

Plumbing and Piping

CERTIFICATE

Why earn your Plumbing and Piping Technician certificate?

The Fraser Valley and B.C.'s Lower Mainland continue to be fast-growing regions, with commercial and residential construction booming. The demand for well-trained plumbers and piping technicians has never been so high. To meet market demand and industry expectation, UFV is introducing this new program, which is perfect for people looking for a challenging, busy, and well-paying career.

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WHY EARN YOUR PLUMBING AND PIPING TECHNICIAN CERTIFICATE AT UFV?

As with all of UFV's Trades and Technology programs, our Plumbing and Pipe Fitting program is hands-on. While there are plenty of classroom sessions, you will also be physically working on pipes and in plumbing scenarios almost immediately. As much as possible, study and lab instruction is patterned after "on-the-job" situations where a limited amount of direct supervision is required. Your training will follow a modular system that begins by developing a wide variety of basic skills. You will build on these and develop intermediate and specialized skills required today in the busy plumbing and pipefitting industry.



“Our instructors and professors are teaching today for what is needed tomorrow.”

— HARV MCCULLOUGH
Dean, UFV Trades
and Technology.

Plumbing and Piping



“To serve students in our Trades & Technology programs and their potential employers, we have designed our programs to provide simulated work place experience. This means that theoretical knowledge taught in the classroom sessions is reinforced with substantial hands-on learning components.”

— ROLF ARNOLD, UFV Director, Trades and Technology Training.

WHAT EXACTLY WILL I LEARN?

At regular stages, you will be required to perform various tasks in order to develop your practical skills.

All unit tests and assigned practicals must be completed with a passing grade before writing the final exam, which is scheduled in May.

Sample topics:

- Describe safe work practices
- Use safe work practices
- Interpret drawings, specifications, and code
- Use tools safely
- Use pipes, valves, and fittings
- Install drain, waste, and vent systems
- Use rigging
- Use soldering and brazing
- Use oxy-acetylene welding and burning
- Use arc welding
- Install water systems and components
- Perform pipe fabrication
- Perform pipe bending
- Describe fire protection systems
- Install heating and cooling systems
- Install fixtures
- Describe properties of gas and supply systems
- Install pumps and equipment

The Plumbing & Piping program starts in September and ends in May, with our first intake starting September 2009. As your studies progress, you must show that you understand the theory of each module by successfully completing a written test for each unit. You must then apply your knowledge to demonstrate an acceptable level of practical skills as assigned in that unit. The learning materials may include printed handouts, worksheets, videotapes, display boards, lab manuals, and written instructions.

At regular stages throughout the program you will be required to move to a shop or lab area to perform various tasks in order to develop the practical skills being taught. As much as possible, study lab and shop instruction are patterned after “on-the-job” situations where a limited amount of direct supervision is required. All of your unit tests and assigned practica must be completed with a passing grade before you write the final exam.

I'M NOT YET WORKING IN THE PLUMBING INDUSTRY. WILL THIS PROGRAM GET ME THERE?

Absolutely. With UFV's entry-level training, we put you in the driver's seat towards your career goal in the plumbing and building industries. The Plumbing and Piping program will prepare you for entry into this growing and in-demand industry. While in the program, you'll get a systematic introduction to the trade and thorough hands-on opportunities to develop the skills expected by today's employers.

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

Expect to pay program fees of about \$111 per week; this covers tuition plus 10 per cent of the tuition for ancillary fees. As a Plumbing and Piping Technician student, you should also budget about \$600 for your basic hand tools, \$775 for required textbooks, and \$200 for your working apparel. We require a deposit (currently \$200) to be paid when you register, which typically takes place one or two months before the start of each semester. The balance of your fees must be paid by the second week of the semester. In addition, each semester (fall, winter, and summer) you will be required to pay a \$30 Student Union Society membership fee, a \$35 SUS building fee, a \$4.50 Cascade student newspaper fee, a \$3 per semester radio station fee, and a \$40 universal bus pass fee.

A Health and Dental fee (\$160 for 2009/10) is charged annually each fall semester to students with nine or more credits to provide extended medical and dental insurance. You can check with the Student Union Society or at www.studentcare.net/works for details.

