



Plumbing Apprentices (50-427-3)

Effective 2026/2027

Program Description

Plumbing apprentices plan, install, troubleshoot, and repair all aspects of water supply, waste, and vent systems, as well as gaseous fuel systems, following the Wisconsin Administrative Plumbing Code. They interpret blueprints, analyze technical specifications, and follow instructions on what and where work is to be done. They plan their work in a logical sequence; coordinate it with other trades, perform work in a quality manner and in a reasonable amount of time. They choose appropriate tools, equipment, and materials to perform their duties. They communicate effectively and are good team members.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates will be able to:

- 1 Apply state plumbing code requirements to the installation and repair of sanitary drain systems.
- 2 Apply state plumbing code requirements to the installation and repair of venting systems.
- 3 Apply state plumbing code requirements to the installation and repair of water supply systems.
- 4 Apply state plumbing code requirements to the installation and repair of storm drain systems.
- 5 Apply State plumbing code requirements to the installation and repair of POWTS systems.
- 6 Refer to the Wisconsin Administrative Plumbing codes.
- 7 Prepare for Journey level licensure examination.

Essential Career Competencies

Gateway's six essential career competencies are the general attitudes and skills promoted and assessed by all programs. All Gateway graduates will develop skills in:

- 1 Communication Competence
- 2 Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
- 3 Professionalism and Career Management
- 4 Teamwork and Collaboration
- 5 Cultural Competence
- 6 Technology Competence

Get Started as an Apprentice

- 1 Go to the Plumbers and Steamfitters Training Center and fill out an application:

K-R-W Plumbing Apprenticeship Committee
14011 Spring Street
Sturtevant, WI 53177
262-732-4103

- 2 Have high school transcripts sent to the Plumbers and Steamfitters Training Center. Transcript request forms are available at the Training Center.
- 3 Achieve a passing score on the algebra, arithmetic and reading portions of the Accuplacer test, which is available at Gateway's Kenosha and Racine campuses for \$15. Contact the Testing Center at 262-564-2542 to schedule an appointment.
- 4 The Plumbing Apprenticeship Committee will set up interviews for those persons who have high school transcripts and passing Accuplacer scores on file. Interviews are scheduled twice a year at the Plumbers and Steamfitters Training Center.
- 5 After passing the interview, your name will be placed on a list of eligible contractors when applying for apprenticeship jobs.
- 6 You will receive a letter of introduction to be presented to local contractors when applying for apprenticeship jobs. You must find a contractor to hire you before you can become an apprentice.
- 7 Once hired by a contractor, you'll be notified that you are an apprentice and will sign a contract with the Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards.
- 8 Once your contract is in place, Gateway's Apprenticeship Department will communicate with you regarding registration, classes and books.

Graduation Requirements

- *Minimum of 2.0 ("C") or above for all required courses.
- Meet minimum hourly paid related instruction requirements per WI Registered Apprenticeship Contract.

Notes

- 1 Students must be physically capable of performing the activities of the job, including equipment/tool use, for course grading. This may include any of these activities for an extended period: standing, sitting, reaching, bending, finger/hand dexterity, and, the use of head, face, eye, ear, hand and foot protection in various dynamic work environments including cramped/small spaces and hot or cold temperatures.
- 2 Students must be 18 years of age and submit official high school, GED, or HSED transcript including a graduation or passing date.
- 3 Students must complete all courses with a grade of "C" or better.
- 4 Students must have a valid driver's license.
- 5 Students must pass an aptitude test, complete a personal interview and submit an application.
- 6 Textbook, supplies and personal protective equipment requirements and sources will be provided by your instructor as well as outlined in the syllabus.
- 7 Virtual instruction will require the students to participate with the computer camera and microphones on when requested by the instructor.

Gateway Technical College reserves the right to modify curriculum requirements for students who interrupt enrollment for one year or take over seven years to complete. Tuition and material fees are determined by the board of the Wisconsin Technical College System. Consult My Gateway for exact fee amounts. The District reserves the right to modify, cancel, or relocate course offerings in response to factors such as low enrollment, resource availability, or other relevant considerations to ensure high-quality educational experiences. Students will be notified in writing and are encouraged to meet with their Academic Advisor to adjust their academic plan.

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The course sequence shown on this sheet is the recommended path to completion. Courses will be scheduled in the terms indicated here. All courses should be taken in the order shown to help you stay on track and graduate according to your academic plan. Courses in this program may be offered in a variety or combination of formats (for example: in-person, video conferencing, online, etc.). More detailed scheduling information for this program can be found at <https://www.gtc.edu/plumbing-apprentice>. Please see your academic advisor for additional information.

Term	Course Number	Course Name	Credits	Hours
1	*427-751	Sanitary Drains 1	2.00	72
2	*427-752	Vents and Venting Systems	2.00	72
3	*427-753	Water Distribution 1	2.00	72
4	*427-754	Water Distribution 2	2.00	72
5	*427-755	Sanitary Drains 2	2.00	72
6	*427-756	Private Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (POWTS)	2.00	72
7	*427-757	Green Plumbing Applications	2.00	72
8	*427-758	Plumbing Advanced Topics / TSA	2.00	72
8	*455-455	Transition to Trainer: Your Role as a Skilled Worker Trainer	.20	8

(*) Students must achieve a minimum of 2.0 ("C") or above for this major course to meet graduation requirements.

Training at a Glance

- Time to complete – Approximately 5 years
- On the job time – 7428 Hours
- Related Instruction Time – 572 Hours
- Additional training – 260 hours extra in: Plumbing Applications Lab, Plumbing Blueprint Reading, Plumbing Repair, Transition to Trainer, Isometric Interpretation & Drawing, Transit/Level/Laser, Welding, Safety/OSHA, First Aid/CPR, Transition to Trainer during final year. Consult the Wisconsin Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards website for more information at <https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/apprenticeship/occupations/plumbing.htm>

If you need assistance getting started,
Gateway's Apprenticeship Department is happy to help.

QUESTIONS?

PLEASE CONTACT:

Gateway Technical College
Apprenticeship Department
262-564-2954

apprenticeship@gtc.edu