

# Candidate Information Bulletin

## *Master Plumber License Examinations*

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The NYC Department of Buildings (“Department”) has contracted with CPS HR Consulting (CPS HR) to develop and administer license examinations for various construction trades. Information in this candidate information bulletin is important for you to know and is relevant to every step of the examination process. It is your responsibility to read, know and understand this bulletin. You will be held accountable for the information contained within.

## License Requirements

Applicants must meet **all** of the below requirements prior to their background application submission date:

- Be at least eighteen (18) years old;
- Be able to read and write the English language;
- Be of good moral character; and
- Be fit to perform the work authorized by the license.

**Applicants must also meet one (1) of the following levels of experience prior to the background application submission date.**

- Have at least seven (7) years of total experience\* within the ten (10) years prior to application in the planning or design, and installation, of plumbing systems under the direct and continuing supervision of a licensed Master Plumber in the United States. At least two (2) years of this required practical experience must be obtained as a Department of Buildings registered Journeyman Plumber.
- Have received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering or appropriate engineering technology from a college or university registered by the New York State Department of Education and have had at least five (5) years of total experience within the seven (7) years prior to the background application submission date in the planning or design, and installation, of plumbing systems under the direct and continuing supervision of a licensed Master Plumber in the United States. At least two (2) years of this experience must be in New York City.
- Be an architect or engineer with at least three (3) years of experience, within the five (5) years prior to application, in the installation of plumbing systems and the planning or design of plumbing systems. All required experience must be under the direct and continuing supervision of a licensed master plumber in the United States, and at least one (1) year of such experience must be in New York city.
- Have at least seven (7) years of total experience\* within the ten (10) years prior to the background application submission date with at least two (2) years of experience working in the planning or design, and installation, of plumbing systems under the direct and continuing supervision of a licensed Master Plumber in the United States. At least two (2) years of this required practical experience must be obtained as a Department of Buildings registered Journeyman Plumber. The balance of experience may be obtained by performing

maintenance, replacement and repair plumbing work on existing buildings while working for a New York City agency as long as the work is under the direct and continuing supervision of a licensed Master Plumber supervisor employed by the City agency.

- Have experience as an employee of a government agency, private inspection agency or other entity specified in department rules, whose duties primarily involve the inspection of plumbing work for compliance with the New York City Plumbing Code and/or other laws relating to the installation, alteration or repair of plumbing systems and this experience\*\* combined with your work experience equals seven (7) years of work experience required within the ten (10) years prior to the background application submission date.

*\*As of July 1, 2011, at least two (2) years of the required practical experience must be obtained as a Department-registered Journeyman Plumber. Please see the full text of Title 28 of the New York City Administrative Code for all the qualifications requirements.*

*\*\*Such applicants can count 50 percent of the years he or she was satisfactorily employed in the above work towards the seven (7) years of total required work experience as long as it was obtained within ten (10) years prior to the background application submission date. The number of years credited shall not exceed two and a half (2.5) years of the satisfactory experience. The remaining balance must be obtained by working in the planning or design and installation of plumbing systems under the direct and continuing supervision of a licensed master plumber in the United States.*

To successfully qualify for the Master Plumber license, candidates must pass a written and practical examination. Candidates take the written examination first. After passing the written examination, candidates must apply to take the practical examination. The Department has approved the examination content outline for the Master Plumber written and practical examinations. The pass points listed for the written and practical examinations reflect the minimum competency required by Master Plumbers to successfully perform their job duties in a responsible manner that protects the public from harm.

## Submitting Your Examination Application

Before you can schedule your examination with CPS HR, you must submit a **typed** examination application and fee to the Department. Applications that do not include the examination fee will be returned to the applicant. Corresponding license examination applications can be found on the Department's website at <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/buildings/industry/applications-forms.page>. Any false statement on your application will result in you being deemed ineligible to take the corresponding license examinations and may result in severe civil and criminal penalties.

**Note:** All Special Examination Arrangement requests **MUST** be submitted with the application to be accepted.

## Examination Fees

The fee for the written examination is \$525, and the fee for the practical examination is \$350. The **fees are nonrefundable** and **do not** include the background investigation fee or the license issuance fee for your license after you pass the examination and background investigation.

The fees must be paid by money order **only** and made payable to the New York City Department of Buildings. Checks and cash will **not** be accepted. Please make sure to include the last four digits of your Social Security Number on the front of your money order and retain a copy of the money order receipt as your proof of filing.

## Scheduling Your Examinations

### Written Examination

You must complete and submit the written examination application as outlined on the Department's website, located at <http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/buildings/pdf/lic41.pdf>. Check the box that indicates your trade and submit the application with the \$525 fee (as noted above).

Once you receive an email notifying you that you are eligible to take the Master Plumber license examination, you are responsible for scheduling an appointment to take the written examination.

You may only test one time per notification of eligibility. Each time you fail, you must reapply with the Department.

