

Somerset County Vo-Tech Program Overview

Plumbing Technology



Employment for plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters is projected to grow 2% in the next 10 years. Employers have reported difficulty in finding qualified workers. In NJ, journeyman plumbers earn a total package of \$100.04 per hour; general foreman earn a total package of \$104.44 per hour. Experienced Master plumbers can make well over \$100,000 per year.

(Sources: United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, UA Local Pipefitters Local Union No. 9 Wage Guide)

The Plumbing Technology Program provides students with instruction in aspects of plumbing including fresh and wastewater plumbing as well as natural gas and HVAC. Students will learn to work safely in both a residential and an industrial setting. Successful students will also have the opportunity to gain real world experience through the school's cooperative education program.

Curriculum:

- Year 1: Introduction to building trades, safety, plumbing history, plumbing tools, plumbing careers
- Year 2: Proper tool care and maintenance, choosing correct tools and materials for a job, copper, steel, cast iron piping
- Year 3: Potable water, sanitary drainage & waste, storm drainage, water heaters, kitchens and appliances, basic HVAC
- Year 4: Repair work, boilers, National Standard Plumbing Code, advanced HVAC, cooperative education opportunities

Classes meet for 3 periods/2 hours per day, 5 days a week

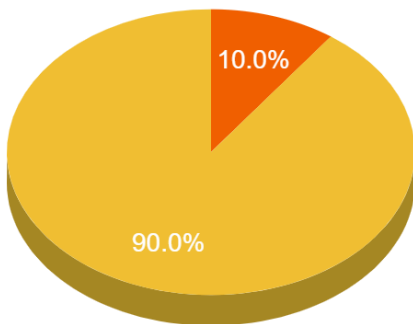
Average number of new students accepted per year: 6

Opportunity for professional certifications: YES – CSST, OSHA 10

Opportunity to earn college credits: NO* - Students receive 1 year of education credit and 1 year of field work credit towards a plumbing apprenticeship program.

Student Plans at Graduation

Plumbing



● Trade School ● Workforce

Future Careers

- Plumbing Apprentice
- Journeyman Plumber (Residential, Commercial, Service)
- Plumbing Foreman
- Plumbing Estimator
- Purchasing Agent
- Plumbing Inspector
- Plumbing Supervisor
- Plumbing Technician
- Plumbing Sales
- Utility Companies
- Master Plumber

Recent Student Post-Secondary Destinations

- FW Webb
- Ralph Malfatone and Sons Inc.
- Sherman Smith Plumbing Heating Air
- Keys Plumbing
- Raritan Valley Community College
- Skylands Energy Service
- Plumbers Local 24

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All SCVTHS students have the opportunity to compete for state and national recognition in the annual SkillsUSA competitions.

SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. SkillsUSA helps each student excel by providing educational programs, events and competitions that support career and technical education (CTE) in the nation's classrooms.

Recent Awards

2016, 2019, 2021	Silver Medal	NJ State Plumbing Competition
2017, 2022, 2023	Bronze Medal	NJ State Plumbing Competition
2021	Gold Medal	National Team Works Competition
2022	Bronze Medal	NJ State Team Works Competition
2023	Gold Medal	NJ State Team Works Competition



All Somerset County Vocational & Technical School programs are supported by a community advisory panel. The Plumbing Technology advisory panel members include:

Ralph Chapell	Plumbers Union Local 24
John Sneyers	Educational Solutions
Howard Miller	Altherm, Inc.
Grant Herring	F.W. Webb Supply
James Kerr	Sunrise Heating and Cooling
Joe Schimph	Plumbers Union Local 24
Ryan Zaborowski	F.W. Webb
Vince Arnese	American Standard Water Technology
Jack Dolan	Jack Dolan and Sons

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