

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND  
CLASS SPECIFICATION**

**Code No. 005063  
Grade 17**

**PLUMBER I\***

**DEFINITION OF CLASS:**

This is journey level plumbing trades work involving the installation, modification, repair, and troubleshooting of a diverse assortment of plumbing systems, fixtures and equipment. Contacts are with other shop employees, both within and outside of the plumbing trade, with facility maintenance personnel for the purpose of providing and receiving instructions, as well as on occasion, with outside contractors to exchange information and/or to facilitate a process. Incumbents in this class do not provide direct service or assistance to the public.

An employee in this class performs skilled and hazardous work on all types of plumbing systems and fixtures, including utility supply and disposal systems; sewage, water, gas and oil lines; compressed air, vacuum and acid systems; water closets, heaters, hydrants, valves and pumps; fire sprinkler systems; and swimming pool equipment. The work requires the full use of a broad variety of plumbing hand/power tools and related equipment. Work assignments are received orally and in writing, through work orders, building plans, and/or blueprints. The work is conducted in a self directed manner and is reviewed for general adequacy, technical soundness and adherence to established standards. The employee is expected to independently apply standard and advanced practices of the plumbing trade with considerable latitude for independent judgment within established guidelines. Although guides are normally available, the incumbent must use initiative and resourcefulness to address atypical situations which require the adaptation of different methods and/or procedures and is expected to provide on the job training and instruction to apprentice employees. The employee must plan and lay out the needed routing, placement, slant, slope, fall and proper operation of systems and equipment to complete installations and modifications. The work effort contributes to the safe and effective operation of plumbing systems in County facilities and to the safety and comfort of facility users. The work is performed in a wide variety of locations and involves the use ladders, scaffolding and platforms to access hard to reach places. The physical effort of the work involves standing, stooping, bending, kneeling, climbing and lifting, as well as working in tiring and/or uncomfortable positions for extended periods of time. The employee frequently carries or moves items and equipment of varying dimension and weight. The work is performed both indoors and outside and involves recurring exposure to dirty, dusty and greasy conditions, noxious odors, chemicals, solvents, and human or animal waste, which requires the regular use of safety equipment and/or protective clothing. An employee in this class is required to respond to after-hours emergency service calls and may be placed on stand-by duty during severe weather or other urgent conditions.

**EXAMPLES OF DUTIES: (Illustrative Only)**

- Locates and taps main headers; routes and cuts openings; places hangers for level and slope; and determines type and location of and installs valves, traps and unions needed for proper operation and ease of maintenance of the system.
- Installs equipment associated with a plumbing system including seating, hooking up and testing.

- Installs, maintains, and repairs faucets, sinks, washbowls, drinking fountains, water closets, sewers, vents and other sanitary fixtures.
- Measures, troubleshoots, repairs, cuts, threads, fits, connects, and assembles fixtures, parts and equipment such as deep well pumps, overhead heaters, hot water heaters, pumps, chemical feeders, instruments (pressure flow and control), and automatic valves.
- Plans and lays out the placement, pitch, elevation, pressure reduction, expansion, and operation of various piping systems and equipment.
- Makes various types of joints using hard and soft silver solder, lead wiping and various other techniques.
- Restores and repairs the various systems such as unplugging sewer lines and traps, correcting leaks, overhauling and patching valves and draining and winterization of systems and equipment.
- Modifies, maintains and repairs fire sprinkler systems and components to meet fire codes.
- Performs annual inspection, maintenance and repairs to County swimming pool circulation piping and equipment in support of the seasonal operation.
- Reads and interprets plans and specifications and ensures that finished product meets specifications and provides for stipulated service needs and building code requirements.
- Participates in training programs and instructs lesser skilled employees.
- Drives light vehicle to and from work locations.
- Completes required reports.
- Performs related duties as required.

#### **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:**

- Knowledge of the standards, methods, tools and materials common to the plumbing and related trades.
- Knowledge of the building and fire codes as related to work performed by the plumbing and related trades.
- Knowledge of the occupational hazards and safety precautions of the plumbing and related trades.
- Ability to use and maintain all hand and power tools and equipment used in the plumbing and related trades.
- Ability to work stand by shifts or to respond to after-hours emergency service calls.
- Ability to rig and handle all materials necessary to accomplish a job assignment.
- Ability to wear and use protective clothing and equipment when exposed to dust, fumes, chemicals, contaminants and other irritants to eyes, nose, ears, skin and respiratory system.
- Ability to work from mechanical drawings, specifications, sketches and work orders to prepare material lists and specifications.
- Ability to understand and carry out oral and written instructions in English.

#### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

**Experience:** Completion of a recognized Apprentice Plumber program.

**Education:** Graduation from high school or High School Certificate of completion recognized in the State of Maryland.

**Equivalency:** None.

**Physical Ability:** Ability to occasionally lift items that weigh as much as 100 pounds and to frequently carry 50 pound items. Ability to perform work inside and outside year round, where it may be necessary to work from above or in stretched, cramped or awkward or tiring and uncomfortable positions.

**LICENSE:**

- Possession and maintenance at all times of a valid Class "C" (or equivalent) driver's license from the applicant's state of residence.
- Possession of valid Journey level Plumber's, Gas Fitters, and Sewer Cleaner's licenses issued by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) Possession of WSSC certification to install, repair and maintain backflow prevention devices when required for job-related duties.

**Note:** There will be no substitutions for this section.

**PROBATIONARY PERIOD:**

Individuals appointed to this class will be required to serve a probationary period of six (6) months, during which time performance will be carefully evaluated. Continuation in this class will be contingent upon successful completion of the probationary period.

**MEDICAL EXAM PROTOCOL:** Core II Exam.

**Class Established:** April 1963

**Revised:** November 1970

May 1971

July 1974

January 1978

December 1984

**Classification Study:** May 1991 (M)

December 2000

**Classification Study:** February 2003 (M)

December 2008

April 2010

August 2013

**Medical Protocol revised December 2008**