

TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION LETTER

ID/No:	WD 09-16
Date:	May 9, 2016
Keyword:	General
Effective:	June 9, 2016

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

From: Reagan Miller, Director, Workforce Development Division

Subject: **Plumbing Profession—*Update***

PURPOSE:

To provide Local Workforce Development Boards (Boards) with **updated:**

- 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 websites.

This updated WD Letter provides information regarding statistics on:

- **wage information;**
- **current employment;**
- **estimated employment; and**
- **projected job growth.**

CHANGES TO WD LETTER 58-04:

New information in this WD Letter is indicated by:

- A ~~strike through~~ of the original language, which indicates that language has been deleted; and
- **Bold** typeface, which indicates new or clarifying language.

BACKGROUND:

Texas Occupations Code §1301.652 requires 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:

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

NLF: Boards must also ensure that appropriate staff is aware of and complies with the requirements in this WD Letter.

State Licensing Requirements

Texas Occupations Code §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 following requirements:

- Payment of an annual renewal fee; ~~and~~
- Completion of at least six hours of continuing professional education per year; ~~and~~
- **Proof of required insurance coverage.**

Texas Plumbing Statistics

Wage Information*

Entry Wage	\$22,225 (\$10.68 per hour)	\$28,451 (\$13.68 per hour)
Median Wage	\$33,552 (\$16.13 per hour)	\$43,970 (\$21.14 per hour)
Annual Mean Wage	\$34,420 (\$16.55 per hour)	\$44,691 (\$21.49 per hour)
Experience Wage	\$40,517 (\$19.48 per hour)	\$52,810 (\$25.39 per hour)

***Wage information from TWC’s Labor Market and Career Information web page at <https://www.twc.texas.gov/programs/labor-market-information>— under *Texas Wages*.**

Current Employment*

~~2003~~————— ~~31,130 Plumbers~~

~~*(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)~~

Employment Outlook*

2012 33,830 Plumbers

Projected Employment*

2022 40,860 Plumbers

The projected job growth from 2012–2022 is 20.8 percent.

*Employment Outlook and Projected Employment statistics from the Socrates 2020 website at <http://socrates.cdr.state.tx.us/>—select the Labor Market and Career Information *View Occupation Profiles* link.

Websites

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 <https://www.twc.texas.gov/agency/workforce-development-boards>.

INQUIRIES:

Direct inquiries regarding this WD Letter to wfpolicy.clarifications@twc.texas.gov.

RESCISSIONS:

WD Letter 58-04

REFERENCES:

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. All information with an NLF rating is indicated by “must” or “shall.”

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 information with an LF rating is indicated by “may” or “recommend.”