



# Plumber

**SCHOOL OF CONSTRUCTION**

## Overview

Learn to plan, install and service plumbing systems, fixtures, piping equipment and controls. These piping systems may be used to transport water, waste, gases or hot liquids.

On a typical construction job, you'll do the roughing in after the frame and roof of a new building are in place. This means you will:

- study the building plans and specifications to determine the layout for the plumbing and other materials
- locate and mark the positions for connections and fixtures
- cut holes through walls and floors to accommodate pipes
- select the type and size of pipe required and measure, cut, thread, bend, clamp, solvent cement or solder pipe
- assemble and install valves and fittings
- join pipe sections and secure them in position
- test pipe systems for leaks
- install underground storm sanitary and water piping systems.

You may also do residential repair and maintenance work in homes and commercial and institutional structures. You will provide customer service for renovations or common plumbing problems that occur in houses and multi-home structures.

To work in this trade, certification is required. This means that you must either be a registered apprentice who is working under the guidance of a certified journeyman or you must be a certified journeyman yourself.

The Alberta plumber apprenticeship program includes Gasfitter - Class B certification. This means plumber apprentices who successfully complete all the requirements for the Plumber program will receive two Alberta Journeyman Certificates, Plumber and Gasfitter - Class B. Apprentices must write both the Plumber and the Gasfitter - Class B interprovincial exams to earn both Red Seal certificates.

## Traits, skills and aptitudes

Plumbers are skilled tradespeople who like collaborating with others or independently for a wide range of customers.

This line of work is most fulfilling for those who enjoy working with their hands in various environments and developing specialized skills.

To thrive in this career, it is important to have the following traits:

- creative problem solvers
- good customer service skills
- good math and science skills
- adaptable to working in different environments
- physical stamina to use proper lifting techniques for heavy pipes, being on feet for long periods, and working in cramped positions
- mechanical ability
- ability to accurately estimate and measure sizes and lengths
- ability to work independently or in a team
- commitment to safe working conditions.

## Credentials

Upon successfully completing the required working hours and apprenticeship education periods, graduates will be awarded an advanced diploma in addition to journeyman status by Alberta's Apprenticeship and Industry Training.

This is a Red Seal Endorsed trade – a recognizable standard that allows tradespeople to work across Canada.

# Admission requirements

To enter an apprenticeship, you must have the educational qualifications required or recommended education for the trade to which you apply.

Entrance requirements are monitored and set by Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training.

## Minimum requirements

Successful completion of the following courses:

- English 20-2
- Math 20-3
- Science 10

OR

A pass mark in all five Canadian General Educational Development (GED) tests

OR

Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training Entrance Exam

## Recommended requirements

Apprentices with an Alberta High School Diploma that includes the following courses:

- English 30-2
- Math 30-3
- Physics 30 OR Chemistry 30 OR Science 30
- Related career and technology studies (CTS) courses

## Costs

### 2024/25 tuition and fees

The following costs are effective as of July 1, 2024.

Period	Number of weeks	Tuition fees	Additional fees	Total
1	8	\$1,152	\$329	\$1,481
2	8	\$1,152	\$329	\$1,481
3	8	\$1,152	\$329	\$1,481
4	8	\$1,152	\$329	\$1,481
Total cost:				\$5,924

The estimated total cost of 2024/25 tuition and fees in each period of technical training.

## Books and Supplies

Books or modules, along with other items for classes, are approximately \$600 per period.

It's recommended you don't purchase books or modules ahead of time as they might be outdated by the time you attend classes, and they cannot be returned to the Bookstore.

Personal protective equipment (PPE) will be required for the program, which may be an additional cost to apprentices.

### 2023/24 tuition and fees

The following costs are effective until June 30, 2024.

Period	Number of weeks	Tuition fees	Additional fees	Total
1	8	\$1,056	\$319	\$1,375
2	8	\$1,056	\$319	\$1,375
3	8	\$1,056	\$319	\$1,375
4	8	\$1,056	\$319	\$1,375
Total cost:				\$5,500

The estimated total cost of 2023/24 tuition and fees in each period of technical training.