It's also worth a visit to the UFV financial aid and awards office, which facilitates the disbursement each year of approximately \$12 million in federal and provincial student loans, grants, bursaries, scholarships, and awards to UFV students.

A helpful budget planning worksheet is available online at www.ufv.ca/fineaid/budget.

ANYTHING ELSE I NEED TO KNOW?

This can be a physically demanding career and that's why a medical statement from a qualified physician may be required at any time before or during the program. We'll notify you if or when a statement is required.

You must be there continuously through all three semesters to successfully complete all requirements for the program. You are expected to attend classes five days per week for the duration of the entire program. If you fail to meet the attendance requirements as outlined in the program guides, you might be subject to a failing grade or academic warning. It's also expected that you complete all requirements with a minimum of 70 per cent or better to receive a Credit (CR) grade in order to graduate.

SOUNDS GOOD. WHAT DO I NEED TO GET IN?

You'll need your B.C. secondary school graduation or equivalent and must pass a math and reading comprehension entrance exam.

I'M INTERESTED. WHAT DO I DO NEXT?

Check out UFV's online calendar at www.ufv.ca/calendar. Read the Plumbing and Piping technician program description and information carefully. Next, you can download an application form and submit it, along with the \$45 application fee, to any UFV Admissions and Records office. You can also transmit it through the internet at www.pas.bc.ca.

If you're currently in Grade 12, you can apply now, but we require a statement from your school counsellor or principal indicating that you are likely to meet graduation requirements by June, and this must be presented at the time of your entrance exam appointment.

You will be notified of your entrance exam date by the Trades and Technology Centre and there is no fee for writing this exam. If you have not been contacted within two weeks of submitting your application, please call us at 604-847-5448. Before classes start, you'll be called and given all the registration procedures. If we can't reach you, you'll be removed from the waitlist.

WHEN SHOULD I APPLY?

If you plan to start your studies in the fall, your application should be received by January 31. Applications received after this deadline will certainly be considered if space is still available in the program.

WHERE WILL MY CLASSES BE LOCATED?

UFV's Plumbing and Piping Technician program is delivered at the Trades and Technology Centre at the Canada Education Park in Chilliwack. It is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday to Friday. Class and shops are in session from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. those days.

UFV's Trades and Technology Centre is the university's first facility to open in Chilliwack's Canada Education Park, a 200-acre education and research park situated along the historic Vedder River on what was once Canadian Forces Base Chilliwack.

CAN I SPEAK WITH SOMEONE ABOUT MY OPTIONS?

Yes! We want to hear from you! If you're unsure of your direction, contact Student Services at 1-888-504-7441 to connect with an educational advisor, or arrange for career counselling. You can also contact the Trades and Technology centre directly at 604-847-5448, or 1-888-504-7441, ext. 5448, or email trades@ufv.ca to get more details.



About UFV

Nestled in the beautiful Fraser Valley just east of Vancouver, in B.C., UFV is a fully accredited, public university that enrolls more than 11,000 students each year. UFV has campuses in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, and Mission and regional centres in Hope and Agassiz, and a growing presence in Chandigarh, India.

UFV is committed to exceptional post-secondary instruction and a nurturing learning environment. We are large enough to offer variety, yet small enough to offer the personal attention that our students need to thrive. Our small class sizes and focus on teaching allow our students to get to know their instructors and learn in a hands-on setting.

We offer more than 80 programs, including 13 bachelor's degrees, a master's degree, and more than a dozen trades and technology programs. We believe that anyone who wants to go to university should be given the chance, so our admission policies are flexible, and we provide university prep courses and high school completion options. There are many options for learning: full-time, in class, online, as part of a structured program or one tailored specifically to your interests.

Many of our programs "ladder" into one another, allowing students to keep their options open. Our international programming makes for a culturally diverse student body and great opportunities to study abroad, while our continuing studies offerings make learning a lifelong experience.

UFV is recognized nationally for student success, an excellent learning environment, creative integration of programming, and our work with our local communities.

Get to know us better at www.ufv.ca.



The information contained in this document is subject to change. Please refer to www.ufv.ca/trades for up-to-date information. UFV reserves the right to cancel courses and programs.

