

## PLUMBER, CHIEF

### KIND OF WORK

Lead, skilled and licensed plumbing work.

### NATURE AND PURPOSE

Under general supervision, an employee in this class performs skilled new plumbing installation and extension, replacement, alteration, maintenance, and repair of plumbing, drainage and sewage disposal systems including, but not limited to, water supply/distribution pipes, drainage and vent pipes and building drains, fittings, hydrants, valves, and plumbing and heating fixtures and traps, and water and drainage systems according to specifications in the State Plumbing Code. An employee in this class trains and directs the work of licensed Plumbers and Plumber/Fitters, laborers, other maintenance employees, correctional facility inmates, regional center residents and other helpers. Performs related work as required.

This class differs from Plumber Supervisor because the Plumber Supervisor exercises full, supervisory authority over a group of subordinate employees including licensed Plumbers and Plumber/Fitters, laborers and maintenance employees. This class differs from Plumber and Plumber - Master in Charge in that the Plumber, Chief provides ongoing leadwork direction to skilled Plumbers and Plumber/Fitters, as well as laborers and other maintenance employees.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (A position may not include all the work examples given, nor does the list include all that may be assigned.)

Schedules, distributes/balances and guides the work activities of assigned staff, in accordance with established workflow/assignment requirements, to assist supervisory staff in the timely accomplishment of assigned workload, by coordinating plumbing projects with other skilled crafts, such as Electricians, Carpenters, and Painters; by modifying work plans to improve efficiency; and by recommending additional employees for the project to ensure timely completion.

Monitors and reports on the work activities of licensed Plumbers and Plumber/Fitters, less skilled laborers, maintenance employees, correctional facility inmates and regional center residents to determine that work and materials meet plumbing codes and to ensure the timely completion of projects by determining the most efficient work procedures, directing assignments and coordinating work with other trades; by instructing others and ensuring the use of appropriate procedures and equipment and compliance with safety standards; by inspecting the quality of work performed by others and by recording hours worked and materials and equipment used.

Reviews plans, blueprints and specifications and develops sketches, instructions, specifications and material lists for plumbing projects to understand the scope of the project and to recommend changes by reading the plans, blueprints and specifications and discussing them with the supervisor; by researching the plans and specifications of previously completed plumbing projects; and by defining the detailed tasks of the project and laying out work.

Estimates costs for time, labor and materials so that the supervisor can prioritize, budget and schedule plumbing projects by determining the type and amount of supplies necessary to complete the project according to code and by making material lists; by selecting the best work procedures, laying out work; by determining equipment and labor requirements; and by requisitioning and checking necessary supplies and equipment.

Installs, extends, repairs, alters, replaces, maintains, and inspects/tests all water, sewage and gas systems in state buildings to ensure proper installation and water flow, waste disposal, drainage and fire protection according to state plumbing codes; by selecting the necessary supplies and equipment to complete the project most efficiently and according to code; by identifying the most direct and appropriate route to run the piping; by locating the area of broken pipe; by cleaning and sweating copper pipes and fittings; by cutting threads and tightening pipe and fittings; by welding pipe hangers and supports to secure all piping and connections; by installing any valves needed; by monitoring the water temperature of hot water boilers; by establishing and implementing preventive maintenance schedules; and by following safety standards and procedures to prevent injuries during plumbing projects.

Installs, repairs and maintains all plumbing fixtures (sinks, toilets, showers, drinking fountains, etc.) so that they are in working order to ensure sanitary conditions by selecting the necessary supplies for the plumbing project; by hanging and setting fixtures to ensure proper operation; by adjusting faucets and flush valves; by unplugging toilets and removing debris from sink traps; and by replacing worn or broken parts of plumbing fixtures.

Maintains and cares for plumbing supplies and equipment to ensure their safe and efficient use for current and future plumbing projects by inspecting the physical condition of all pipe threading, bending and tightening tools; by repairing or replacing worn or broken parts on welding equipment and by ensuring an adequate supply of steel, copper, plastic piping and plumbing fixtures for immediate repair projects.

## KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

### Knowledge of:

Construction plans, blueprints and plumbing specifications sufficient to interpret, modify and follow them to complete plumbing projects and to advise other licensed Plumbers on more effective techniques and work procedures to complete plumbing projects.

State Plumbing Code and standard plumbing practices, techniques, materials and tools sufficient to ensure that work and materials comply with code, to instruct others and verify that their work meets code, and to select appropriate supplies, equipment and work methods and apply them to plumbing projects.

Plumbing tools and equipment, safety standards and procedures sufficient to complete projects efficiently and safely.

Shop math sufficient to estimate labor and materials costs for planned projects.

Skill in:

Using hand tools (e.g., pipe cutters, benders, threaders, wrenches) and arc and acetylene welding equipment sufficient to install, maintain and repair water, sewer and gas systems and plumbing fixtures in state buildings.

Ability to:

Lead and motivate Plumbers and other employees sufficient to direct them toward the timely completion of assigned projects.

Maintain and repair hand tools and welding equipment sufficient to ensure their availability and safe operation for plumbing projects.

Direct, instruct, monitor and inspect the plumbing work of licensed Plumbers and less skilled employees, inmates and residents sufficient to complete projects efficiently and safely.

Maintain plumbing project records of time and materials sufficient to report daily, weekly, and monthly progress of the plumbing project.

#### LEGAL AND LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

Registration with the Minnesota Department of Health as a Master Plumber.

Est.: 06/93  
Rev.: 11/94

T.C.:  
Former Title(s):