

SNIPER HEATING COLLEGE SKILLS QUALIFICATIONS  
PLUMBER TRADE SVQ LEVEL 3 4 YEARS MA  
SCOTLAND CAREER APPRENTICE TRAINING  
MODERN APPRENTICESHIP TECHNOLOGY  
PLUMBING SDS EDUCATION SQA  
SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND  
CHALLENGE GAS GRADE HEAT  
OIL EMPLOYER BOILER WASTE  
COMMERCIAL INSTALL  
DOMESTIC REPAIR  
INSTALLATIONS  
EMERGENCY  
TESTING PIPES  
WATER  
RENEW  
SQA

**ARE YOU LOOKING TO BECOME  
AN APPRENTICE PLUMBER?**

[www.becomeaplumber.org](http://www.becomeaplumber.org)



From Skills Development Scotland



## **ARE YOU LOOKING TO BECOME AN APPRENTICE PLUMBER?**

Are you looking for a career in plumbing? We have the right tools to help you tap in to a better future and become a fully qualified plumber.

## **WHO ARE WE?**

SNIEPF Training Services Ltd is the Plumbing Industry's Training Provider for plumbing apprenticeships in Scotland. We work closely with Skills Development Scotland to deliver the Modern Apprenticeship in Domestic Plumbing & Heating SVQ Level 3.

## **WHY YOU SHOULD BECOME AN APPRENTICE PLUMBER**

There are many reasons why you should become an apprentice plumber.

- Earn while you learn
- Achieve Accredited qualification
- Life long career

## **FUN FACT**

Albert Einstein once said that if he had not been a physicist he would have become a plumber

## **WHAT YOU NEED TO BECOME AN APPRENTICE PLUMBER**

To become an apprentice plumber you first of all require to find an employer who is willing to employ you and guide you through the plumbing apprenticeship training programme.

Potential candidates are expected to have a minimum of 4 National 4 qualifications at general level (previously standard grades).

You should also be able to demonstrate a number of attributes such as:

- Have good practical, problem solving and communication skills
- Be smart, reliable, polite, punctual and able to listen
- Have a proven ability to achieve
- Be willing to learn
- Have good and positive attitude

In addition candidates are required to pass the BPEC Aptitude & Selection Test. You can undertake a practice version of this test at [www.bpec.org.uk/learners/aptitude-test/](http://www.bpec.org.uk/learners/aptitude-test/) the pass mark is 70%.

A man and a woman are working in a workshop. The woman, in the foreground, is wearing a blue jumpsuit, safety glasses, and large blue earmuffs. She is smiling and looking down at a metal pipe she is working on. The man, in the background, is wearing a grey vest over a plaid shirt, safety glasses, and large black earmuffs. He is looking on. The workshop has various tools and equipment in the background.

### STATISTIC

If you have a leaky faucet that drips twice per minute, you'll waste a gallon of water in a week

### FUN FACT

Around 7 million mobile phones are dropped in the toilet each year

## HOW TO FIND AN EMPLOYER

We suggest you ask around your family and friends to see if they know any plumbing companies that are looking to employ an apprentice plumber. Your local newspapers and yellow pages are good source to find potential employers as well.

The internet is also a good tool to find a potential employer. We suggest that you visit [www.needaplumber.org](http://www.needaplumber.org) - On this website you can enter your post code and select a distance radius. This will then bring up a list of SNIPEF member companies in your local area that you can contact to see if they are looking to employ an apprentice plumber.

## ABOUT THE PLUMBING APPRENTICESHIP

The plumbing apprenticeship is a 4 year course with a mixture of on the job training with your employer and off the job training at college.

After you have completed the main part of your plumbing qualification you and your employer will then decide which solid fuel option you will undertake. The options are ACS Gas, OFTEC Oil, HETAS, Solid Fuel or Emergent Technologies.

Once you have completed your qualification you will be awarded with a Modern Apprenticeship in Domestic Plumbing & Heating SVQ Level 3 which is the only recognised plumbing qualification in Scotland.

## STATISTIC

The average plumber in the UK earns an average salary of £28,262 a year

## STATISTIC

In the UK every person uses approximately 150 litres of water a day

## EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

The Plumbing Apprenticeship programme is open to everyone regardless of age, sex, race, religion etc. We are an equal opportunities training provider and welcome all candidates regardless of their backgrounds.

Our aim is to help build a more equal and diverse workforce within the Plumbing Industry in Scotland.



#### FUN FACT

Mario and Luigi (of the video game Super Mario Brothers) are plumbers

#### STATISTIC

Since 2000 SNIPEF Training Services Ltd have managed over 6200 plumbing apprentices

#### FUN FACT

The word “plumber” comes from the Latin word “plumbum,” which means “lead.”

### TESTIMONIALS FROM OUR PREVIOUS PLUMBING APPRENTICES



*‘A modern apprenticeship gives you the chance to work and earn money as well as getting a qualification for life, I am glad I decided on a practical trade rather than a university route. I’m really pleased to have achieved my ACS Gas qualification and plan to travel Europe this summer’* **Apprentice - Jason McDonald of G P McDonald.**



*‘I really enjoyed the training programme. I feel I have built up a great range of skills and experience. College was good as we learned all the theory which we then put into practice at work’* **Former Apprentice – Shirley Williamson of Earth Source Plumbing & Heating.**



## CAREER PROGRESSION

Becoming a plumber can open a number of doors within the Plumbing Industry and can lead to great career progression with the mechanical engineering sector. Please see below career progression pattern.



## FAQs

### Where's my nearest College?

We use 18 Colleges spread throughout Scotland. Please see our website for a list of these.

### How much will I get paid?

All apprentices will be paid the SNIJIB rate of pay. The hourly rates can be found on our website.

### Do I receive any support during my time on the programme?

You will be assigned a Regional Training Officer who will be responsible for you. They will meet face to face with you every 13 weeks in the form of Quarterly Progress Reviews.

### Where can I sit the BPEC Test?

The BPEC Aptitude Test will be administered by your employer before you join the training programme.

## TYPICAL WEEK FOR AN APPRENTICE PLUMBER

You will face a number of different challenges through a typical week both at college and working with your employer.

- Average working day of 8 hours
- You will learn practical and physical skills at college (off the job training) and with your employer (on the job training)
- Assist your journeyman with general plumbing tasks such as plumbing/heating repairs, diagnosing faults and replacing defective parts. Re-instate systems that have been disconnected
- You will communicate with customers, colleagues and lecturers



### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

SNIEF Training Services Ltd is now active on a number of social media platforms. For all the latest updates please follow us:



@SNIEFtrain



/SNIEFtrain



/SNIEFtrain



/SNIEFtrain

Help spread the word by using the hashtag #becomeaplumber

### **SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SCOTLAND**

The employer led Plumbing Apprenticeship Programme receives contribution funding from Skills Development Scotland (SDS).

For more information on Skills Development Scotland please visit [www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk](http://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk)

### **FUN FACT**

Ever hear the myth that when you flush the toilet in the Southern Hemisphere, the water flows in the opposite direction? It's not true. It is possible for water to flow in either direction



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REPAIR OIL EMPLOYER GRADE MA  
PIPES TECHNOLOGY PLUMBING  
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RENEW TESTING  
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### FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you are looking for more information on becoming an apprentice plumber please contact us today.



[www.becomeaplumber.org](http://www.becomeaplumber.org)



[training@snipef.org](mailto:training@snipef.org)



0131 524 1245

### FUN FACT

Famous and often controversial rock star Ozzy Osbourne was an apprentice plumber before getting into the music industry