

5 Steps to Obtaining Your Texas Journeyman Plumber's License

Step 1. Sign up for the exam.

In order to qualify to take this exam, a candidate must meet the minimum requirements for the Journeyman Plumber examination:

- Must have either a current Plumber's Apprentice registration, a current Tradesman Plumber-Limited license, or a valid Journeyman or Master Plumber license from another state. If licensed in another state, applicant must submit a letter on official letterhead from that state licensing authority stating that the individual has a valid Journeyman or Master Plumbing License from that state, including how long the license has been held and whether or not the license is renewable.
- Must have at least 8000 hours of experience working at the trade as a Plumber's Apprentice or Tradesman Plumber-Limited under the supervision of a Master Plumber. Proof of experience must be submitted on the Board's "Employer's Certification Form".
- Must have a high school diploma or General Equivalency Diploma (GED). A copy of the diploma or GED must be submitted.
- Proof must be submitted that the applicant is a citizen or national of the United States, or an alien lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence, or an alien authorized to work lawfully in the United States.
- Must submit fee (\$27)

Plumbing License information and applications may be obtained from:

Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners
PO Box 4200
Austin, TX 78765
(512)458-2145
(800) 845-6584 (in Texas only)
Fax: (512) 450-0637
www.tsbpe.state.tx.us

It will cost you \$25 to take the journeyman exam. The fee you pay for a license and its duration will depend on when Board issues it to you.

Step 2. Purchase the required books for your exam.

To find out what documents and books the State of Texas requires for this exam, follow this link 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 and bring them with you on testing day for the open book portions of the exam.

Step 3. 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 4. Follow the rules.

If this is a closed-book examination, no reference materials may be used during the examination. All materials brought to the examination site must be left in an unmonitored area at your own risk. Some questions require arithmetic computation. Applicants may bring a hand/pocket calculator (either battery operated or solar powered) that is non-printing and silent.

Step 5. Good luck on the exam!

It is best that you arrive at the examination site at least 15 minutes prior to your scheduled exam time on the day of testing. Be sure to bring at least one form of valid picture identification that has been issued by a state or federal authority. The journeyman exam has a written part and a hands-on part.

Overview of the Journeyman Plumber Examination:

The Written Portion of the examination will test the applicant's knowledge of waste and vent systems, natural gas systems, water systems, proper plumbing terms and definitions, cross-connections, backsiphonage, backflow, water heaters, and the Plumbing License Law and Board Rules.

The Sanitary Waste and Vent Installation Portion will test the applicant's knowledge of the proper planning, layout and installation of sanitary waste and vent systems. The applicant will design the sanitary waste and vent system for a two-story building. The applicant will then perform the material "take-off", order the material and actually install the sanitary waste and vent system in the reduced scale two-story building.

The Mechanical "Hands-On" Shop-work Portion of the examination will test the applicant's knowledge and ability to properly use plumbing tools to measure, cut, prepare, assemble, install plumbing materials and recognize proper installations of water heaters.