

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
- Identifying malfunctioning systems
- Maintaining and repairing plumbing systems

PAY

\$62,970 median annual wage (\$30.27 per hour) as of May 2024

JOB OUTLOOK

6% much faster than average 2023-2033

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

JATC Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 120 Cleveland

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/

Roto-Rooter

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

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

BENEFITS OF AN APPRENTICESHIP:

- Qualify as a full-time employee at the sponsor company
- Earn a paycheck while learning career skills, “earn while you learn”
- Participate in classroom instruction that applies directly to your career
- Typically receive benefits after 90 days including health insurance and pension
- Learn from skilled workers

CERTIFICATE & ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY (*Cleveland*)

Online 4-6 month **Plumbing Technician** certification course to prepare for an entry-level position in the plumbing industry. Program includes an optional volunteer externship opportunity.

csuohio.edu2.com/product/5240/plumbing-technician

CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE (*Cleveland*)

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

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

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

CLEVELAND BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL

An umbrella organization for local unions working in the construction industry in greater Cleveland.

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

CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRE-APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING PROGRAM

This short-term 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 students that provides an introduction to working in the plumbing-heating-cooling industry and helps them to make decisions about their career path in the industry.

www.phccacademy.org/workforce-readiness-course/