

**SPRINKLER AND FIRE PROTECTION INSTALLER
(T.Q.A.A., voluntary certified trade)**



WORK DESCRIPTION

What would I be doing?

Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installers lay out, assemble and install:

- water, foam and dry chemical sprinkler systems for fire protection purposes,
- piping in any building or structure, and piping for any process connected with fire protection,

Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installers:

- read and interpret design drawings, manufacturer’s literature and installation diagrams,
- test, maintain and repair all piping systems carrying water for fire protection.

Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installers work indoors and outdoors, in industrial settings, and in residential and commercial buildings. There are potential hazards due to bursting pipes. The work sometimes 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 Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installers?

Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installers work for:

- manufacturing companies,
- building contractors,
- maintenance departments of factories and businesses,
- other unionized companies.

CONDITIONS OF WORK

A Sprinkler and Fire Installer is a voluntary certified trade. A person does not have to have a valid Certificate of Qualification to work in the trade but being registered as an apprentice is recommended. Under TQAA, for **voluntary** trades, the Cooperative Education student does not have to be a registered apprentice and therefore does not have to be paid during school hours. **Students who become registered apprentices may be paid** according to the Regulations.

SALARIES/WAGES

The salary of the Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installers 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, Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installers 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: good

The Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installer trade outlook is good since all new public buildings now require a sprinkler system.

APPRENTICESHIP IN THE SPRINKLER AND FIRE PROTECTION INSTALLER TRADE

- takes 3 ½ to 4 years or about 7 200 h, including 720 h of post secondary 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, *analytical skills,*
Physics, *problem solving*
Design Technology (Drafting),
Construction Technology.

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, blue print reading, physics, system design, plumbing code.

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.

OPPORTUNITY TO GROW

A Certificate as a journeyman is not needed to start working as a Sprinkler and Fire Protection Installer but registration in the apprenticeship is recommended. A Journeyman may:

- become a foreperson or a supervisor,
- become an inspector,
- work in related areas or occupations.

RELATED OCCUPATIONS

- Plumber, Steamfitter, Pipefitter,
- Air-conditioning Mechanic.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Whom should I call?

School Guidance/Co-Op Office
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: Sprinklers, Fitters of Ontario
Local 853 1 905 477 6022