



Master GTS
Plumbers
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

So you
want to be
a plumber?
Start here.





Who are we?

Master Plumbers Group Training Scheme is a division of the Master Plumbers Association of South Australia Incorporated (MPASA).

MPASA is a not-for-profit Membership Association, which has been providing quality services to the plumbing industry for over 100 years.

We are committed to providing quality placements, services and support for both Apprentices and Host Employers.

Our aim is to ensure our Apprentice and Host Employer's needs are considered for each placement to ensure a suited and long-lasting partnership.

Why did we become a GTO?

Master Plumbers GTS was formed in 2006, in response to the industry's need for a tailored and responsive group training scheme. Our aim is to train and educate quality apprentices today who will become tomorrow's quality plumbers.

What is Group Training?

Group Training is an alternative employment arrangement for Apprentices and Employers in which a Group Training Organisation, such as MPA Master Plumber GTS, recruits and employs an Apprentice and places them with a 'Host Employer' to undertake their on-the-job training.

The GTO takes care of the off-the-job training (Trade School), payroll, superannuation, workers compensation, as well as providing ongoing support and monitoring to the Apprentice and Host.

Group Training is a simple and effective alternative when it comes to being employed as an Apprentice.



What are the benefits of Group Training?

Job Security

Undertaking an Apprenticeship through Master Plumbers GTS provides additional job security.

We ensure that:

- If a Host Employer runs out of work, we will endeavour to find another suitable placement, so Apprentices can continue their Apprenticeship.
- Our Apprentices are paid above award rates
- Off-the-job Training (Trade School) is scheduled and related fees are covered by MPA
- MPA provides Apprentices with ongoing support and mentoring
- Our Apprentices are covered by Return To Work SA should they sustain an injury at work



Ongoing Monitoring & Support

Master Plumbers GTS assign Field Officers to each Apprentice.

Our Field Officers are responsible for:

- Undertaking regular performance management and monitoring on site, to ensure our Apprentices turn into successful tradespeople
- Helping Apprentices with performance issues, on the job and at Trade School, and guide them to help if necessary
- Assisting with dispute resolution and acting as another voice if issues arise
- Ensuring that the Apprentices are gaining the appropriate on the job training and supervision
- Ensuring work health and safety guidelines are met and assisting Hosts and Apprentices improve compliance where necessary

Master Plumbers GTS has Apprentice/Field Officer ratios that provide high levels of supervision and support to our Apprentices and Hosts.

Training

Master Plumbers GTS aim to develop the best quality Apprentices possible and consider their Training a vital part of their development.

All fees and administrative requirements associated with off-the-job Training (Trade School) is paid for and coordinated by Master Plumbers GTS. Apprentices wages are also covered by MPA whilst they are attending Trade School.

Master Plumber GTS goes above and beyond the standard requirements and also provides additional training for our apprentices, including the White card Induction training (CPCCWHS1001 Prepare to Work Safely in the Construction Industry).

Apprentices who join as MPA Members are also eligible to receive discounts on training delivered by Master Plumbers Association of SA Inc. (RTO 40070).

Equipment

Master Plumbers GTS provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to all Apprentices at induction and replenish this PPE annually, and as required.

Apprentices are supplied a tool box at commencement on an interest free loan, ensuring that our Apprentices are ready and prepared to commence work.

Career Development

Master Plumbers GTS encourages Apprentices to continually develop and maintain their skills during their Apprenticeship, as well as after completion. We do this by:

- Hosting Apprentice forums on the latest industry and apprentice information
- Conducting site visits to ensure the apprentice is continuously developing and learning
- Encouraging our Apprentices to undertake further education (e.g. Certificate IV)
- Encouraging and supporting our Apprentices to participate in industry and training awards, locally and nationally
- Providing mentoring and advice on maintaining a long and successful career in the plumbing industry



Host Development

Master Plumbers GTS works closely with our Host Employers to ensure that they have the correct WHS policies and procedures in place and that they continually develop and improve their compliance.

We also undertake regular site visits to ensure our Hosts provide correct and effective on the job training and supervision for our Apprentices.

MPA Membership

All Plumbing Apprentices are eligible to join as Members of the Master Plumbers Association of South Australia Incorporated.

Member benefits include:

- Our Plumbing SA Magazine, posted bi-monthly
- Access to the AS/NZS3500 and AS/NZS5601 Plumbing and Gas Standards
- Access to our Members Only section of our website
- Discounts on training courses
- Access to a corporate health plan

Apprentices employed by MPA who join as Members during their Apprenticeship receive 1 year of free Membership following their completion.

** It is not compulsory for MPA Apprentices to join as a Member.*



Why choose Plumbing?

Choosing a career in Plumbing has many benefits and advantages - some of which include the following:

- **Job variety**

Working in the plumbing industry is diverse and each plumbing job can differ substantially from the last.

