

Certificate III in Plumbing (Apprenticeship)

COURSE CODE	CPC32420
LOCATIONS	Warrnambool
STUDY MODE	Apprenticeship
Length	Four years
Commencement	Start any time
Timetable	On-the-job training plus nine one-week training sessions per year on campus over the first three years. The fourth year is on-the-job training only. On campus training sessions are Monday to Friday.

Course Overview

This section gives you an introduction to what you will be learning in this course, plus course outcomes, career opportunities, and student support.

Introduction

This apprenticeship will provide you with hands-on skills and experience through theory and practical components. You will develop plumbing skills through a combination of on-the-job training and block release on campus. During this course you will learn about roof plumbing, sanitary and drainage, hot, cold and warm water, gas fitting, mechanical plumbing, irrigation and fire protection.

What will I Learn?

During this course, you will gain the essential skills and knowledge to specialise in:

- water, including hot and cold pipework installations, and hot water service installations
- sanitary, including fixture installation, above-ground pipe work
- drainage, including trench support installation, laying below ground drains, septic tanks installation, stormwater system installation
- gas fitting, including pipework and appliance installation, commissioning, purging
- fire hydrant and sprinkler systems
- urban irrigation systems
- roofing, including roof and wall coverings, flashings and penetrations, rainwater tank installation

Course Outcomes and Career Opportunities

- General Plumbing
- Drainage
- Gasfitting
- Roof Plumbing
- Water Supply
- Mechanical Services (Heating and Ventilation)

Pathways

Further study is available to anyone who wishes to undertake the Certificate IV in Plumbing Services. On successful completion of the course, students can apply to the Plumbing Industry Commission for licensing assessment. This will be a requirement if you intend to operate a plumbing business.

Information Session

Why don't you come along to our next course info session to find out everything you need to start your learning journey? You can chat with our teachers, tour our facilities, learn more about the course, find out about the application process and get your questions answered by our course experts.

[Find the next info session near you](#)

Course in Transition

This qualification is superseded and course updates are occurring.

To ensure course content is relevant and industry-specific, industry is constantly having input into this training package. The course code, title, units, and content may change in the future and you may be enrolled in the new qualification. Further information will be provided on our website, upon enrolment and/or during the course of your training.

Course Requirements

This section gives you an overview of entry requirements, course units and electives, skills recognition, and assessment criteria.

Entrance requirements & pre-requisites

You need to be employed in this field as an apprentice plumber before commencing this course.

If you are currently **not** employed in this field please contact the [Skills and Jobs Centre](#) for further advice.

Apprenticeship/Traineeship Entry Requirements

You need to be employed in this field as an apprentice plumber before commencing this course.

If you are currently **not** employed in this field please contact the [Skills and Jobs Centre](#) for further advice.

Units offered

Core Units

Unit Code	Unit Name	Unit Hours	Unit Consumables
HLTAID011	Provide First Aid	18	\$15.00
UEECD0007	Apply work health and safety regulations, codes and practices in the workplace	20	\$0.00
CPCCWHS2001	Apply WHS requirements, policies and procedures in the construction industry	20	\$0.00
CPCCCM2012	Work safely at heights	8	\$0.00
CPCWHS1001	Prepare to work safely in the construction industry	6	\$77.18
CPCPCM2039	Carry out interactive workplace communication	10	\$0.00
CPCPCM2040	Read plans, calculate quantities and mark out materials	28	\$0.00
CPCPCM2041	Work effectively in the plumbing services sector	15	\$0.00