**Important:** You have **six (6) months** from the date you submit the written examination application to take the written examination. If you do not take the examination within (6) months of application submission, you will need to reapply through the Department and pay the corresponding examination fee.

The written examination is administered by CPS HR's partner, *Pearson VUE*, at one of their several convenient test centers in and around the City. You may schedule via the Internet by clicking on the link found in your eligibility confirmation email. When registering for your examination, you will be provided with a list of available test locations and availability options. You will be able to choose the center that is most convenient for you.

## To Schedule a Written Examination Online

After your examination application with the Department has been accepted, you will receive a notice via email that you may schedule your written licensure examination. This notice will provide the information you need to schedule your examination, including a link to the scheduling website.

**Important:** For best results, access link from a desktop or laptop computer. Please avoid accessing the link and scheduling from a smartphone. The scheduling website is optimized for desktop/laptop browser use.

After scheduling the examination, you will receive a confirmation email with appointment details. Visit the CPS HR website at [https://link.cpshr.us/NYC\\_DOB\\_Exams](https://link.cpshr.us/NYC_DOB_Exams) for more information.

## Holidays

Testing generally does not occur on the following holidays:

- New Year's Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving and the Friday after
- Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

If you have any questions regarding the scheduling process or experience any difficulty using the website, please contact CPS HR at 855-224-6977.

## If You Need to Cancel a Written Examination Appointment

You may cancel and reschedule an examination appointment without forfeiting your fee if your **cancellation notice is received two (2) calendar days before the scheduled examination date**. For example, for a Monday appointment, the cancellation notice would need to be received on or before the previous Saturday. **The website link to cancel your appointment will be provided in your examination scheduling confirmation email.**

Please note that you may also use the automated system 24 hours a day in order to cancel and reschedule your appointment. If you do not cancel or reschedule your examination two (2) calendar days in advance, you will have to submit another examination application and pay an additional fee.

Cancellations do not extend the original six (6) month deadline to take the written examination. It is your responsibility to ensure that you take the written examination within the six (6) month period of eligibility.

**If You Missed or Were Late to Your Written Examination Appointment**

Your application will be invalid, you will not be able to take the examination as scheduled, and you will forfeit your examination fee if you:

- Do not cancel your appointment at least two calendar days before the scheduled examination date.
- Do not appear for your examination appointment.
- Arrive after examination start time.
- Do not present proper identification when you arrive for the examination.

**Written Examination Site Emergency Closings**

In the event that severe weather or another emergency forces the closure of an examination site on a scheduled written examination date, your examination will be rescheduled. *Pearson VUE* personnel will attempt to contact you in this situation. Every effort will be made to reschedule your examination at a convenient time as soon as possible. You may also check the status of your examination schedule by visiting the *Pearson VUE* website at <https://home.pearsonvue.com/test-taker.aspx>.

**Practical Examination**

If you pass the written examination, you will be notified immediately, and you will be eligible to apply for the practical examination. You must complete and submit the practical examination application as outlined on the Department's website, located at <http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/buildings/pdf/lic42.pdf>. Check the box that indicates you are a Master Plumber candidate and submit the application with the \$350 fee (as noted above). ***You must submit your practical examination application within two (2) months of the date you receive notification of passing the written examination.***

**Practical Examination Scheduling**

The Department will transmit your information to CPS HR. CPS HR will schedule you for a practical examination administration within approximately two (2) months of receiving your information from the Department. When your examination administration has been scheduled, you will receive a scheduling notice from CPS HR. At that time, you may confirm your attendance or request to be rescheduled to a future exam date, if your eligibility window allows. **All confirmations are final.**

**Important:** You have **six (6) months** from the date you submit the practical examination application to take the practical examination. If you do not take the practical examination within six (6) months of application submission, you will need to reapply through the Department and pay the corresponding examination fee. You have up to twenty-four (24) months from the date of notification of passing the written test to pass the practical examination.

## Holidays

As with the written examination, testing generally does not occur on the following holidays:

- New Year's Day
- Memorial Day
- Independence Day
- Labor Day
- Thanksgiving and the Friday after
- Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

## If You Need to Cancel/Reschedule a Practical Examination Date

If you receive your admission notice from CPS HR and confirm your availability, your confirmation is considered final. However, excused reschedules and absences are permissible if, and only if, required by an emergency situation. Relevant documentation **MUST** be submitted with any emergency reschedule request.

