

What is a

PLUMBER-PIPEFITTER-SPRINKLERFITTER?

The Piping Trades consist of Plumbing, Steamfitting, and Sprinklerfitting. Each trade is unique and provides journeypeople with different opportunities for careers within the construction industry.

Plumbers: The work of a Plumber consists of studying building plans, measuring, cutting, threading, bending and soldering pipes, assembling and installing valve fittings and installing underground storm, sanitary and water piping systems. Plumbers work in all areas of construction, including; residential, commercial, institutional and industrial.

Pipefitters: The work of a Pipefitter consists of laying out, assembling, fabricating, maintaining and repairing piping systems, which carry water, steam, chemicals or fuel used in heating, cooling, lubricating and other processes. Pipefitters work in pulp mills, oil refineries, LNG facilities and shipyards.

Sprinklerfitters: The work of a Sprinklerfitter consists of the knowledge and ability to install all types of fire protection systems, including the layout and installation. A Sprinklerfitter is able to read blue prints, understand codes and layout and install hangers and overhead piping in all types of buildings and all types of construction. Fire sprinklers are installed in high-rises, warehouses, shopping centers, schools and hotels.



TRAINING FOR THE PLUMBING-PIPEFITTING INDUSTRY

APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING



Plumbers, Pipefitters and Sprinklerfitters on Vancouver Island train at Camosun College. Those interested in the plumbing - pipefitting industry trade should consider attending a Foundation course at Camosun. UA 324 accepts apprentices from this program that meet our standards.

The United Association is the largest supporter of plumbing - pipefitting apprenticeships in BC.

RECOMMENDED HIGH SCHOOL PREREQUISITES

- English 12
- Math or Algebra 11 & Physics 11
- Science 11
- Grade 12 Preferred

SKILLS & ABILITIES

To be successful in their trade, Plumbers, Pipefitters and Sprinklerfitters need to be:

- physically fit & able to lift heavy pipes
- critical thinkers/problem solvers
- good and clear communicators
- able to work in confined spaces
- able to work out-of-doors regardless of weather
- able to work well with others towards a common goal
- willing to learn
- able to do very precise work, expertly
- able to have a mechanical aptitude and manual dexterity