

CONSTRUCTION

NOC 7252

STEAMFITTER (T.Q.A.A. , compulsory certified trade)



WORK DESCRIPTION

What would I be doing?

Steamfitters lay out, assemble and install:

- heating system, cooling system, or industrial system,
- piping in any building or structure,
- piping for any process, including a process that conveys gas, or the tubing for any pneumatic or air handling system,

Steamfitters read and interpret:

- design drawings, manufacturer's literature and installation diagrams

Steamfitters maintain and repair all piping systems carrying water, gas, oil, steam, chemicals and fuel.

Steamfitters work indoors and outdoors, usually in industrial settings that may be noisy and potentially hazardous. The work often involves lifting and carrying heavy objects.

Shift work is not unusual and a five day work week of 35 to 40 hours is standard.

PLACE OF WORK

Who needs a Steamfitters?

- manufacturing companies,
- air-conditioning and heating contractors,
- machine shops,

- old buildings, schools,
- Some Steamfitters are self employed.

CONDITIONS OF WORK

A Steamfitter is a T.Q.A.A. compulsory certified trade. A person must have a valid Certificate of Qualification or be registered as an apprentice to work in the trade.

Under TQAA, for **compulsory trades**, the Cooperative Education student **must be a registered apprentice and may be paid** according to the Regulations.

SALARIES/WAGES

The salary of the Steamfitters depends on the employer. In unionized places the wages and conditions of work are negotiated collectively. The rate of wages for an apprentice is a specified percentage of a journeyperson's wage according to experience and level of training.

In the Elgin, Middlesex and Oxford area, Steamfitters can earn \$ 13.65 - \$ 27.09 per hour, averaging \$ 23.26 per hour.

(Next)

PROSPECTS of EMPLOYMENT in the Elgin, Middlesex and Oxford area

RATING: *fair*

In the Steamfitter trade, both weather and economy conditions heavily influence.

APPRENTICESHIP IN THE STEAMFITTER TRADE

- takes 4 to 5 years or about 9 000 h, including 720 h of in-school training; prior education and experience may shorten the time to complete all the competencies,
- must pass the Certificate of Qualification exam to receive both a Certificate of Apprenticeship and a Certificate of Qualification with journeyman status,
- offers an Interprovincial Trade Certification (Red Seal).

In-School Education:

An OYAP student must be 16 years old and have completed Grade 10 (or equivalent). Otherwise, Grade 10 is the minimum requirement, however, completion of Grade 12 (OSSD) is advantageous. The following competencies are valuable:

English, *Communication and*
Mathematics, *planning skills,*
Physics, *problem-solving skills*
Manufacturing Technology (Machining),
Design Technology (Drafting).

OYAP students must be full-time students in high school and those who obtain apprenticeships will complete the apprenticeship curriculum in college or an approved Training Delivery Agent.

Specific skills learned in school are: safety, applied trade calculations, engineering drawings/layout development, measuring and checking, blue print reading, physics, pipe and fitting materials, system design, plumbing code, pipe assembly,

weld and cut, rig and hoist, heating and cooling condenser system, troubleshooting.

On the Job Training

- As a high school Cooperative Education credit (towards O.S.S.D.), learning is connected to one of the school subjects.
- The Apprentices must follow a program in the **Apprenticeship Training Standards** book which is given to them in the workplace when they register. As each competency is achieved the employer signs it off. A Training Consultant monitors progress.

OPPORTUNITY TO GROW

A Certificate as a Steamfitter or a registration as an apprentice is needed to start working as a Steamfitter. A Journeyman may:

- become a foreperson or a supervisor,
- start own business,
- work in related areas or occupations.

RELATED OCCUPATIONS

- Plumber,
- Air-conditioning Mechanic.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Whom should I call?

Guidance/Co-Op Office/Tech. Teacher
Apprenticeship Office 519 675 7788
London: 1 800 265 1050
Apprenticeship web: www.edu.gov.on.ca
EMOLTB web site: www.localboard.on.ca
Training Hotline: 1 800 387 5656
Union: United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipefitting Industry of the United States and Canada Local 593 519 455 5630