

Plumbing Apprenticeships

Plumbers perform a wide variety of tasks related to assessing and repairing structures and facilities. This may include maintaining and fixing piping systems, water regulators, as well as maintaining stormwater, drainage and sewerage systems.

What are some of the duties involved in a plumbing apprenticeship?

- ✓ Assessing damage on stormwater drains and checking for signs of wear and tear such as cracking or leakages
- ✓ Installing bathroom fixtures such as piping, wash basins, toilets and sprinkler systems
- ✓ Disassembling and assembling valves, pipes and fittings
- ✓ Repairing air-conditioning systems

4 Years

- A fulltime plumbing apprenticeship goes for 4 years
- A plumbing school based apprenticeship (SBA) goes for 5 years, with the 1st year spread across Year 11 & 12
- A plumbing SBA must complete a minimum of 180 days of paid employment across Year 11 & 12
- Once a SBA finishes their HSC and SBA requirements they will become a 2nd year apprentice and can commence full time work

What does a typical week look like?

- ✓ 4 days per week at work
- ✓ 1 day per week at TAFE
- ✓ Employers may ask you to work Saturdays & overtime

What are some of the units offered in the course?

- ✓ Work effectively in the plumbing and services sector
- ✓ Carry out interactive workplace communication
- ✓ Carry out WHS requirements
- ✓ Read plans and calculate plumbing quantities
- ✓ Handle and store plumbing materials
- ✓ Use plumbing hand and power tools
- ✓ Carry out levelling
- ✓ Weld using oxy-acetylene equipment
- ✓ Set out and install water services
- ✓ Install and adjust water service controls and devices

What qualification is completed in the apprenticeship?

Certificate III in Plumbing (Mechanical Services)
Certificate III in Plumbing
Certificate III in Roof Plumbing
Certificate III in Fire Protection
Certificate III in Gas Fitting

Additional studies after the apprenticeship:

Diploma in Plumbing

Career pathway:

- ✓ Gasfitter
- ✓ Air Conditioning Technician
- ✓ Fire Services Supervisor
- ✓ Plumbing Manager
- ✓ Hydraulic Design Consultant

What we look for in a suitable candidate

- ✓ Strong attention to detail
- ✓ Ability to problem solve
- ✓ Ability to liaise with clients
- ✓ Enjoy manual work
- ✓ Good hand-to-eye coordination
- ✓ White card
- ✓ Driver's licence (except for school based apprentices)
- ✓ Own car (except for school based apprentices)

Industry demand:

The number of people working as Plumbers (in their main job) grew strongly over the past 5 years and is expected to grow strongly over the next 5 years: from 92,300 in 2018 to 102,800 by 2023. There are likely to be around 29,000 job openings over 5 years (that's about 5,800 a year).

What is the pay rate?

<https://calculate.fairwork.gov.au/findyouraward>



Questions?

If you have any questions, please call our office on 1800 993 200 or visit our website www.mygateway.org.au

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