

LOCAL 486 UNION PLUMBERS AND STEAMFITTERS TRAINING FACILITY

APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM INFORMATION



WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

The Plumbers & Steamfitters Local Union 486 is affiliated with the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of the United States and Canada, and the Mechanical Contractors Association of Maryland, Inc. The Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee has been Federally registered with the Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training since August 1941.



Plumber/Steamfitters are skilled, trained craftsmen who install and service all plumbing, process piping, vacuum, oxygen, natural gas, refrigeration, air conditioning and cooling systems, hydraulic heating, as well as the industrial instrumentation and the sophisticated automatic control systems that control these processes.

We preserve the public health and safety by protecting drinking water from contamination, assuring properly installed natural and medical gas systems, confirming proper operation and the equipment which are components of these systems.

The Plumber/Steamfitter must read and interpret building drawings and specifications, make calculations, fabricate and install systems under the direction of a mechanical engineer and according to local building codes.

ON THE JOB TRAINING

The apprentice is assigned to work for an employer by the Training Director. The apprentice is paid while working on the job, but not while attending school. First Year apprentices start at 50% of the journeyman rate of pay and progress upward each year until they are paid the journeyman rate of pay. By working productively and assisting a journeyman, the apprentice will learn the skills and methods of the trade.

LICENSING

- Maryland Plumber,
- Gasfitter &
- HVACR Journeyman License.

CERTIFICATIONS

- Medical Gas
- Backflow
- CFC
- Welding
- Rigging
- Ten Hour OSHA
- Confined Space
- CPR
- Standard First Aid

Graduates of this program earn 30 FREE college credits through the Community College of Baltimore County

WHAT IS APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING?

Apprenticeship in the pipe trades is a highly selective program and acceptance for training depends on the applicant's qualifications and the manpower needs of the trade at the time of the selection process. The actual selection and supervision of the apprenticeship program is the responsibility of the Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee. This Committee consists of persons with considerable experience representing both management and labor. The apprenticeship program is five years of intensive technical training, consisting of at least 8,500 to 10,000 hours of on-the-job training and approximately 1,250 hours of related training in the classroom. Classes are held in Baltimore and Martinsburg, West Virginia.

Related training includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- FIRST YEAR:** Math, Use and Care of Tools, Soldering & Brazing, Oxy/Acet Cutting, Rigging & Signaling, Heritage, OSHA-First Aid/CPR, Drawing Interpretation/Isometric Drawing, Customer Relations, Maintenance, CFC Certification, General A/C & Equipment
- SECOND YEAR:** Related Science, Drawing Interpretation, Plumbing Fixtures and Installations, Electricity, A/C & Refrigeration, Basic Heating & Controls.
- THIRD YEAR:** High Pressure Steam & Power Piping, Water Supply, Advanced Plan Reading, Welding, Builders Level Transit, A/C & Refrigeration, Electricity, Pneumatic Controls, Oil & Gas Burners.
- FOURTH YEAR:** Welding, Drainage, Pneumatic Controls, Medical Gas Systems, Gas Piping Systems, Refrigeration, Electric Controls, Industrial Refrigeration, Instrumentation & Process Controls.
- FIFTH YEAR:** Plumbing Code, Backflow Certification, Advanced Welding, Gas Code and Piping Installations, HVACR Code, Oil & Gas Burners, Centrifugal Chiller Teardown/Alignment, & Computer-based technology.

APPRENTICE SELECTION PROCESS...



When you appear before the Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee for your personal interview, your application, background check, math score, and high school transcript or GED scores will be reviewed. If you have taken math and science subjects in high school, have military experience or vocational and/or technical training, you will receive extra bonus points. The committee compiles an overall score for each applicant who qualifies for an interview. They are then placed on an eligibility list. After all qualified applicants have been interviewed, a selection is made by the Apprenticeship Committee from the eligibility list, based on scoring. Job opportunities dictate the number of applicants selected for training.

1. Appear in person at their local training facility.
2. Take the basic math test when scheduled by the school's office. You must achieve a 70% score or higher, to have your application processed.
3. Provide your official high school transcript or a GED Certificate, with scores attached, Birth Certificate, Social Security Card, DD Form 214 (if Veteran).
4. A background check will be performed
5. Must be eligible to work in the United States.
6. Submit the three personal reference forms that you receive from the school's office after they have been completed.
7. Appear in person for a "personal interview" by the Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee on the date that has been scheduled for you.
8. Submit to a physical & drug screening (if accepted into program).
9. Must be eligible to obtain a Maryland Plumbing and HVAC/R License.

