

## Regulation Update

### Change to the trade of Plumber:

On Aug. 31, 2011, the Manitoba government registered a revised regulation for the trade of plumber, outlining changes to the apprenticeship training requirements, the term of apprenticeship, wage rates and transitional provisions.

#### Coming into Force

The changes outlined below will come into force on Oct. 31, 2011.

#### Term of Apprenticeship

The term of apprenticeship has been changed from four (4) levels of training to five (5) levels of training. Each level will continue to consist of a period of at least 12 months during which the apprentice must complete 1,800 hours of technical training and practical experience.

The term of apprenticeship is being increased to accommodate more gasfitter training. Under this new regulation, plumber apprentices will complete five levels of technical training as follows:

- Levels one to four are dedicated to plumber curriculum with the first level of domestic gasfitter training to support the domestic gasfitter's licence under *The Gas and Oil Burner Act*.
- Level five is dedicated to the second level of domestic gasfitter training to support the domestic gasfitter's licence under *The Gas and Oil Burner Act*.

Under this new term of apprenticeship, gasfitter training to support the domestic gasfitter's licence is mandatory. Therefore, to receive a Plumber Certificate of Qualification, apprentices must successfully pass the requirements for both plumber and domestic gasfitter.

#### Wage Rates

The minimum wage rate for the fifth level of apprenticeship training has been included as follows:

Level five: 90 per cent of the reference wage rate or 150 per cent of the provincial minimum wage.

Please note that the "reference wage rate" means the minimum wage rate per hour for a plumber journeyman under *The Construction Industry Wages Act (CIWA)*. The wage rates for levels one through four remain the same.

For more information on wages, please refer to "Training Wages" found on the main page of the Apprenticeship website under [www.manitoba.ca/tradecareers](http://www.manitoba.ca/tradecareers).

#### Transitional Provisions for Previously Registered Apprentices

Registered apprentices who are currently in levels three and four prior to Oct. 31, 2011 will proceed through the "former" program and be able to obtain certification after successful completion of the written certification exam in level four.

Apprentices in levels one or two prior to Oct. 31, 2011 will proceed through the "new" program and be able to obtain certification after successful completion of the written certification exam in level five.

*For more information on wages, please refer to "Training Wages" on the main page of the Apprenticeship website at [www.manitoba.ca/tradecareers](http://www.manitoba.ca/tradecareers).*

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