

248 CMR: BOARD OF STATE EXAMINERS
OF PLUMBERS AND GAS FITTERS

248 CMR 11.00: EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE

Section

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11.01: Scope and Application

(1) Scope. The provisions of 248 CMR 11.00 govern the educational and experience requirements for licensure as a journeyman plumber or journeyman gas fitter, licensure as a master plumber or master gas fitter and licensure as either an undiluted liquefied petroleum gas installer or limited undiluted liquefied petroleum gas installer. In addition, 248 CMR 11.00 governs the continuing education requirements for all licensed plumbers and gas fitters in the Commonwealth. Finally, the provisions of 248 CMR 11.00 govern the requirements for providers of plumbing and gas fitting primary and continuing education.

(2) Sections Declared Independent. 248 CMR 1.00 through 11.00 is hereby declared to be an independent section and part of section and the holding of any section or part of section to be void and ineffective for any cause shall not be deemed to affect any other section or part of section.

11.02: Education and Experience Requirements for Apprentices, Journeyman and Master Licensees; Education and Experience Requirements for Undiluted Liquefied Petroleum Gas Installers and Limited Undiluted Liquefied Petroleum Gas Installers

(1) Qualifications for Admission to the Journeyman Plumber Examination.

(a) Apprentice Plumber Licensed before September 1, 2008. An applicant who is a licensed apprentice plumber and the apprentice license was received prior to September 1, 2008 in accordance with M.G.L. c. 142, § 3A shall be required to fill out a Board approved application and meet the following requirements to be eligible for admission to the journeyman plumber examination:

1. Experience. The applicant shall furnish documentary proof satisfactory to the Board of having completed practical work experience performing plumbing and gas fitting that totals no less than 8,000 clock hours as a licensed apprentice working as an employee under the direct supervision of a Commonwealth of Massachusetts licensed master plumber or under the direct supervision of a Commonwealth of Massachusetts licensed journeyman plumber who is in the employ of a master plumber. Experience installing HVAC components for the installation of heating systems, steam piping and hydronic heat piping or other work not requiring a plumbing or gas fitting license shall not be considered qualifying experience.

2. Education.

a. The applicant shall furnish documentary proof of having received a high school diploma or the equivalent; and

b. The applicant shall furnish documentary proof of having successfully completed 300 clock hours of plumbing and gas fitting theory culminating in a school or instructor designed examination to ensure competency. This education must take place over a period of no less than four years and must meet the requirements of 248 CMR 11.00. For each calendar year, no more than 165 hours of education may be credited for licensure purposes.

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11.02: continued

3. Applicants enrolled in Public Comprehensive High School Career/Vocational Technical School Programs prior to September 1, 2008.
 - a. Eligibility. To be considered equivalent to an individual obtaining an apprentice license prior to September 1, 2008, an applicant must meet the following criteria:
 - i. The applicant must have been a secondary school student enrolled in a Public Comprehensive High School Career/Vocational Technical School plumbing program (not including exploratory hours) prior to September 1, 2008; and
 - ii. The applicant must have obtained an apprentice license within five years of beginning the high school plumbing program.
 - b. Credit Granted. Eligible applicants under 248 CMR 11.02(1) shall be granted up to 300 hours of education and 1,700 clock hours of experience credit from the Public Comprehensive High School Career/Vocational Technical School program.
 4. The provisions of 248 CMR 11.02(1)(a) shall expire on May 1, 2021. All applicants for a journeyman plumbing license who submit an application on or after May 1, 2020 shall, without loss of any lawfully earned education or work experience, be subject to the same upgrading requirements as those imposed on apprentice licenses issued pursuant to 248 CMR 11.02(1)(b). Exception: the Board may, in its discretion, waive this deadline for individuals who suffered from a relevant, documented hardship. However, no such waivers shall be granted on or after May 1, 2021.
- (b) Apprentice Plumber Licensed on or after September 1, 2008. An applicant who is a licensed apprentice plumber and the apprentice license was issued on or after September 1, 2008 in accordance with M.G.L. c. 142, § 3A, not otherwise meeting the criteria outlined in 248 CMR 11.02(1)(a), shall be required to fill out a Board approved application and complete the following education and experience criteria to be eligible for admission to the journeyman plumber examination:
1. Experience. The applicant shall furnish documentary proof satisfactory to the Board of having completed practical work experience that totals no less than 6,800 clock hours as a licensed apprentice working as an employee under the direct supervision of a Commonwealth of Massachusetts licensed master plumber or under the direct supervision of a Commonwealth of Massachusetts licensed journeyman plumber who is in the employ of a master plumber. Experience installing HVAC components for the installation of heating systems, steam piping and hydronic heat piping shall not be considered qualifying experience.
 2. Education.
 - a. The applicant shall furnish documentary proof of having received a high school diploma or the equivalent; and
 - b. The applicant shall furnish documentary proof of having successfully completed 550 clock hours of plumbing and gasfitting theory culminating in a school or instructor designed examination to ensure competency. This education must take place over a period of no less than four years and must meet the Board administrated requirements of 248 CMR 11.00. For each calendar year, no more than 165 hours of education may be credited for licensure purposes.
 - c. Apprentices shall begin their education program within nine months of the initial issuance of their apprentice license.
 3. Timeframes for Completing Education and Work Experience.
 - a. General Rule. An applicant will not receive credit for any work experience or education unless they were completed in conjunction with one another as measured by calendar years. For each year in which an apprentice obtains 165 clock hours of education (1½ tiers), that apprentice must accrue 1,700 clock hours of qualifying work experience as a licensed apprentice. 248 CMR 11.02(1)(b)3.a. is subject to exceptions as described in 248 CMR 11.02(1)(b)3.b. and c.
 - b. Exception 1. In the event that, due to a hardship, an Apprentice is enrolled in a tier but loses their employment, they shall be permitted to complete the tier they are enrolled in. However, the Apprentice must obtain employment prior to enrolling in any additional tiers.
 - c. Exception 2. A licensed apprentice may complete all 220 hours of Tier 1 and Tier 2 in a single calendar year.