

Job Description

Plumber

40 Hours | POS #100010248

Direct Report	Facilities Superintendent	Grade	Gr-J \$23.07hr - \$32.20hr
Department	DFFM	FLSA	Non-Exempt
Division	DFFM	Bargaining Unit	Union
Date	Nov 2025	Location	294 Liberty Street

Homeland Security Emergency Status: Essential

Safety Classification: Safety-Sensitive Position

Summary

The Journeyman Plumber performs skilled plumbing work in the installation, maintenance, inspection, and repair of plumbing systems and fixtures in municipal buildings and facilities. Work is performed in accordance with Massachusetts plumbing code and under the general supervision of a Facilities Supervisor. This role ensures that plumbing systems across public buildings operate safely, efficiently, and in compliance with applicable regulations.

Supervisory Responsibilities

Supervision Scope: Supervisors are responsible for signing performance reviews.

Supervision Received: This position receives general direction and supervision from the Facilities Superintendent.

Supervision Given: This position has no formal supervisory responsibilities.

Essential Function

Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

1. Install, repair, and maintain pipes, fixtures, drainage systems, water heaters, boilers, valves, and related plumbing systems in public buildings.
2. Diagnose and troubleshoot plumbing problems, including leaks, clogs, and broken components.
3. Perform preventive maintenance on plumbing systems across various municipal properties.
4. Ensure all plumbing work complies with the Massachusetts State Plumbing Code.
5. Read and interpret blueprints, schematics, and building plans.
6. Analyze work orders submitted for plumbing repairs; prepare order lists and place order for supplies.
7. Maintain detailed work records, including materials used and time spent on jobs.
8. Coordinate with other trades (electrical, HVAC, carpentry) during renovations and emergency repairs.
9. Respond to emergency calls during regular hours and may participate in on-call rotation as needed.
10. Assist with compliance inspections and testing (e.g., backflow prevention, water pressure testing).
11. Maintain tools, supplies, materials, equipment, and assigned work vehicle in clean and safe working condition.
12. Adhere to all municipal and departmental safety protocols and procedures.
- 13.
14. Assist with general labor duties on each job site as required.
15. Provides high-quality, efficient customer service and supports strong, responsive relationships within the community and workplace.
16. Assist with snow and ice removal operations.

Job Description

17. Performs related duties as assigned.

The duties listed above are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position. The job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the City of New Bedford and the employee and is subject to change by the City as the needs of the City and requirements of the job change.

Competencies

Responsibility	Independent Judgement	Thoroughness & Attention to Detail
	Customer Service	Organizational Skills
Planning	Teamwork	Adaptability

Special Requirements

- Subject to Mandatory CORI (Criminal Offender Record Investigation)
- Valid **Massachusetts Journeyman or Master Plumber license** required.
- **Massachusetts Gas Fitter license** (Journeyman or Master) strongly preferred
- Must maintain licenses in good standing with the MA Board of State Examiners of Plumbers and Gas Fitters.
- Possession of a valid Massachusetts driver's license and good driving record. Operates a motor vehicle on a regular basis.

Education and Experience

- Graduation from high school or GED equivalent.
- Two to four years of experience in plumbing and operation of plumbing equipment and machinery.
- Any equivalent combination of education and experience.

Required Skills and Abilities

- Strong knowledge of plumbing systems, codes, materials, and tools.
- Ability to read and interpret blueprints and technical drawings.
- Familiarity with safety procedures and hazardous materials handling.
- Excellent problem-solving and troubleshooting skills.
- Ability to work independently with minimal supervision.
- Good communication and recordkeeping skills.
- Physical ability to perform the duties of the position, including lifting, climbing ladders, and working in confined spaces.
- Installing, repairing, replacing, and maintaining water, gas, and sewer plumbing lines.
- Plumbing standards for water, sewer, and gas lines.
- Blueprints or other technical specifications for installing, repairing, or removing plumbing lines.

Job Description

- City requirements for permitting plumbing work to be performed within City buildings and facilities.
- Occupational hazards and the proper safety methods and procedures used to avoid or minimize risks.
- Work independently with minimal supervision.
- Understand and follow oral and written instructions.
- Determine plumbing issues that need to be immediately addressed and order parts to complete tasks.
- Adhere to plumbing codes and standards for installation, repair, removal, or maintenance of steam heating systems.
- Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with supervisors, coworkers, and the public.
- Installing, repairing, replacing, and maintaining plumbing lines and fixtures with buildings and facilities owned by the City.
- Repairing and maintaining a hot water boiler system.

Tools and Equipment Used

Hand Tools:

- Pipe wrenches (various sizes)
- Adjustable wrenches
- Basin wrenches
- Tubing cutters
- Hacksaws
- Channel-lock pliers
- Screwdrivers
- Tape measures
- Allen wrenches/hex keys
- Teflon tape and thread sealants

Power Tools:

- Cordless drills and impact drivers
- Reciprocating saws (Sawzall)
- Pipe threading machines (manual and powered)
- Angle grinders
- Drain augers (handheld and power-operated)
- Wet/dry vacuum

Plumbing-Specific Tools:

- Pipe inspection cameras
- Pipe benders
- Pipe reamers and deburring tools
- Faucet and sink installation tools
- Flare and swaging tools
- Soldering and brazing torches (for copper piping)
- Press fitting tools (e.g., ProPress or similar systems)
- Pipe thawing equipment (for winter emergencies)

Job Description

Testing and Diagnostic Equipment:

- Water pressure gauges
- Leak detection equipment
- Backflow testing kits (if certified)
- Digital thermometers
- Manometers or gas pressure testers (if licensed for gas work)

Safety Equipment:

- Personal protective equipment (PPE) including gloves, goggles, ear protection, and respirators
- Lockout/tagout kits
- Fall protection harness (if applicable)
- First aid kit

Work Environment

- Work is performed in an office setting. Workload and stress levels vary dramatically. The **Plumber** makes constant contact with other staff, members of the public and City departments. This requires excellent customer service skills. The **Plumber** is expected to operate in an environment where errors can be costly with regard to efficiency of the operation. **Expected to provide technical support or guidance** to less experienced staff or apprentices.

Physical Demands

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. The work environment and exposures described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Work is performed mostly indoors; hand-eye coordination is necessary to operate tools, vehicles and various types of construction tools and equipment. Specific abilities required by this job include close vision, prolonged visual concentration, and the ability to adjust focus. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is frequently required to sit, stand, walk, talk, and hear; use hands and fingers to handle, feel, or operate objects, tools, or controls and reach with hands and arms. The employee is frequently required to climb, balance, stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl.

The employee is occasionally exposed to adverse weather and other unpleasant conditions, such as heat, cold, wetness and humidity; dim or bright lights, dust, odors, noise, vibrations, toxic agents, smoke, electrical currents, heavy machinery, fumes, airborne particles, various risks, toxins, and hazardous waste associated with plumbing lines and fixtures for gas, water, and sewer. The employee must exercise caution when operating vehicles or handling chemicals.

The employee must frequently lift and/or move up to 50 pounds and occasionally in excess of 50 pounds.

Work Hours

This is a full-time non-exempt position with a typical 40 hours per week with possible availability for after normal hours of operation during emergencies and other departmental critical needs.

Job Description

Other Duties

Please note this job description is not designed to cover or contain a comprehensive listing of activities, duties, or responsibilities that are required of the employee for this job. Duties, responsibilities, and activities may change at any time with or without notice as needed by the City of New Bedford within the scope of departmental needs. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment of the position.

