Caltrans Local Assistance

RESIDENT ENGINEER ACADEMY

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

January 2025

Resident Engineer Academy

The Caltrans Division of Local Assistance (DLA) enriches California communities by empowering partners to deliver diverse mobility projects. DLA provides assistance for California Tribes and local public agencies through quarterly webinars, trainings and resources.

The Resident Engineer Academy (REA) is an interactive five-day course that provides core training for California tribal and local public resident engineers, and responsible persons administering construction contracts using federal and state funds.

The Caltrans Local Assistance and Office of Civil Compliance instructors are subject matter experts who apply practical application approaches to deliver process overview, document examples, problem-solving activities, while answering attendees' questions for current projects. The course also provides a unique learning environment designed to promote networking between local agencies.

REA is designed for students who have construction experience as a Resident Engineer, Assistant Resident Engineer, or at minimum a Project Field Inspector. Students are expected to have a minimum of 6-months experience interpreting plans and knowledge of the Caltrans Standard Specifications (Standards) and the Local Assistance Procedures Manual (LAPM). Attendance of the full five-day training is a requirement to receive the REA Certificate of Completion.

Access additional information at the California Local Technical Assistance Program (CALTAP). Contact Caltrans.DLA@dot.ca.gov with comments or questions regarding the REA course and modules.

Visit the DLA Blog to stay informed of news, resources, and trainings.

Resident Engineer Academy - Modules & Materials

The downloadable REA Modules are not a substitute for attending an Academy, whether in-person or virtual, as practical details are provided by Caltrans instructors in conjunction with course materials.

1. REA Introduction & Handout
2. Pre-Construction Preparation & Handout
3. Scope of Work
4. Control of Work, Handout & Group Activity
5. Control of Materials & Handout
6. Legal Relations, Handout & Group Activity
7. Prosecution & Progress
8. Payment, Handout & Group Activity
9. Change Order, Handout & Group Activity
10. Environmental Stewardship
11. State Only Funded Projects
12. Construction Claims
13. Construction Oversight Program & Handout
14. Project Completion & Handout
15. Labor Compliance & Contacts
16. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise, Contacts, Handouts & Activity

Caltrans Contacts for Resident Engineers

Caltrans District 1-12 Map:
https://cwwp2.dot.ca.gov/documentation/district-map-county-chart.htm

Construction Oversight Program (COP)
Contact a local Caltrans District 1-12 Construction Oversight Engineer (COE):
https://dot.ca.gov/programs/local-assistance/guidance-and-oversight/construction-oversight-program

District Local Assistance Engineers (DLAE)
Visit the DLAE webpage for current list of Caltrans District 1-12 Engineers:
https://dot.ca.gov/programs/local-assistance/other-important-issues/local-assistance-contacts

Caltrans Division of Local Assistance (DLA)
Contact Caltrans.DLA@dot.ca.gov regarding the Resident Engineer Academy and other local assistance needs.

DLA Blog & Email Announcements
Visit the DLA Blog and enter contact information in right-side column to stay informed of weekly news, events, and resource information.