CPCPCM2043	Carry out WHS requirements	50	\$0.00
CPCPCM2045	Handle and store plumbing materials	6	\$0.00
CPCPCM2046	Use plumbing hand and power tools	40	\$0.00
CPCPCM2047	Carry out levelling	6	\$0.00
CPCPCM2048	Cut and join sheet metal	8	\$0.00
CPCPCM2054	Carry out simple concreting and rendering	16	\$0.00
CPCPCM2055	Work safely on roofs	20	\$0.00
CPCPCM3021	Flash penetrations through roofs and walls	18	\$0.00
CPCPCM3022	Weld polymer pipes using fusion method	8	\$0.00
CPCPCM3023	Fabricate and install non-ferrous pressure piping	12	\$0.00
CPCPCM3024	Prepare simple drawings	20	\$0.00
CPCPCM3025	Install trench support	16	\$0.00
CPCPDR2021	Locate and clear blockages	8	\$0.00
CPCPDR2025	Install stormwater and sub-soil drainage systems and drain work site	20	\$0.00
CPCPDR2026	Install prefabricated inspection openings and inspection chambers	4	\$0.00
CPCPDR3021	Plan layout and install below ground sanitary drainage systems	38	\$0.00
CPCPDR3023	Install on-site domestic wastewater treatment plants and disposal systems	25	\$0.00
CPCPFS3031	Fabricate and install fire hydrant and hose reel systems	40	\$0.00
CPCPGS3048	Install gas pressure control equipment	8	\$0.00
CPCPGS3049	Install gas appliance flues	12	\$0.00
CPCPGS3051	Purge consumer piping	8	\$0.00
CPCPGS3053	Disconnect and reconnect Type A gas appliances	16	\$0.00
CPCPGS3054	Calculate and install natural ventilation for Type A gas appliances	8	\$0.00
CPCPGS3056	Size and install consumer gas piping systems	32	\$0.00
CPCPGS3059	Install LPG storage of aggregate storage capacity up to 500 litres	22	\$0.00
CPCPGS3061	Install and commission Type A gas appliances	30	\$0.00
CPCPRF2023	Collect and store roof water	10	\$0.00
CPCPRF3022	Fabricate and install roof drainage systems	48	\$0.00
CPCPRF3023	Fabricate and install external flashings	16	\$0.00
CPCPRF3024	Install roof components	10	\$0.00
CPCPSN3011	Plan the layout of a residential sanitary plumbing system and fabricate and install sanitary stacks	36	\$0.00

CPCPSN3022	Install discharge pipes	28	\$0.00
CPCPWT3020	Connect and install storage tanks to a domestic water supply	12	\$0.00
CPCPWT3021	Set out and install water services	36	\$0.00
CPCPWT3022	Install and commission water heating systems and adjust controls and devices	35	\$0.00
CPCPWT3025	Install water pumpsets	8	\$0.00
CPCPWT3026	Install and fit off sanitary fixtures, water services and adjust water service controls	36	\$0.00
CPCPWT3027	Install backflow prevention devices	6	\$0.00
CPCCCM3001	Operate elevated work platforms up to 11 metres	32	\$0.00
RIIWH5202E	Enter and Work in Confined Spaces	30	\$0.00
CPCCWC2001	Complete penetrations and flashings	20	\$0.00
CPCPCM2049	Cut using oxy-acetylene equipment	8	\$0.00
CPCPCM2052	Weld mild steel using oxy-acetylene equipment	16	\$0.00
CPCPCM2053	Weld using metal arc welding equipment	16	\$0.00
CPCPFS3037	Install residential life safety sprinkler systems	60	\$0.00
CPCPFS3038	Test and maintain fire hydrant and hose reel installations	60	\$0.00
CPCPGS3046	Install LPG systems in caravans, mobile homes and mobile workplaces	12	\$0.00
CPCPGS3047	Install LPG systems in marine craft	12	\$0.00
CPCPGS3052	Maintain Type A gas appliances	12	\$0.00
CPCPGS3060	Install LPG storage of aggregate storage capacity exceeding 500 litres and less than 8 kl	4	\$0.00
CPCPIG2021	Design domestic urban irrigation systems	5	\$0.00
CPCPIG3021	Set out, install and commission irrigation systems	4	\$0.00
CPCPIG3022	Install and commission domestic irrigation pumps	4	\$0.00
CPCPMS2021	Assemble mechanical services components	12	\$0.00
CPCPMS3031	Fabricate and install steel pressure piping	54	\$0.00
CPCPMS3032	Select and fit insulation and sheathing	8	\$0.00
CPCPMS3033	Install small bore heating systems	15	\$0.00
CPCPMS3034	Install and test medical gas pipeline systems	24	\$0.00
CPCPMS3035	Install and test ducting systems	12	\$0.00
CPCPMS3036	Install air handling units	12	\$0.00
CPCPMS3038	Install air conditioning control equipment	8	\$0.00
CPCPMS3039	Maintain mechanical services equipment	8	\$0.00

