

Frequently Asked Questions

What is an Apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship is a combination of on-the-job training and classroom instruction. Apprentices attend six (6) class sessions each year, each consisting of one 40-hour week. Additionally, apprentices work for local contractors under the guidance of a Journeyman and are paid by the contractors for work performed while learning their trade. Apprentices are not paid during the week they attend school.

How long is the Apprenticeship Program?

5 years

How much does the Apprenticeship Cost?

The only cost associated with the program is the initiation fee to join Local 230 and monthly dues.

How much will I earn as an apprentice?

Starting wage for a 1st year apprentice is 45% of Journeyman wages. As apprentices complete each year of work and classroom instruction, they advance to the next wage level. The hourly wage for a 5th year apprentice is 80% of Journeyman wages, plus benefits.

Can I use my VA Benefits?

Yes

Will I be required to drug screen?

Yes, applicants must pass a drug screening for program pre-placement and employment. Drug screenings will be at no cost to you.

What if I move during this process?

To ensure you do not miss out on any future opportunities, we kindly ask that you keep us informed of any changes to your contact information.

CONTACT US

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SAN DIEGO & IMPERIAL COUNTIES PIPE TRADES

PLUMBER & STEAMFITTER APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM



CAREERS

Step 1 | Application/Registration

Applications are accepted throughout the year, by appointment only, at the San Diego and Imperial Counties Pipe Trades Apprenticeship Office. The office is located at 8616 Cuyamaca Street, Santee, CA 92071.

The following original documents are required to apply:

1. Valid California Driver's License
2. Birth Certificate
3. High School Diploma, G.E.D. or an Official Transcript. If you submit an Official Transcript, it must be in the sealed envelope & stamped with the school seal.

Photocopies & unverified scans are not accepted. All documents in a foreign language must be translated, notarized, & submitted with the original documents. We do not accept hospital certificates or baptismal records.

After completing the application process, your name will be placed on a waiting list for the Entry Level Exam (March or September).

Step 2 | Entry Level Assessment Exam

Correspondence to schedule your test will be sent by mail to the address provided on your application.

Step 3 | Interview

Applicants who passed the test will be notified by mail to schedule an oral interview.

Step 4 | Selected Applicant

Applicants who are selected will be required to take & pass a drug screening, at no cost to the applicant. After a successful screening, an onboarding orientation will be scheduled.

Applicants who fail the screening will be required to wait one (1) year to re-apply for the program.

The San Diego & Imperial Counties Joint Apprenticeship Committee dispenses applications for Apprenticeship Training in the Pipe Trades Industry to all qualified applications on a non-discriminatory basis. The Joint Apprenticeship Committee is committed to Equal Opportunity for all persons, regardless of age, color, race, national origin or gender. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply. This announcement does not guarantee employment.

Any apprentice or applicant for apprenticeship who believes that he/she has been discriminated against on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, or sex, with regard to apprenticeship or that the equal opportunity standards with respect to his/her selection have not been followed in the operation of an apprenticeship program, may personally or through an authorized representative, file a complaint with the Registration Agency or, at the apprentice or applicant's election, with the private review body established by the Program Sponsor (if applicable).

The complaint will be in writing and signed by the complainant. It must include the name, address, and telephone number of the person allegedly discriminated against, the Program Sponsor involved, and a brief description of the circumstances of the failure to apply equal opportunity standards.

The complaint must be filed no later than one hundred eighty (180) days from the date of the alleged discrimination or specified failure to follow the equal opportunity standards, and in the case of complaints filed directly with the review body designated by the Program Sponsor to review such complaints, any referral of such complaint by the complainant to the Registration Agency must occur within the time limitation stated above or thirty (30) days from the final decision of such review body, whichever is later. The time may be extended by the Registration Agency for good cause shown. Complaints of discrimination in the apprenticeship program may be filed and processed under Title 29, CFR part 30, of the procedures as set forth above.

The JATC will provide written notice of its complaint procedure to all applicants for apprenticeships and all apprentices.

PLUMBER

A skilled Plumber of the United Association performs high quality work that is essential to the health & safety of our society. They install, repair, service & maintain the piping & plumbing systems related to potable water distribution, sanitary waste drainage, stormwater systems, gas distribution, gray water, solar, hydraulic & desalination systems.

Plumbers are committed to delivering quality work that helps prevent contamination of drinking water & ensures the safe disposal of wastewater. Plumbers also install critical lifesaving systems used in hospitals, dental offices, veterinary clinics & other healthcare facilities, supporting medical professionals in providing essential care.

With a growing focus on green technology, water conservation, & energy efficiency, the demand for skilled plumbers is expected to continue increasing in the years ahead.

STEAMFITTER/PIPEFITTER

A skilled Steamfitter/Pipefitter fabricates, assembles, installs, maintains, & repairs piping systems that transport fluids, slurries, & gases across residential, commercial, & industrial settings.

Their work covers a wide range of industries, including oil refineries, paper mills, nuclear power plants, manufacturing facilities, & the automotive sector. Fitters frequently work with high pressure & high temperature systems, requiring a thorough understanding of scientific principles to perform their work safely & efficiently.