

# What is a... PLUMBER-STEAMFITTER-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.

**Steamfitters:** The work of a Steamfitter 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. Steamfitters 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 PIPING INDUSTRY

## APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING



Plumbers, Steamfitters and Sprinklerfitters can train at UA Local 170, UA Piping Industry College of BC, located on Annacis Island, Delta, or at UA Local 324, Camosun College, Victoria.

The United Association is the largest supporter of Plumbing, Steam and Sprinkler apprentices in BC.

## RECOMMENDED HIGH SCHOOL PREREQUISITES

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

## SKILLS & ABILITIES

To be successful in their trade, Plumbers, Steamfitters 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