CPCPMS3040	Install and commission evaporative air cooling systems	20	\$0.00
CPCPMS3041	Install domestic solid fuel burning appliances	20	\$0.00
CPCPRF2022	Select and install roof sheeting and wall cladding	30	\$0.00
CPCPRF3021	Receive roofing materials	4	\$0.00
CPCPRF3025	Install roof coverings to curved roof structures	12	\$0.00
CPCPRF3026	Install roof sheets, wall cladding and complex flashings	30	\$0.00
CPCPSN3025	Install pre-treatment facilities	8	\$0.00
CPCPSN3026	Install sewerage pumpsets	8	\$0.00
CPCPWT3024	Install and maintain domestic water treatment equipment	10	\$0.00
CPCPWT3028	Install property service	10	\$0.00
CPCPWT3029	Install water pipe systems	12	\$0.00
UEERA0049	Install and start up single head split air conditioning and water heating heat pump systems	70	\$0.00
UEERA0059	Prepare and connect refrigerant tubing and fittings	40	\$0.00
UEERA0064	Recover, pressure test, evacuate, charge and leak test refrigerants - split systems	60	\$0.00

Assessment

This course involves accredited units. You will be required to complete assessment tasks to demonstrate your underpinning knowledge, skills and attributes to meet the course outcomes. A combination of written, oral and practical assessment strategies will be used either online, in the classroom or in one of the Institute's simulated workshops/classrooms.

Where units require demonstration of skills in a workplace environment, you will have the opportunity to do this by using one of the Institute's simulated workshops/classrooms. Detailed information about the types, conduct and dates of assessments will be provided in advance. You will also be provided with information about the opportunity for reassessment and appeal.

After applying

Once you have applied for your chosen course, you will receive a thank you email from South West TAFE with a few steps to help process your enrolment.

Complete a Pre-Training Review

You will receive an email to complete a Pre-Training Review online evaluation. This evaluation helps us tailor your training to suit your needs.

Create or provide a Unique Student Identifier (USI)

A USI is a nationally recognised reference number that provides an online record of your training qualifications gained in Australia.

[Create your USI](#)

Already have a USI but can't remember it? [Find your USI](#)

Skills recognition

If you have experience or prior qualifications, you may be eligible to apply for [recognition of prior learning](#) and gain credits. You will be asked to provide any relevant Statement of Attainment to support identified credits.

Fees

This section gives you an overview of course fees, subsidies, and how they can be paid.

Course Fees

Here's an outline of fees and costs associated with your course.

Your fees each year can be made up of 3 different elements. Everyone has different circumstances that can affect what you pay and how much you pay. :

1. Tuition fees - charged as an hourly rate that varies from course to course. A large portion of the tuition is subsidised by the Victorian Government for eligible students.
2. Resource and/or materials costs - covers the cost of materials and other incidentals. This fee will vary according to the course being undertaken.
3. Booklist items - such as textbooks, equipment and stationery recommended for your course

Tuition fees

There are 4 different rates of tuition fees. Only one will apply to you (depending on your eligibility and circumstances).

