

5 Steps to Obtaining Your Washington Plumbing Contractor's License

Step 1. Sign up for the exam.

To perform installation, alteration, or repair of potable water, liquid waste, and medical gas systems within a building in the state of Washington you must be certified by the Department of Labor and Industries. The Department issues trainee, journeyman, and specialty/residential plumber certificates, and medical gas piping installer endorsements. To obtain an application, contact:

Department of Labor and Industries
Plumber Certification Section
P. O. Box 44470
Olympia, WA 98504-4470
(360) 902-5207
<http://www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Plumbing/default.asp>

To obtain a journeyman, specialty/residential plumber certificate you must first qualify and pass a written examination. To qualify for the examination, you must document your work experience according to the following hour requirements:

- Journeyman plumbers: 8,000 hours, of which 4,000 must be commercial or industrial work
- Specialty plumbers: 6,000 hours
- Backflow specialty must have a copy of an active backflow assembly tester certificate from the Washington State Department of Health

License and Exam Fees: An exam application for journeyman, specialty or reciprocal certificate will cost \$111.80. A medical gas piping installer certificate is \$41.30. A trainee certificate is \$33.50 per year.

Washington reciprocates journey-level certificates from Idaho, Montana and Oregon.

Step 2. Purchase the required books for your exam.

To find out what documents and books the State of Washington requires for this exam, follow this link to your state's exam page of our website <http://www.constructionbook.com/contractor-license/washington/index.asp>. You must purchase these documents and books in preparation for 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.

You should arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled exam time on testing day. Candidates must follow these additional rules:

- Present an official, valid government-issued picture identification with signature (i.e., driver's license, passport, state identification or military identification).
- Only approved references are allowed during the examination. Photocopies of reference materials may NOT be used. No handwritten or additional notes are allowed in the reference books (no letters, words, diagrams, etc.). Any reference material that has been written in during the examination will be confiscated. Highlighting and permanent tabbing is acceptable prior to the exam. Please note that Post-it notes are not permanent and will not be allowed. Sharing reference materials is not allowed. Reference materials will be checked at the examination site before and after the examinations.
- Candidates may use a calculator or slide rule. Only silent, handheld, solar or battery-operated, non-programmable calculators (without paper tape-printing capabilities or alphabetic keypads) may be used.

Step 5. Good luck on the exam!

Exams are based on the current edition of the Uniform Plumbing Code and cover general trade knowledge, code application for water piping, and code application knowledge for waste and vents.