



COUNTY OF ONONDAGA
EXAMINING BOARD FOR PLUMBERS

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650 Hiawatha Blvd West
Syracuse, New York 13204

www.ongov.net/wep/plumbing-control.html

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County Executive

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Commissioner WEP

ADVISORY MEMBERS:

Philip Peterson, P.E.
Sal Sciuga (nominee)

JOURNEYMEN'S CANDIDATE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

No applicant shall be examined for a Journeyman Plumber's Certificate of Competency unless the applicant shall have had experience of at least five (5) years in the plumbing trade. Documented proof of same is mandatory

- A. For the Journeyman level, educational experience in trade school or experience in the opinion of the Board to be equivalent may be used to satisfy the requirements of up to one year at the rate of ¼ year qualified experience per year of trade school conducted concurrent with employment (evening / weekend classes), or ½ year qualified experience per year in a full time Associates Degree program in a construction trades curriculum / business curriculum.
- B. For a Candidate previously registered with Onondaga County as an Apprentice, in addition to the information on the application form, candidates should submit photocopies of five years of Apprentice registration cards. Since Apprentice Cards are issued in May in Onondaga County, inclusion of a year 2025 card does not provide any credit for the Spring exam and provides ½ year credit for the fall exam.
- C. For Candidates not previously registered with Onondaga County as Apprentices, Candidates must submit the information on the application form as well as ample documentation of employment in the plumbing trade in the role of apprentice or journeyman. Such documentation could include, but is not limited to, at least one of the following:
 - a. Photocopies of a minimum of 5 years of registration documents as an apprentice or journeyman plumber from the municipal jurisdiction in which the candidate acquired the experience. Provide a working email address and telephone number for the municipality who provided the registration.
 - b. Documentation from an agency of the Government of the United States, military or civil, or from one of the sovereign States showing that the candidate was employed as an apprentice or journeyman plumber or military/civil equivalent for a minimum of 5 years, and including documentation on the training in plumbing the candidate received during the period of

- c. employment. Such documentation must include a working email and office or mobile telephone number for the individual or agency providing the information.
- d. Documentation from an employing plumbing company in a Municipality which has adopted the International Plumbing Code or has its own Plumbing Code based upon the International Plumbing Code, certifying that the candidate has a minimum of 5 years of employment with that firm as an apprentice or journeyman plumber and including documentation on the training in plumbing the candidate received during the period of employment.. Note that only plumbing experience is qualified. For example, if the candidate also worked on HVAC projects, only that portion of the work on plumbing projects can be counted. The documentation from the employing plumbing company must be signed by an officer of the company and must include a working email and office or mobile telephone number for the individual or agency providing the information.

Documentation from and employing plumbing company in a Municipality in which the apprentice plumber is required to be registered will not be accepted unless accompanied by proof of the candidate’s registration.

Journeyman Plumber Candidates Documentation Checklist:

Type of Credit Requested	Documents Required	Years of Credit Requested (Circle only One in each row)					
		0	1/4	1/2	3/4	1	
Education Credit (Max 1-year total credit allowed)	Document, Certificate or Transcript for each item	0	1/4	1/2	3/4	1	
Additional Education Credit (Max 1-year total credit allowed)	Document, Certificate or Transcript for each item	0	1/4	1/2	3/4	1	
Previously/Currently Registered in Onondaga County	Photocopies of Each Annual Registration Card	0	1	2	3	4	5
Government – USA or State Agency Employee	Documentation or Certificate for each annual period	0	1	2	3	4	5
Employer Certified	Documentation for each annual period	0	1	2	3	4	5
Total	Candidate Total sum of circled items	_____ Years					

Candidates for Journeymen Plumber – Please be sure you have confirmed you meet the 5 year requirement for documentation in order to obtain a speedy authorization to take the test.

Journeyman Plumber Examination Information

1. Any person who is registered as an apprentice with Onondaga County Water Environment Protection may be qualified for upgrading to the level of Journeyman Plumber. Individuals must be examined by the Onondaga County Examining Board for Plumbers and obtain a Certificate of Competency. Eligibility to take the Competency Examination is outlined in the Requirements for Implementation of the New York State Fire Prevention and Building Code - Plumbing.

