

## **5 Steps To Obtaining Your Michigan Journeyman Plumber's License**

### **Step 1. Sign up for the exam.**

To do plumbing work in Michigan you need a master or journeyman license. Therefore, you must first pass an exam. To qualify for the journeyman exam you must have at least 6,000 hours of experience acquired over not less than three years as an apprentice plumber in the practical installation of plumbing under the supervision of a master plumber.

There is a \$25 fee to apply for the journeyman exam. The license costs \$20 and is valid for one year, expiring on December 31 each year. If you can prove you have a valid license in a state with qualifications at least equal to Michigan's, you may be eligible for a Michigan license without taking the exam, but you must still pay the fee.

To get an application for a state license, contact:

Michigan Department of Labor  
Bureau of Construction Codes/Plumbing Board  
7150 Harris Drive  
P.O. Box 30254  
Lansing, MI 48909  
(517) 241-9330  
<http://www.michigan.gov/cis/>

2006 exam dates and locations are as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
March 1	East Lansing
June 7	East Lansing
July 13	Escanaba
September 6	East Lansing
December 13	East Lansing

If approved to take the examination, an admission card will be mailed to you approximately seven (7) days prior to the examination date. The admission card will indicate your candidate number, date, location, and time of the exam. Only pre-registered candidates are admitted to the examination.

### **Step 2. Purchase the required books for your exam.**

To find out what documents and books the State of Michigan requires for this exam, refer to the list of documents and books on your state's exam page of our website. You must purchase these documents and books in preparation for the exam.

### **Step 3. Follow the rules.**

Candidates must bring their admission card and an official signed photo identification to be admitted to the examination. No one is admitted to the examination without picture identification. Applicants must bring the following materials to the exam:

- At least two sharpened #2 pencils to mark the answer sheets
- A silent non-printing calculator and scale conversion ruler
- Current Michigan Plumbing Code book, which must be unmarked.

Applicants are not permitted to bring any other personal belongings with them to the examination site.

#### **Step 4. Start studying!**

To fully prepare for your exam it is best to thoroughly study the required documents and books, as well as any recommended studying materials. The amount of preparation time needed will be different for each individual. Be sure to allow yourself enough time to fully prepare for the exam.

#### **Step 5. Good luck on the exam!**

On the day of the examination, it is best that you arrive at your designated exam center at least 15 minutes before your scheduled examination appointment. You must present two (2) valid forms of identification before you will be admitted to test. The test is administered via computer, but little or no computer experience is necessary in order to take the exam.

The exam will consist of oral, written, and practical tests and will cover the theory and practice of plumbing and knowledge of the state plumbing code, rules, and regulations.

The journey examination consists of a copper practical, isometric workbook practical, and written question tests. The written portion is an open book test using the current Michigan Plumbing Code. The copper and isometric practical exams shall be completed in three hours in the morning and the written in two and a half hours in the afternoon.

The copper project consists of solder joined pipe and fittings header system with one offset and two risers constructed from  $\frac{1}{2}$ " to  $\frac{3}{4}$ " copper pipe with two threaded joints. The assembly is constructed from material specifications provided on a supplied schematic. The project must hold a pressure test and fit a jig designed to measure correct dimensions and alignment. The plumbing division supplies the pipe, fittings, and solder. A failing score is given for incomplete projects or leak test failures.

The isometric workbook consists of 50 multiple-choice questions answered on a machine-graded form. The questions are based upon drawings in the booklet and may be located on the same page or across from the drawings. The drawings are not to scale since only general application designs are used. They cover drainage, general mathematics in the plumbing profession, venting, and other practical applications.

The written exam consists of 100 multiple-choice questions answered on a machine-graded form. The questions are based upon drainage systems, general knowledge, fixtures, water/backflow protection, storm/special waste, testing, inspections and venting.

Candidates must receive a minimum of 70% on all parts of the exam in order to qualify for a license.