

Plumber, Apprenticeship

Plumbers plan, install, and service plumbing systems, fixtures, piping equipment and controls. Piping systems may be used to transport water, waste, gases or hot liquids. Experienced plumbers may advance to supervisory, estimator inspector positions, or start their own contracting businesses. Plumbers have the opportunity to become dual ticketed tradespeople in Gasfitter, Sprinkler Systems and Steamfitter/Pipefitter trades to further career opportunities with additional education. Alberta certified journeyman plumbers who have the supervisory or management skills required by the industry may apply for an Achievement in Business Competencies Blue Seal and Interprovincial Red Seal program by contacting Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training.

What you can be with your Plumber Apprenticeship training:

Plumbing Contractor #7251	Construction Estimator #2234	Earth Loop Technician #7373	Water Well Driller #7373
Gasfitter #7253	Gas Utility Operator #7442.2	Sales Representative (Wholesale) #6411	College Instructor #4131
Project Management Professional #0711	Purchasing Agent #1225	Technical Sales Representative #6221	Water and Wastewater Operator #9424.1

With additional education, I could be a:

Boilermaker #7262	Refrigeration and Air Conditioner Mechanic #7313	Sprinkler Systems Installer #7252.2	Steam Fitter/Pipefitter #7252
Safety Codes Officer (Plumbing and Gas Inspector) #2264	Career and Technology Studies (CTS) Teacher #4141	Occupational Health and Safety Advisor #2263	Home Inspector #2264
Gasfitter (B) #7253			

Listing of potential employers:

Access membership rosters for New Home Builders, Renovators, General Contractors and Trade Specialists of the: Mechanical Contractors Association of Alberta <http://www.mca-ab.com>
 Canadian Home Builders' Association – Central Alberta - www.chbaca.ca
 Red Deer Construction Association - www.reddeerconstructionassociation.com

This career/job listing is only a sample of the possible career options; these are certainly not the only career/job options accessible with this degree/diploma. Some of the careers listed require further education.

For career information, enter the four digit number listed below in the Alberta Learning Information Services Website (www.alis.alberta.ca) or the National Occupational Classification Website (<http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/>).

RDC Career Services can help you explore your interests, identify your goals, discuss your career options and job search strategies and discover how to make the most of your education. Email or give us a call to connect with a career counsellor.

RDC Department Information: Plumber Apprenticeship rdc.ab.ca/programs/trades

Major Skills Obtained from a Plumber Apprenticeship

- **Reading** – Ability to read manuals to install, repair and maintain plumbing systems. Ability to read the Canadian Plumbing Code to follow regulations on plumbing and heating systems. Read trade text books to understand the science related to plumbing, such as the properties of water, metals and alloys.
- **Document Use** – Interpret diagrams in the Canadian Plumbing Code to ensure that the capacity of a building's venting systems complies with regulatory requirements. Interpret schematics to trace the circuit for gas flow when planning for pipe installation. Interpret drawings and blueprints for municipal connections and drainage systems.
- **Numeracy** – Measure to locate and mark pipe connections, compare pressure gauge readings, make calculations using formulae regarding the total fall of drain lines and trigonometric constants based on the angle of elbows.
- **Writing** – Write short notes about repairs in progress and tasks to be completed. Maintain a daily log book to record hours worked and project management objectives. Complete incident reports regarding work environment. Complete invoicing and record keeping pertaining to project.
- **Oral Communication** – Communicate with suppliers and other tradespersons on the job site to coordinate work and discuss potential problems. Communicate with foreperson regarding project development. Discuss objectives and outcomes with customers regarding project.
- **Working with Others** – Work frequently in pairs, work with other trades and suppliers, work as a team to promote safety; participate in discussions about work processes or product improvement.
- **Thinking** – Contact mechanical engineers, suppliers and manufactures to clarify installation instructions. Determine the most cost effective way to complete project. Decide how to install large and heavy plumbing systems with the available personnel and equipment. Resolve sewer backflow problems.
- **Computer Use** – Use computer assisted design, manufacturing and machining equipment specific to the plumbing industry.
- **Continuous Learning** – Keep up-to-date with codes, regulations, standards, materials, technology advancements and emerging skills. Attend safety training. Read trade magazines to stay current.

Professional Associations and Sites of Interest

Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry training- www.tradesecrets.alberta.ca
 Alberta Construction Industry "Trade Up!" www.tradeupalberta.com
 Canadian Home Builders' Association-Alberta www.chbaalberta.ca
 Alberta Construction Association www.albertaconstruction.net
 Construction Sector Council website: www.csc-ca.org

Information adapted from www.alis.alberta.ca/edinfo www.tradesecrets.alberta.ca