

# 248 CMR 11.00: Education and Experience Standards and Requirements for Licensure

## 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

(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 8,500 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 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 five years and must meet the Board administrated requirements of 248 CMR 11.00. For each calendar year, no more than 110 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 110 clock hours of education, that apprentice must accrue 1700 clock hours of qualifying work experience as a licensed apprentice. This general rule is subject to exceptions as described in this section:

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 Tier 1 and Tier 2 in a single calendar year.

d. Exception 3. An unlicensed individual, who by definition may not accrue work experience, may complete Tier 1 of the education requirement prior to licensure. All remaining education and work experience must be accrued in compliance with the licensing and timeframes described above.

4. Public Comprehensive High School Career/Vocational Technical School Program. An applicant who, as a secondary school student, successfully completes/graduates from a Public Comprehensive High School Career/Vocational Technical School Program following the CVTE (Career Vocational Technical Education) educational standard framework whose program is approved by the Board to meet the requirements of 248 CMR 11.00, may be granted a maximum of the first three tiers, comprising 330 hours of educational theory credit from that program. Additionally, secondary students may accrue a maximum of 1,700 hours of experience credit while enrolled in a Board approved Massachusetts Public Comprehensive High School Career/Vocational Technical School Program, said experience hours may be accrued as follows:

a. In a "shop" or "laboratory" facility at the school where students are under the direct supervision of one or more licensed plumbers who meet the educator licensing requirements of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education;

b. In a Board-approved, off-campus construction and/or maintenance project overseen by the school; or

c. After obtaining an apprentice license, in a school arranged co-op employment relationship with a master plumber. Subject to the limitations of 248 CMR 11.00, students working as apprentices are eligible for experience hours above and beyond the 1,700 hours of experience for work experience in a co-op relationship that is documented by the employing master plumber to have occurred outside of normal school hours (such as evenings, weekends, and summers).