JOB DESCRIPTION & REQUIREMENTS

Plumbers & Steamfitters fabricate, install, service and maintain commercial plumbing, process piping & medical gas systems of all kinds. They also install & service related equipment including pneumatic, electric or hydraulic controls, HVAC and refrigeration systems, as well as automatic temperature controls and backflow preventers.



TERM OF APPRENTICESHIP

Five (5) Years

AGE QUALIFICATION

Applicant must be a minimum age of 18, by June 30, of the application year.

EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

High School Graduate or High School Equivalency (GED). Good math and science skills are a must.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Able to perform hard physical work. A physical examination, with drug screening, is required of all applicants selected to participate in the Apprenticeship Program.

TRANSPORTATION

Apprentices must provide their own transportation to get to the job site, and to the classroom.

ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS

Weekdays between the hours of 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Applications are accepted throughout the year, and are processed at the beginning of the year until the administration of the Math Testing. Classes begin in September.

Baltimore Training Facility

1201 66th Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21237
Phone: 410-866-5313
Fax: 410-866-3954

Martinsburg WV Training Facility

James Rumsey Technical Institute
3274 Hedgesville Rd
Martinsburg, WV 25403
1-866-760-4860

410-866-5313

www.486school.com

email: plfit@486school.org

Plumbers & Steamfitters Local 486
7830 Philadelphia Road
Baltimore, Maryland 21237
Phone: 410-866-4380
www.ualocal486.com
Email: arlene@ualocal486.comp

The COUNT® Program
809 Gleneagles Ct., Suite 303
Towson, Maryland 21286
Phone: 410-321-5715
www.countprogram.org

Mechanical Contractors Association of Md., Inc.
809 Gleneagles Ct., Suite 303
Towson, Maryland 21286
Phone: 410-296-0668
www.mca-maryland.org

The actual selection and supervision of the apprenticeship program is conducted by members of the Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee. Applications for the Plumbers & Steamfitters Apprenticeship Training Program are accepted year round and classes begin in September.

APPLICANTS ARE SELECTED FOR TRAINING ON A NON-DISCRIMINATORY BASIS.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHERE WILL I BE WORKING AND FOR WHOM?

You will be employed by one of the participating contractors signatory to an Agreement with Plumbers and Steamfitters LU 486, as jobs become available. LU 486's work jurisdiction is Baltimore City and surrounding counties and also the Western Maryland areas of Hagerstown, and Morgan Co., Berkeley Co., and Jefferson Co., WV. You are required to work 8 hours per day, 5 days a week, usually between the hours of 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. You will need your own transportation to get to and from the job site.

WHO WILL PLACE ME ON THE JOB SITE?

The training director, Allen B. Clinedinst III

WHAT TYPE OF WORK WILL I BE PERFORMING?

Plumber and Steamfitter Apprentices and Journeymen install piping in buildings, industry, schools, hospitals, etc. Additionally, they install and service heating and cooling systems and do their own control work. They also do their own welding & rigging. A Plumber/Steamfitter also installs and repairs pipe, fittings and fixtures of hot and cold water, vacuum, oxygen, gas and drainage systems. They also do the layout of piping and pipe connections. They cut and thread pipe using pipe cutters, cutting torch, and pipe threading machine.

WHO SPONSORS THE PROGRAM?

Plumbers and Steamfitters Local Union 486 Membership and the Mechanical Contractors' Association of Maryland, Inc.

WHAT DOES IT COST TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM?

There is NO cost to participate, if selected for training, other than the purchase of instructional manuals used during your 5 years of training, and required apprentice license fees. You are required to pay union dues once you have been selected.

WHERE WILL I ATTEND CLASSES?

In Central Maryland, at the Plumbers and Steamfitters Training Facility, 1201 66th Street, Baltimore County, Rosedale, Maryland, and in the Western Maryland/West Virginia area at James Rumsey Technical High School in Martinsburg.

HOW MANY EVENINGS PER WEEK AND WHAT TIME ARE CLASSES HELD?

Two, which are held on Mondays and Wednesdays, or Tuesdays and Thursdays, between the hours of 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. You may be required to attend a few Saturday classes between the hours of 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., depending upon your year/group class schedule.

WHEN DO CLASSES BEGIN?

Classes begin in September of each year and usually end in June of the following year. Basically, like the public school system.