- **Career pathways and opportunities**

Working in the Plumbing Industry provides a wide range of careers choices, which means there are continuous opportunities to gain new skills and change career paths, whilst still remaining in the Industry. There is also the option to work for a plumbing company, or to start your own business.

- **Mental and Physical Exercise**

As Plumbing is a hands-on and physical occupation, it is a great way for workers to keep fit and healthy at work. It can also be mentally challenging - requiring problem-solving skills, which is another healthy workplace attribute.

- **Rewarding**

Plumbers are extremely important - not only to the Construction Industry, but the entire population. Plumbers help provide safe and sanitary systems, including toilets and safe drinking water. Many Plumbers find it a rewarding occupation, as it assists and contributes to the community.

- **Opportunities for career development**

Opportunities for career development through additional training is available to all Plumbers, whether they have just completed their Apprenticeship, or are fully qualified. Additional training and career development provides Plumbers with additional work opportunities.



What are the Types of Plumbing?

Types of Plumbing

Plumbing is a very diverse field of work and there are many areas of plumbing, including:

- Domestic Maintenance
- Commercial Maintenance
- Domestic Construction
- Commercial Construction
- Gas Fitting
- Roof Plumbing
- Draining
- Mechanical Services
- Sprinkler Fitting

The best way to determine the right type of plumbing for you is to undertake work experience. Work experience not only allows you to trial different areas of plumbing but also enables you to gain some real hands on experience which can give you an advantage when it comes to securing an apprenticeship.

Look for plumbers local to you to undertake work experience with, or if you are having trouble, contact us at Master Plumbers GTS for assistance.

How do I get an Apprenticeship?



Be the Ideal Candidate

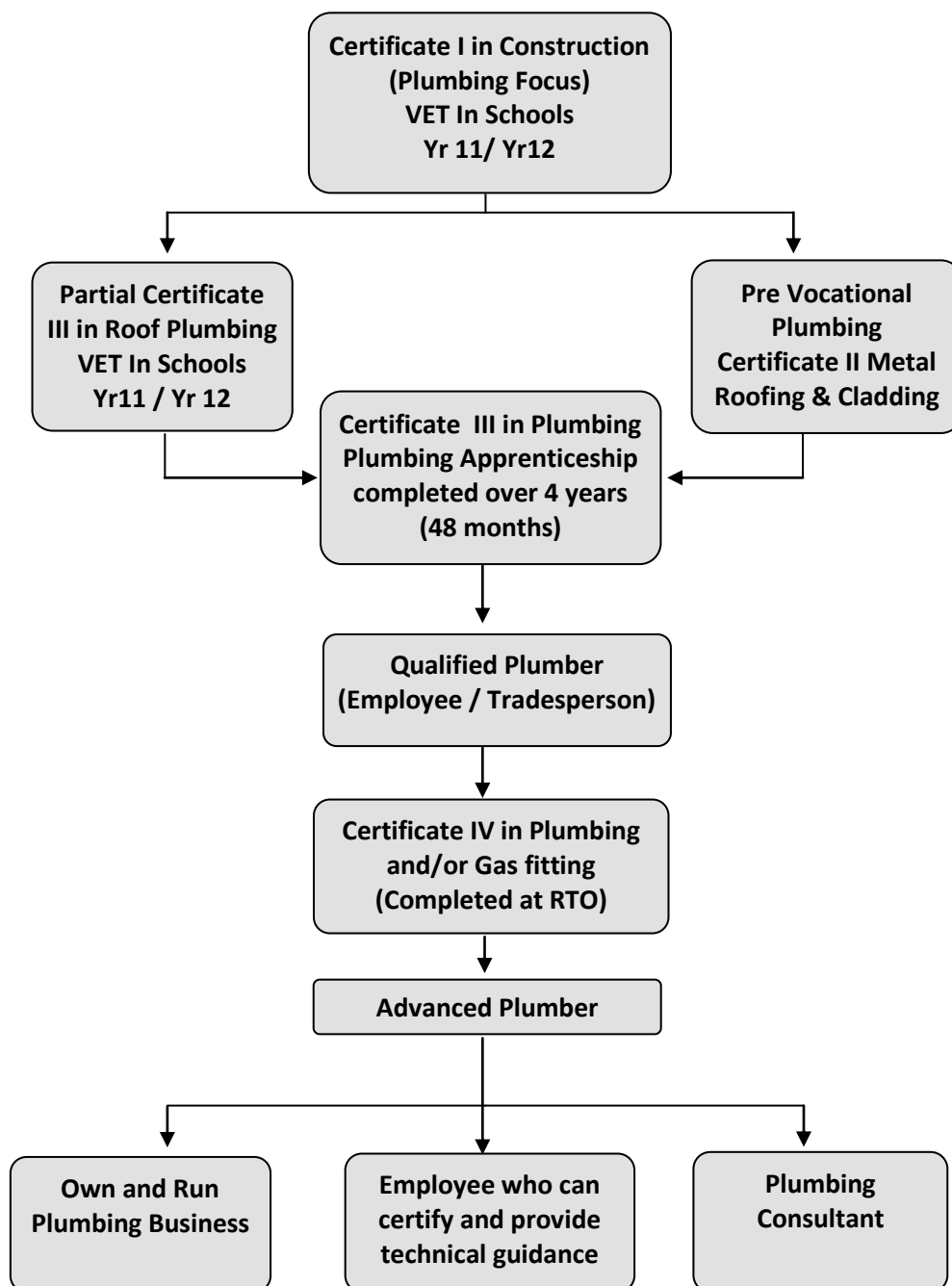
Plumbing Apprenticeships are highly competitive, therefore it is important to consider the following attributes and experience prior to applying:

