

## CAREER PROFILE

### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Plumbers install and repair water, drainage and gas pipes in homes, businesses and factories. Common tasks include:

- Preparing cost estimates for clients
- Keeping records of work performed
- Reading blueprints and following state and local building codes
- Determining the materials and equipment needed for a job
- Installing pipes assemblies, fittings, valves and appliances for dishwashers, water heaters, sinks, or toilets
- Identify malfunctioning systems
- Maintaining and repairing plumbing systems

### **PAY**

\$61,550 per year (\$29.59 per hour) as of May 2023

### **JOB OUTLOOK**

2% as fast as average 2022-2032

### **EDUCATION/TRAINING**

Most jobs in this field require training from a technical school or on-the-job training experience. Most employers offer apprenticeships through their organizations.

Training credentials: Most states require plumbers to be licensed, which requires up to five years of experience as a plumber, and to pass an exam that demonstrates knowledge of the trade and local plumbing codes.

### **IMPORTANT SKILLS**

- Knowledge of machines and tools required for the job
- Knowledge of the building and construction process
- Well-developed problem-solving skills
- Critical thinking skills
- Understanding blueprints and basic math
- Flexibility
- Good customer service skills
- Physical fitness

## APPRENTICESHIPS

### **BENEFITS OF AN APPRENTICESHIP:**

- Apprentices are full-time employees at their company.
- Apprentices earn a paycheck while learning career skills, “earn while you learn”.
- Participate in classroom instruction that applies directly to career.
- Apprentices typically receive benefits after 90 days including health insurance and pension
- Learn from skilled workers

### **JATC Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 120 Cleveland**

[www.actohio.org/apprenticeship/ohio-training-centers/plumbers-training-centers/jatc-plumbers-pipefitters-local-120-cleveland/](http://www.actohio.org/apprenticeship/ohio-training-centers/plumbers-training-centers/jatc-plumbers-pipefitters-local-120-cleveland/)

### **JATC Plumbers Cleveland Local 55**

[www.actohio.org/apprenticeship/ohio-training-centers/plumbers-training-centers/jatc-plumbers-cleveland-local-55/](http://www.actohio.org/apprenticeship/ohio-training-centers/plumbers-training-centers/jatc-plumbers-cleveland-local-55/)

### **Roto-Rooter**

Roto-Rooter offers unique “earn-while-you-learn” apprenticeship programs at many of its branches.

[www.rotorooter.com/careers/plumbing-apprenticeships/](http://www.rotorooter.com/careers/plumbing-apprenticeships/)

Apprentice listings can also be found at:

[ohiomeansjobs.ohio.gov/for-students/9-12-career-advising-resources/career-prep-101/why-apprenticeship](http://ohiomeansjobs.ohio.gov/for-students/9-12-career-advising-resources/career-prep-101/why-apprenticeship)

## CERTIFICATE & DEGREE PROGRAMS

### **CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY**

Online 4-6 month certification course to prepare for an entry-level position in the plumbing industry.

[csuohio.edu2.com/product/5240/plumbing-technician](https://csuohio.edu2.com/product/5240/plumbing-technician)

### **CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

#### **Certificate of Proficiency in Plumbing**

Students must be currently working in a registered apprenticeship program in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, and the United Association (UA)

[www.tri-c.edu/programs/applied-industrial-technology/skilled-construction-trades/plumbing/plumbing-certificate.html](http://www.tri-c.edu/programs/applied-industrial-technology/skilled-construction-trades/plumbing/plumbing-certificate.html)

#### **Associate of Applied Science degree in Applied Industrial Technology, Plumbing Concentration**

Students must be working in a registered apprenticeship program in conjunction with the US Department of Labor, Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training, and the United Association (UA).

[www.tri-c.edu/programs/applied-industrial-technology/skilled-construction-trades/plumbing/index.html](http://www.tri-c.edu/programs/applied-industrial-technology/skilled-construction-trades/plumbing/index.html)

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

**Cleveland Building and Construction Trades Council** is an umbrella organization for local unions working in the construction industry in greater Cleveland.

<https://www.cbctc.org/>

### **Cuyahoga Community College Pre-Apprenticeship 8-week Training Program**

The Pre-Apprenticeship Training (PAT) exposes students to a variety of industrial trades through career exploration, hands-on labs, classroom instruction, training site visits, guest speakers, and employee site visits.

<https://www.tri-c.edu/programs/applied-industrial-technology/skilled-construction-trades/pre-apprenticeship-training.html>

### **Home Depot**

The Path to Pro Skills Program provides general information on learning trades.

<https://www.pathtopro.com/plumbers/>

### **PHCC Academy Plumbing & HVACR Workforce Readiness Course**

A free course for high school students that provides an introduction to working in the plumbing-heating-cooling industry and helps them to make decisions about careers in construction.

[phccfoundation.org/foundation/workforce-readiness-course/](http://phccfoundation.org/foundation/workforce-readiness-course/)