

TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION LETTER

ID/No: WD 58-04

Date: December 3, 2004

Key Word: General

To: Local Workforce Development Board Executive Directors
Commission Executive Staff
Integrated Service Area Managers
Commission Local Offices

From: Luis M. Macias, Director, Workforce Development Division

Subject: **Plumbing Profession**

PURPOSE:

To provide Local Workforce Development Boards (Boards) with:

- information regarding licensing requirements for plumbers;
- available statistical data on the plumbing profession; and
- links to the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners (TSBPE) and Board Web sites.

REFERENCE:

Texas Occupations Code §1301.351 and §1301.652

FLEXIBILITY RATINGS:

No Local Flexibility (NLF): This rating indicates that Boards must comply with the federal and State laws, rules, policies, and required procedures set forth in this WD Letter and have no local flexibility in determining whether and/or how to comply. Federal and State laws, rules, policies, and required procedures with a “No Local Flexibility” rating are indicated by the acronym, **NLF**, in the margin to the right of the applicable paragraph. Additionally, all information with a “No Local Flexibility” rating is indicated by “must” or “shall.”

Failure to comply with the federal and State laws, rules, policies, and required procedures with a “No Local Flexibility” rating may result in corrective action, up to and including sanction and penalty.

Local Flexibility (LF): This rating indicates that Boards have local flexibility in determining whether and/or how to implement guidance or recommended practices set forth in this WD Letter. All guidance or recommended practices with a “Local Flexibility” rating are indicated by the acronym, **LF**, located in the margin to the right of the applicable paragraph. Additionally, guidance or recommended practices with a “Local Flexibility” rating are indicated by “may” or “recommend.”

Boards are not subject to corrective action for failure to comply with guidance or recommended practices with a “Local Flexibility” rating.

BACKGROUND:

Texas Occupations Code §1301.652 (Senate Bill 282, as passed by the 78th Legislature, Regular Session) mandates that TSBPE and the Texas Workforce Commission “shall, through the local workforce development boards, coordinate efforts to educate the public about the plumbing profession and the resources available to employers for the recruitment and training of plumbers.”

PROCEDURES:

Boards must ensure that the following information regarding State of Texas plumbing license requirements, statistical data on the plumbing profession, and links to pertinent Web sites is available in their local workforce development areas.

NLF

State Licensing Requirements

Texas Occupations Code Chapter 1301.351 states that “A person may not engage in the business of plumbing unless:

- the person holds a license or endorsement under this chapter; or
- the person’s work is supervised and controlled by a person licensed under this chapter.”

TSBPE develops and administers the plumbing license exam that applicants must pass to receive a license. Additionally, TSBPE offers a review course in English and Spanish to assist in preparing for the exam. All licenses issued by TSBPE are subject to the following requirements:

- Payment of an annual renewal fee; and
- Completion of at least six hours of continuing professional education per year.

Texas Plumbing Statistics

Wage Information*

Entry Wage	\$22,225 (\$10.68 per hour)
Median Wage	\$33,552 (\$16.13 per hour)
Mean Wage	\$34,420 (\$16.55 per hour)
Experience Wage	\$40,517 (\$19.48 per hour)

Current Employment*

2003	31,130 Plumbers
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*(Source: 4th Quarter 2003 Bureau of Labor Statistics Occupational Employment Statistics Survey)

Projected Employment**
2010 47,480 Plumbers

The projected job growth from 2000-2010 is 13.2 percent.

** (Source: Texas Workforce Commission Labor Market and Career Information)

Web Sites

Information on the Plumbing License Law and the TSBPE may be accessed at <http://www.tsbpe.state.tx.us/>.

A directory for all Boards may be accessed at <http://www.twc.state.tx.us/dirs/wdbs/wdbmap.html>.

ACTIONS REQUIRED:

Boards must ensure that appropriate staff is apprised of and complies with the requirements in this WD Letter.

INQUIRIES:

Direct inquiries regarding this WD Letter to the assigned contract manager for your local workforce development area.

Rescissions: None	Expiration: Continuing
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