

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF CLASS

The PLUMBING INSPECTOR inspects additions, alterations, repairs, relocations, replacements, and other installations of plumbing and drainage systems in residential, commercial, industrial, and manufacturing buildings for compliance with safety standards; investigates safety issues; enforces regulations; stops operations of unsafe installations and provides technical information to the public, contractors, and industry representatives.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

This position is a single classification and not currently part of a series.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The duties listed below are not inclusive but characteristic of the type and level of work associated with this class. Individual positions may perform all or some combination of the duties listed below as well as other related duties.

1. Inspection

Inspects new, prefabricated, or altered plumbing installations for compliance with applicable codes, laws, rules, and regulations governing plumbing systems in residential, commercial, industrial, and manufactured buildings including pipes, drains, backflow, sewage disposal, water heaters, water conditioning. Some employees in this class may inspect plumbing systems in manufactured home dwellings.

Inspects for compliance with applicable codes, laws, rules, and regulations various types of plumbing appliances and equipment including fixtures, respective joints and connections, pipes, drains, vents, tanks, valves, traps.

Approves or rejects plans, engineering or architectural drawings and designs of plumbing systems and other pertinent data for proposed plumbing installations or alterations to verify compliance with applicable codes, laws, rules, and regulations.

Reinspects installations after corrections have been made.

Documents inspections on daily activity logs.

2. Enforcement

Analyzes information obtained from inspections and compares with applicable codes, laws, rules, and regulations to determine if all safety and code requirements have been met.

Completes and signs inspection reports approving plumbing installations; communicates minor or non-life threatening violations by posting a red tag to specify the violation which needs correction. Communicates major or life threatening violations by issuing a stop work order. Appears as court witness when necessary.

Drives through assigned geographical area to verify that construction activity is properly authorized by the applicable laws, rules, codes, and regulations, and that tradespersons are properly licensed.

3. Investigations

Investigates reported violations, injurious accidents, and complaints reported by industry or the public to determine whether regulations and statutes have been violated; accumulates evidence pertaining to investigations.

4. Education and Information

Answers general inquiries from the public and contractors on the requirements of the plumbing safety codes, laws, rules, and regulations.

Reviews and applies changes in laws and codes to inspections and investigations.

Gives technical training relevant to plumbing codes, laws, rules and regulations to owners, operators and other industry representatives. Confers with state agencies and other groups regarding plumbing sanitation problems.

Participates in conferences and training sessions to learn new rules and changes in the code.

RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHERS

Employees in this class communicate several times per day with home owners, manufacturers, and contractors by telephone and in person to schedule and conduct inspections, provide code and regulation information, receive and resolve complaints, and make recommendations.

Employees in the class have occasional telephone contact with agency code experts to obtain direction in unusual circumstances or for interpretation of vague language in the code.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED

Work performed by employees in this class is governed by state laws, statutes, and rules, and the Plumbing, One and Two Family Dwelling, and Mobile Home codes.

Employees in the class receive work assignments and general direction through periodic contact by telephone and in person with the lead worker or supervisor. Work is reviewed by the lead worker or supervisor by reading daily reports, compliance reports, reviewing permit and license activity, occasional observations, occasional communication with the industry being served, and by spot-checking inspections for accuracy. The supervisor conducts a formal evaluation of the work at least annually through the performance appraisal process.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Employees in this class walk, climb, and crawl while making inspections. There is daily travel by motor vehicle to inspection sites within assigned geographical areas.

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS (KS)

Extensive knowledge of theory and practices of plumbing installation.
General knowledge of codes and regulations governing the plumbing industry.
General knowledge of theory and practices of plumbing technology.
Basic knowledge of theory and practices of plumbing maintenance.

Skill in recognizing noncompliance and procedural irregularities.
Skill in reading plumbing installation plans and diagrams.
Skill in communicating and explaining plumbing codes and regulations verbally and in writing.
Skill in preparing technical narrative reports.
Skill in preparing and maintaining records and compiling data.
Skill in consolidating notes and observations into final reports.
Skill in mathematics including basic algebra and geometry.
Skill in problem solving.
Skill in gaining the cooperation of people.
Skill in plumbing trade and construction industry.
Skill in plumbing and construction business procedures.

NOTE: The KNOWLEDGE and SKILLS are required for initial consideration. Some duties performed by positions in this class may require different KS's. No attempt is made to describe every KS required for **all** positions in this class. Additional KS requirements will be explained on the recruiting announcement.

Adopted 11/92

Revised