1. **Government Subsidised Fee** - you could be eligible for a government-subsidised rate under the Skills First funding depending on your age, educational history, and citizenship or residency status. If you are eligible, the government will contribute to the cost of your training.
[Find out more about subsidised training](#)
2. **Government Subsidised Concession Fee** - If you are eligible for a Skills First government-subsidised place and hold a current healthcare or pension card, that you can provide at enrolment, you may be eligible for the concession rate. Note, the concession rate is not applicable to Diploma level courses.
[Find out more about concession rates](#)
3. **If the course is a Free TAFE course or part of the Free TAFE Pathways Program** - Eligible students will not pay course tuition fees for the duration of their enrolment in this course, however, there may be some consumable/material fees for the course (find out more below). Any resource or material costs, or booklist items for this course are listed in the table below.
[Find out more about Free TAFE](#)
[Find out more about Free TAFE Pathways Programs](#)
4. **Full fee** - If you are not eligible for a Skills First government-subsidised place, exemption, concession or are enrolling in a course that isn't government-subsidised, you may be required to pay the full fee rate.

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT FEES AND ELIGIBILITY

The fees listed below are indicative only. The course fees published are subject to change given individual circumstances at enrolment. Course fee funding is made available to eligible individuals by the Victorian and Commonwealth Governments. If funding is utilised, this may affect opportunities to access additional funding in the future. An accurate quote for this course will be provided during the enrolment process.

Course fees by student type	Indicative Course Fee
Government subsidised rate (if eligible)	\$6,820.00
Concession rate	\$1,365.00
Full fee rate (if not eligible for govt subsidy)	\$31,850.00

Additional course fees	Indicative Course Fee
Course consumable/materials (approximate)	\$596.10

Resource and/or materials costs

Some courses require specific resources or materials necessary for your study eg: tools of the trade, excursions, etc. Final costs will be determined upon enrolment.

Booklist

Your course may require you to purchase additional materials or books (eg uniform, stationery, textbooks). Some of these items are optional and some are mandatory. You can purchase these items from Campion Education, second-hand or via another supplier. [Click here to find out more.](#)

You can download the booklist for this course here: <https://swtafe-prod-cdn.azureedge.net/media/hsvndxq5/south-west-tafe-plumbing-certificate-iii-2025-v1.pdf>

How do I pay my fees?

Once we have processed your enrolment form, you will receive an email with your invoice.

You have [three options when organising your payment](#):

1. [Upfront payment](#) - can be made over the phone with EFTPOS
2. [Payment plan](#) - can be directly debited from your bank account, debited from your Centrelink payments or via a [VET Student Loan](#) (for diploma or advanced diploma courses only)
3. [Paid by employer, school or job network agency](#) - if your fees are being paid by your employer, school or job network agency, you will need to complete an Authority to Invoice form.

Payments will need to be arranged within five(5) business days of receiving the email containing your invoice.

We also offer a range of [scholarships](#) each year which you may be eligible to apply for to assist with course fees.

Next Steps

Ready to take the next step? Here you can make an enquiry, attend an information session or begin the application process.

How to apply for an apprenticeship or traineeship

There are five simple steps to apply for an apprenticeship or traineeship with us.

1. **Find a job** - find a job as an apprentice or trainee through an Apprenticeship Centre or Group Training Company.
2. **Register** - register with an Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (AASN) and nominate SWTAFE as your training provider (your employer will usually do this for you).
3. **Complete a pre-training review** - SWTAFE staff will contact you to organise your Pre-Training Review once your AASN contract registration is complete.
4. **Enrol** - complete the enrolment form provided to you and provide your identification.
5. **Sign** - once you've completed your enrolment form and verified your identification you will receive your student declaration form to review and sign. You can sign this digitally via your smartphone, computer or tablet.

If need any assistance with applying, [contact our Customer Service team](#) on 1300 648 911 or [visit your nearest campus](#).

Careers and Course Advice

Not sure which course is right for you? South West TAFE will help you find your way.

Our Careers Coaches at the [Skills and Jobs Centre](#) is here to support you. Whether you're exploring career options, transitioning from school to the workforce or looking to study after school we're here to help you.

Student Support

As a SWTAFE student, you can access a variety of support services that will enhance your study experience and help you complete your studies successfully. For more information about any of these services, [visit our student page](#).