An ideal candidate for an Apprenticeship with Master Plumbers GTS will:

- ☑ Have completed year 11 at High School, including Maths & English
- ☑ Have undertaken work experience in plumbing or construction
- ☑ Be prepared to undertake pre-apprenticeship training
- ☑ Be fit and physically robust
- ☑ Have an aptitude for problem solving
- ☑ Have excellent inter-personal skills
- ☑ Take pride in working accurately and neatly
- ☑ Take every opportunity to learn their trade



Steps to becoming a licensed Plumber



Pre-Apprenticeship Training

Pre- apprenticeship training provides candidates with the basic hand skills and knowledge for a career in plumbing. There are three main pre-apprenticeship training options:

Certificate I in Construction (Plumbing Focus) SACE Stage 1

- Available for Year 10 & 11 students through VET in schools
- Skills include :
 - Using plumbing tools / Materials / Equipment
 - Drainage and levelling
 - Working from Plans
 - White Card

Certificate III in Roof Plumbing (Partial Completion) SACE Stage 2

- Available for Year 11 & 12 students through VET in schools
- Skills include :
 - Welding copper pipe
 - Install water pipe
 - Make and install Roof Components
 - Install stormwater and Drainage

Pre- Voc in Plumbing (TAFE)

Certificate II in Metal Roofing and Cladding, & Certificate II in Construction Pathways

- Available for school leavers
- Skills include :
 - All of the above
 - Elevated work platforms
 - Safe working at Heights

Work Experience

Work Experience is a fantastic way to gain a basic insight into the Plumbing and Construction industry.

The advantages of undertaking work experience include:

- Provides an insight into the workforce and industry
- Provides an opportunity to confirm if you are suited for a career in Plumbing
- Provides hands-on experience
- Personal development
- Can lead to Apprenticeship or employment opportunities

If you wish to undertake work experience with a Plumbing company, we recommend that you start by contacting plumbers in your local area.

You can start by using the '**Find a Plumber**' tool on our website (www.mpasa.com.au) to search for local Plumbers. Alternatively, you can also search the Yellow Pages.

If you are having difficulty finding suitable companies to undertake work experience with, please contact Master Plumbers GTS for assistance.



Recruitment & Selection Process

Master Plumbers GTS selection and recruitment process is conducted by experienced and qualified trainers and plumbing professionals. Candidates undertake assessment in:

- Basic understanding of the plumbing trade
- Geometry and mathematics
- English language
- Safety
- Problem solving
- Spatial reasoning
- Drawing and design

We understand that academic aptitude is not necessarily the most important attribute for an apprentice, and as such our interview process also targets attitude, work ethic, character, emotional maturity, enthusiasm and understanding of basic principles and communication skills.



How do I apply for a Plumbing Apprenticeship?

Apply for an Apprenticeship

To apply for a Plumbing Apprenticeship with Master Plumbers GTS, please visit www.mpasa.com.au/apprentices and download the Application form.

We require Apprentice candidates to complete the Application Form, and return this along with their Résumé, and supporting documentation (please refer to the list below, and the instructions included on the form).

Please ensure you include the following with your Application for an Apprenticeship:

- **Current Résumé**
- **Schooling results / Certificates**
- **School reports from the last two years**
- **Training results / Certificates**
- **Full employment history** (*if applicable*)
- **Work experience information and reports** (*if applicable*)
- **A cover letter** (*explaining why you would like a position as an Apprentice Plumber and why*)

Returning your Application

To return your Application for an Apprenticeship, you can post, email or drop your application into the office. Please refer to the next page for contact information.



Any further questions?

Contact us

If you have any questions regarding gaining an Apprenticeship in the Plumbing Industry, or applying for an Apprenticeship through Master Plumbers Association of SA Inc, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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APPLY NOW.

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