

Northern Wisconsin Plumbing Apprenticeship Advisory Committee Application

Jurisdictional Area of This Committee by County:
Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Iron, Price, Sawyer and Washburn

It is the intent of this Committee, in perpetuation of the basic skills required in the construction industry, to comply with all Federal and State Standards required in the selection and placement of apprentice applicants. The recruitment, selection, employment, and training of apprentices during their apprenticeship shall be without discrimination because of race, color, religion, and national origin. Sex, age, creed, handicap, marital status, ancestry, sexual orientation, arrest record, conviction record, or membership in the military forces of the United States or this state. The sponsor will take affirmative action to provide equal opportunity in apprenticeship and will operate the apprenticeship program as required under Title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 30, the Wisconsin Fair Employment Law, and all other applicable state laws.

Overview of the Plumbing Trade

Plumbers install pipes for water, gas, sewage, drainage and septic systems. Plumbers also repair these systems. Plumbers also install sanitary facilities such as bathroom fixtures, kitchen fixtures, drinking fountains, and laundry equipment. Plumbers use a variety of skills to install pipe systems. They use both hand and power tools in their work of cutting, bending and threading pipes, and making welded and soldered joints. Additionally, plumbers must know the most current state codes regarding these systems. Plumbing is a licensed trade.

Applications for plumbing apprenticeship, a combination of work and school, are available at the local Job Centers and Technical College Campuses within the committee's jurisdiction. They are also available online through the Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College website.

Title: Plumber Apprenticeship Program

Term of Training: Five years of not less than 8,000 hours

On-The-Job-Training: Minimum of 7,500 hours

Paid Related Training: 572 hours of paid related instruction. Classes are scheduled one full day, 8 hours; every two weeks during the school year. Apprentices are paid to attend these classes at the same rate of pay as hours worked on the job. Attendance is mandatory.

Night School Classes: Apprentices are required to attend 260 hours of night school as designated by the Committee, on their own time.

Wages: Apprentices are paid a percentage of the journeymen's base wage rate as established annually by the State of Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development. The apprentice's wage is a percentage of the skilled rate and is divided into a pay progression. The wage at each level of the progression is a designated percentage of the skilled wage rate. Wage advances are usually given annually. Advances are based on the completion of a designated number of academic, and work hours.

Completion: Upon completion of work and school requirements, the apprentice plumber is eligible to apply to write the State of Wisconsin journeyman plumbing exam.

Minimum Requirements for Qualification

1. Education:	Must be a high school graduate, or have a GED/HSED. A copy of the high school transcript or proof of GED/HSED completion should be mailed to:
	Long Vang 620 W Clairemont Avenue Eau Claire WI 54701
2. Testing: Next Generation Accuplacer Test or TABE Test or ACT Test	
	Applicants submitting Next Generation Accuplacer results must have attained the following scores: Reading = 244, Arithmetic = 237 & Quantitative Reasoning, Stats & Algebra = 235 MUST BE NEXT GENERATION ACCUPLACER The Next Generation Accuplacer Test may be taken at any WITC campus. *If an applicant has taken an Accuplacer or TABE test at another Tech School, those scores may be considered. Mail test scores to Long Vang directly from the Technical College to the address shown above. Results can also be emailed to long.vang@dwd.wisconsin.gov
The Committee suggests that applicants visit the Academic Support Center at the technical college to review math and reading skills before testing.	
3. Driver's License:	All apprentices must have a valid driver's license.
4. Physically Fit:	Apprentices may be required to obtain a doctor's certificate of physical fitness for the trade at the time of placement. Applicants may be required to take a recognized substance abuse test at the time of placement.

Applicants who meet requirements 1 – 2 will be issued a letter of introduction to show to potential employers and their names will be placed on the Northern Wisconsin Plumbing qualified applicant list. The qualified applicant may then contact employers who might be willing to hire them and enter into an apprenticeship contract.

The applicant and the employer will be required to meet with the Northern Wisconsin Apprenticeship Advisory Committee before approval of the apprenticeship contract. At this time the requirements, record keeping procedures and details of the apprenticeship will be explained. Qualifications 1 – 4 will be reviewed for compliance with all committee standards including journeyworker/apprentice ratios. Notice to appear at the committee meeting will be sent to both the apprentice applicant and employer.

Incomplete applications or applicants not meeting the minimum requirements will be given no further consideration.

Employers with no specific applicant being considered will be provided with the entire list of qualified applicants. The employer will submit an application requesting to enter an apprenticeship contract with the selected applicant.