a cover that is signed and stamped by the engineer of record to be submitted for approval by the Chief Engineer and FHWA.
3. Ensure that the use of plan callouts or plan notes do not conflict with the information found in the specifications, such as material descriptions, construction instructions, measurement, and payment. Avoid the use of product names and "or approved equal" in plans. A proprietary use letter must be approved by the Chief Engineer before specifying one manufacturer and product name in plans. Contact your Project Manager for direction on proprietary product approval.