Classification Title  | Class Codes  | Date Established | Date Revised  
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Plumber             | 6549         | 1931             | 09-03-03     
Lead Plumber        | 6548         | 12-19-58         | 09-03-03     
Supervising Plumber | 6547         | 10-01-71         | 09-03-03     

OVERVIEW:
Plumbers as defined in this series are journey-level skilled trades workers responsible for the full range of skilled plumbing work including the installation, maintenance, inspection, modification, remodel and repair of mechanical plumbing equipment and fixtures for water, gas, oil, steam, sewage, fire sprinkler/prevention, and refrigeration-related plumbing systems, including automated plumbing systems. Incumbents typically maintain, troubleshoot and test plumbing systems, including backflow prevention devices; assemble, install and repair pumps, pipes, fittings, and fixtures; cut, thread and weld pipes; assemble and install valves, pipe fittings and pipes composed of a variety of metals and materials; maintain campus swimming pools; manage lab utilities; advise on the selection, ordering and storage of plumbing equipment and supplies; inspect completed work for conformance with specifications, requirements and compliance with applicable building and safety codes and regulations; inspect related work performed by contractors; estimate cost, time and materials for plumbing projects; participate in the maintenance and operations of a plumbing shop; maintain and service tools and equipment used in the performance of duties; perform all work in accordance with established safety procedures; maintain a safe and clean work environment; maintain records and retrieve data related to work performed using manual and/or computerized record-keeping systems; prepare standard reports; and consult and work with other trades workers. Work may involve exposure to hazardous materials.

Some positions may be assigned water treatment duties that involve monitoring, testing and chemically treating potable and/or non-potable water systems. This work requires the incumbent to possess the applicable water treatment certification.

Three progressive classifications are defined within this series, each performing the full range of skilled plumbing work; however, the supervisory, project planning and coordination responsibilities vary depending on the classification. Examples of typical activities are not meant to be all inclusive or restrictive; incumbents may perform related work activities.

PLUMBER
Under general supervision, incumbents in this classification perform the full range of skilled journey-level plumbing work as outlined in the series overview. Incumbents in this classification also may provide instruction and lead direction to unskilled and semi-skilled assistants.

TYPICAL QUALIFICATIONS:

Knowledge: Work requires thorough knowledge of the methods, materials, tools and equipment used in the plumbing trade; a base knowledge of the operation of building automation systems; and a thorough knowledge of applicable state and federal health and safety orders and regulations pertaining to the plumbing trade, including the California State Safety Orders of the Division of Industrial Safety and the California State Plumbing codes.
Abilities: Must be able to perform skilled plumbing work on all applicable equipment and systems; perform applicable welding work; obtain necessary backflow prevention licenses; make rough sketches of plumbing installations; read and work from blueprints, plans, drawings and specifications; estimate materials and labor cost of standard plumbing maintenance and repair work; maintain records and retrieve data related to work performed using manual and/or computerized record-keeping systems; provide instruction to unskilled and semi-skilled assistants; analyze and respond appropriately to emergency situations; prepare standard reports; read and write at the level appropriate to the position; and perform arithmetic calculations as required by the position. Incumbents may be required to possess a California Driver’s License valid for the operation of any vehicle or equipment they are required to maintain and operate.

Experience: These abilities normally would be acquired through any combination of progressively responsible training and experience which demonstrates achievement journey-level skills equivalent to that acquired through completion of a standard plumber’s apprenticeship program

LEAD PLUMBER

Under general supervision, the Lead Plumber works with and is in charge of a small group or crew of skilled Plumbers and semi-skilled assistants involved in completing the work outlined in the series overview. The work of the Lead Plumber is distinguished from the Plumber by the additional responsibilities of providing lead work direction to several journey-level crafts workers and semi-skilled assistants, laying out and coordinating the work flow for jobs, and preparing materials lists and ordering supplies for jobs. Unlike the Supervising Plumber, the Lead Plumber spends the majority of time working as a skilled plumber, but has ancillary lead work and project planning responsibilities.

Incumbents typically lay out, direct, and assist with the full range of plumbing work outlined in the series overview; supervise, instruct and work with a small group or crew of Plumbers and assistants; instruct others in safety rules and ensure they are observed; select and prepare lists of materials for jobs; maintain stock and materials in the warehouse; draw diagrams and sketches of work to be performed; may assist in the design of plumbing systems; maintain manual and/or computerized work records and maintenance management systems; prepare manual and/or computerized reports; and may supervise the maintenance of a plumbing shop. On specific projects, may coordinate the work of other skilled crafts workers.

TYPICAL QUALIFICATIONS:

Knowledge: In addition to the knowledge required of the Plumber, the Lead Plumber must possess a working knowledge of effective supervisory practices and techniques.

Abilities: In addition to the abilities required of the Plumber, the Lead Plumber must be able to lead, instruct and coordinate the work of a small group or crew of skilled and semi-skilled workers; accurately estimate costs, supplies and materials needed for jobs; prepare lists of materials; ensure work is performed in sequence; maintain records; and prepare more complex reports.

Experience: In addition to the experience required of the Plumber, the abilities of a Lead Plumber normally would be acquired through one to two years of experience as a journey-level plumber that included work coordination responsibilities.

SUPERVISING PLUMBER

Under general supervision, the Supervising Plumber primarily is responsible for supervising and working with one or more groups or crews of skilled journey-level plumbers and their semi-skilled assistants in the performance of general plumbing maintenance and repair work outlined in the series overview. Incumbents may also be responsible for overseeing the design and installation of plumbing equipment and systems for new construction and/or major modification projects. The Supervising Plumber is distinguished from the Lead Plumber by the scope of supervisory, project planning and coordination duties as well as the greater amount of time devoted to these activities.
Incumbents typically prioritize and coordinate the work of multiple crews or projects; assign work to qualified crew members; provide work and safety instructions; provide on-the-job training and instructions to less skilled workers in trade and safety practices; provide input on performance evaluations; monitor work in progress; inspect completed work to ensure it is in compliance with specifications, special instructions and sound trade practices; develop and maintain manual and/or computerized work record-keeping and/or maintenance management systems; prepare reports; and oversee a plumbing shop.

Work on new construction and remodels requires: collaborating with engineering and design departments; interpreting complicated plans and drawings; coordinating work schedules and work assignments to meet the overall construction/modification objectives; sequencing of work; ensuring the availability of required materials and equipment; analyzing operations; preparing cost and time estimates; and providing a high level of inspection to ensure appropriate building and safety codes are met. Incumbents also may design minor tenant improvements and coordinate and supervise the work of related trades workers on specific projects.

TYPICAL QUALIFICATIONS:

Knowledge: In addition to the knowledge required of the Lead Plumber, the Supervising Plumber must possess a more thorough knowledge of effective supervisory practices and techniques and a working knowledge of job design and work sequencing related to construction projects.

Abilities: In addition to the abilities required of the Lead Plumber, the Supervising Plumber must be able to plan and direct the work of skilled crafts workers and their semi-skilled assistants; determine and coordinate staffing, material and equipment needs for multiple jobs and projects; ensure accuracy and maintenance of assigned record-keeping systems; and perform design work for plumbing systems.

Experience: In addition to the experience required of the Lead Plumber, the abilities of a Supervising Plumber normally would be acquired through two or more years of experience as a journey-level plumber including one to two years in a lead/supervisory capacity.