**For an application to sit for the exam, please visit
Ongov.net/WEP/Plumber-Exams.**

**If you have any questions, please phone:
Onondaga County Department of Water Environment Protection
Division of Plumbing Control
650 Hiawatha Blvd W
Syracuse, NY 13204-1123
Telephone: (315) 435-6614**

The Onondaga County Department of Personnel will administer, proctor and grade the exam.

2. The next examination date is:

**Saturday – April 26, 2025
9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.**

**Applications and payments must be in to Plumbing
Control by the End of Business on:**

Friday, March 21, 2025

**Please Note – LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE
ACCEPTED FOR ANY REASON.**

3. You will be notified in writing as to whether or not you are found to be qualified to take the exam. You will receive this notification no later than 10 days prior to the examination date. If you are found to be qualified you will be notified of the time and location of the exam.

The fee for the Journeyman Exam is: \$25.00

Examination Contents

The examination consists of two (2) sections (multiple choice and drawings):

1. The first section consists of 35 multiple choice questions worth two (2) points each for a total of 70 points. Your answers to these questions must be shown on a separate answer sheet provided to you. You will not be given credit for any question which has been answered incorrectly, left blank or has more than one (1) answer marked.
2. The second section consists of multiple drawings which total 30 points.
3. When the two section scores are combined, the successful candidate will have achieved a minimum passing grade of 75. The time limit for the exam will be 3½ hours.
4. **IMPORTANT NOTE: This is a partial open book exam. You may only bring a copy of the 2020 Plumbing Code of New York State for reference.** A calculator will be provided. Candidates are requested to bring two #2 pencils. Colored pencils are not allowed.

Subject Matter

1. The subject matter for the multiple choice questions will include:

- sanitary and storm drainage systems and sewers
- water supply and distribution
- knowledge of applicable codes
- general trade practice
- installation technique
- special wastes
- fixtures
- business math & general math

The majority of the questions are based upon the plumbing related provisions of the 2020 Plumbing Code of New York State and the Requirements for Implementation of the New York State Fire Prevention and Building Code – Plumbing, and the “Local Law #9 amended by Local Law #6 (2004)”. The remainder of the questions are based upon plumbing related knowledge and practice, general math and business math.

2. The subject matter for the drawings are based upon the candidates knowledge of plumbing system details at the journeyman level. The candidate will be required to complete drawings of plumbing system layouts showing all appropriate details. Instructions for completing each drawing will be provided at the time of the exam.

Examination Reference

The following publications should be used as references for preparation for the exam:

1. The 2020 Plumbing Code of New York State. **Be sure to bring a copy of this reference to the exam.**
2. Requirements for Implementation of the New York State Fire Prevention and Building Code – Plumbing and the “Local Law #9 amended by Local Law #6 (2004)”.
These documents are available from Plumbing Control.

Some of the questions will be based on field experience and knowledge of trade practices, therefore questions will not be limited to these references.

Code Books Sold By:

**I.C.C.
2020 Plumbing Code of New York State
ISBN: 978-1-60983-917-8**

Telephone Number: 1-800-786-4452

order@iccsafe.org

Sample Questions

1. A valve installed in the water service pipe inside of the building near the point of entry is known as:
- a. curb valve
 - b. riser valve
 - c. meter valve
 - d. dwelling unit valve

Answer: c

2. Under the Plumbing Code of New York State, the maximum distance of a vent from a 2" trap is:
- a. 3' at $\frac{1}{4}$ " per foot slope
 - b. 4' at $\frac{1}{2}$ " per foot slope
 - c. 8' at $\frac{1}{4}$ " per foot slope
 - d. 6' at $\frac{1}{8}$ " per foot slope

Answer: c

3. Copper tubing $1\frac{1}{2}$ " and larger installed horizontally above ground must be supported at intervals no greater than:
- a. 5'
 - b. 6'
 - c. 8'
 - d. 10'

Answer: d

4. The area of a circle with a diameter of 3.5 feet is:
- a. 9.6 square feet
 - b. 11.0 square feet
 - c. 22.0 square feet
 - d. 38.5 square feet

Answer: a

5. A plumber purchased \$375.00 in materials in an area where the sales tax is 6%. What was the amount of tax paid?
- a. \$21.23
 - b. \$22.50
 - c. \$23.75
 - d. \$26.25

Answer: b