



COUNTY OF ONONDAGA  
**EXAMINING BOARD FOR PLUMBERS**

**2026 BOARD MEMBERS**

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County Executive

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Tom Hayward

650 Hiawatha Blvd West  
Syracuse, New York 13204  
[Onondaga.gov/WEP/PlumbingControl](http://Onondaga.gov/WEP/PlumbingControl)

**Odean D. Dyer, P.E.**  
Commissioner, WEP

**ADVISORY MEMBERS:**

Grace Haskell, C.P.D.  
Sal Sciuga  
Mike Tamblin, P.E.

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**MASTER PLUMBER CANDIDATE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS**

**No applicant shall be examined by the Onondaga County Examining Board for Plumbers unless the applicant shall have had experience of at least ten (10) years as a journeyman plumber or five (5) years as a plumbing apprentice and five (5) years as a journeyman plumber. Documented proof of such experience is mandatory**

- A. For the Master's level, qualifying educational experience up to one year total will be considered. This credit may be for educational experience as defined for the Journeyman level but was not used to satisfy the Journeyman five year requirement. In addition, up to 1 year of qualified experience will be awarded for educational experience at the post Associates Degree level at the rate of ½ year of qualified educational experience per year of full time post Associates Degree level education in a curriculum such as Construction/Business or related field. All credits for educational experience shall depend on receipt of a transcript or other formal document issued by the educational institution and will be based upon a determination of the Board based upon documentation provided by the applicant.
- B. For a Candidate previously registered with Onondaga County as a Journeyman, in addition to the information on the application form, candidates should submit photocopies of five years of Apprentice registration cards. Since Journeyman Cards are issued in March in Onondaga County, inclusion of a year 2025 card does not provide any credit for the Spring exam and provides ½ year credit for the fall exam.
- C. Any Journeyman Plumber who allows their registration to lapse shall forfeit any credit for that lapsed time period but may seek credit if performing plumbing work outside of Onondaga County in a Municipality recognizing the International Plumbing Code.
- D. Individuals who worked in the trade outside of Onondaga County may submit evidence of work experience under other jurisdictions and proof of employment when first licensed to

practice plumbing in that jurisdiction for review of the Board. Decision of the Board shall be made based on knowledge of the licensure requirements of other jurisdictions.

- E. For a Candidate not previously registered with Onondaga County as a Journeyman, Candidates must submit the information on the application form as well as ample documentation of employment in the plumbing trade in the role of apprentice for a minimum of 5 years and Journeyman for 5 years, or in Municipalities not providing registration of apprentices, as a Journeyman for 10 years. Such documentation could include, but is not limited to, at least one of the following:
  - a. Photocopies of a minimum of 5 years of registration documents as an apprentice and 5 years as a Journeyman plumber (or as a Journeyman plumber for 10 years if applicable) from the municipal jurisdiction in which the candidate acquired the experience. Provide a working email address and telephone number for the municipality who provided the registration.
  - b. Photocopies of a Master Plumbers certificate and supporting documentation illustrating 10 years of combined Apprentice, Journeyman and Master Plumbers work experience from the municipal jurisdiction in which the candidate acquired the experience. Multiple documents may be required if some of the required 10 years of experience did not occur in the Municipality which issued the Master's Certificate.
  - c. Documentation from an agency of the Government of the United States, military or civil, or from one of the sovereign States showing that the candidate was employed as a journeyman or master plumber or military/civil equivalent by the agency of the Government for a minimum of 5 years, with relevant experience of an additional 5 years as an apprentice or similar assignment, and including documentation on the training in plumbing the candidate received during the period of employment. Such documentation must include a working email and office or mobile telephone number for the individual or agency providing the information.
- F. Documentation from Employers or other third parties may be submitted as additional supporting material, but cannot be accepted by the Board of Examiners in Onondaga County as the sole proof of experience.
- G. Per an Opinion of the Attorney General of New York State, the Board of Examiners of Onondaga County does not have the authority to accept the certification of a Master Plumber in another municipality and to issue that Plumber a certificate of competency without conducting an examination of the Candidate.
- H. Candidates are encouraged to complete and submit the Checklist on the following page.

**Master Plumber Documentation Checklist:**

Type of Credit Requested	Documents Required	Years of Credit Requested (Circle only One in each row)					
Education Credit (Max 1 year total education credit allowed) Name of School _____	Document, Certificate or Transcript for each item. Do not include years previously used for Journeymen’s application	0	1/4	1/2	3/4	1	
Additional Education Credit (Max 1 year total education credit allowed) Name of School: _____	Document, Certificate or Transcript for each item. Do not include years previously used for Journeymen’s application	0	1/4	1/2	3/4	1	
Previously/Currently Registered Journeyman in Onondaga County	Photocopies of Each Annual Registration Card	0	1	2	3	4	5
Government – USA or State Agency Employee	Documentation or Certificate for each annual period	0	1	2	3	4	5
Employer Certified	Not allowed for Masters Candidates	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Total	Candidate Total sum of circled items	_____ Years					

Candidates for Master Plumber – Please be sure you have confirmed you meet the documentation requirement of 5 year Journeyman/5 year apprentice (or 10 year Journeyman) in order to obtain a speedy authorization to take the exam..

2026 SPRING MASTER PLUMBER CANDIDATE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS: END