The following are acceptable emergencies with examples of the relevant documentation accepted:

1. **Illness-** Of the candidate or the candidate's immediate family (i.e., Mothers, Fathers, Grandmothers, Grandfathers, Brother, Sister, Mother in- law, Father in- law, Stepchildren, Children, or Spouse only)
  - Example documentation accepted- A doctor's note, medical center admittance/discharge paperwork that includes medical center name, address, signature of physician, candidate name, and the date of the exam.
2. **Death-** In the immediate family (i.e., Mothers, Fathers, Grandmothers, Grandfathers, Brother, Sister, Mother in- law, Father in- law, Stepchildren, Children, or Spouse only)
  - Example documents accepted- Obituary, Death Certificate, or funeral program that list the candidate's family member that passed away.
3. **Disabling Traffic Accident**
  - Example documents accepted- Police report, Tow Receipt, or Repair receipt.
4. **Court Appearance or Jury Duty**
  - Example documents accepted- Court Summons, Jury Summons, court filing papers.
5. **Military Duty**
  - Example documents accepted- Copy of "Orders."
6. **Weather Emergency**
  - Example document accepted- Weather advisory, weather state of emergency declaration, or official department of transportation documentation.

If you are unable to attend the practical examination on the date stated in your scheduling notice due to a reason that is NOT approved, you will be required to reapply for the practical examination (including paying another practical examination fee).

Rescheduling will not extend the original six (6) month deadline to take the practical examination. It is your responsibility to ensure that you take the examination within your six (6) month period of eligibility.

### **If You Missed or Were Late to Your Practical Examination Appointment**

If you do any of the following your appointment will be invalid, you will not be able to take the examination as scheduled, and you will forfeit your examination fee:

- Do not appear for your examination appointment.
- Arrive more than 15 minutes after the examination call time stated in your scheduling notice.
- Do not present proper identification when you arrive for the examination.
- Do not have a hard copy of the Admission Notice.

### **Practical Examination Site Emergency Closings**

In the event that severe weather or another emergency forces the closure of an examination site on a scheduled examination date, your examination will be rescheduled. CPS HR personnel will attempt to contact you in this situation. You may also call the following practical examination service line for any inquiries (855-224-6977).

## **Special Examination Arrangements**

All examination centers are equipped to provide access in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, and every reasonable accommodation will be made in meeting a candidate's needs. Applicants with disabilities or those who would otherwise have difficulty taking the examination must fill out the form located at <https://link.cpshr.us/DOBADAForm> and email to [nycdob@cpshr.us](mailto:nycdob@cpshr.us).

**Note:** All Special Examination Arrangement requests **MUST** be submitted with the application to be accepted. Please submit professional documentation of your disability with your application to help us determine the necessary testing arrangements.

### **ESL (English is Your Second Language)**

Please note that a language barrier is not considered a disability. In order to meet the qualification requirements, applicants must be able to read and write in the English Language pursuant to Section 28-401.6 of the NYC Administrative Code.



## Taking Your Written Examination

Your written examination will be given by computer at a *Pearson VUE* testing center. You do not need any computer experience or typing skills to take your examination. Before you start the examination, you will receive an introduction to the testing system.

Scores are based on the number of questions you answered correctly. You will not be given credit for any question answered incorrectly or left blank. There is no penalty for guessing, so be sure to mark an answer for each question.

### Arrival

On the day of the examination, you should arrive at least thirty (30) minutes before your scheduled examination appointment. This extra time is for sign-in, identification verification, and familiarizing you with the examination process.

*If you arrive late, you may not be admitted to the examination site and you will forfeit your examination fee.*

### Required Documentation at Written Examination Site

Upon arrival, you will be required to present two forms of identification in order to take your written examination.

The first form of identification must be a ***current and valid, government-issued identification with a photo***. In addition, it must contain your signature and the name on the identification must match the name you used to register for your examination. Acceptable forms of identification that meet these standards include the following:

- State Issued Driver's License
- State Issued Identification Card
- Current U.S. Government Issued Passport
- U.S. Government Issued Military Identification Card
- U.S. Permanent Resident card with a photo ("Green Card")

The second form of identification may be any non-expired identification ***with a photo***.

**If you arrive at the test center without IDs that meet the above requirements, you will not be permitted to test, and you will have to pay an additional examination fee.**

At the test site, you must complete the Candidate Information Collection and Candidate Attestation documentation processes.

### Taking the Examination by Computer

You do not need any computer experience or typing skills to take the examination by computer. If you would like to view a demonstration of the system before your scheduled test time, please visit: <https://wsr.pearsonvue.com/demo/>.

**Examination Review**

CPS HR, in cooperation with the Department, will be consistently evaluating the examinations being administered to ensure that the examinations accurately measure competency in the required knowledge areas. While taking the examination, examinees will have the opportunity to provide comments on any questions by using the comments button. These comments will be analyzed by CPS HR examination development staff. CPS HR does not respond to individuals regarding these comments but be assured that all substantive comments are reviewed.

**Testing Regulations for the Written Examination**

To ensure that all candidates are tested under equal and favorable conditions, the regulations and procedures outlined below will be observed. Failure to follow these procedures may result in disqualification from licensure.

CPS HR reserves the right to audiotape and videotape any written examination session.

Please note that the following security procedures will apply during the examination:

- No smoking, eating, or drinking is allowed in the examination center.
- You are not permitted to bring any visitors to the test facility (e.g., children are not allowed in the examination area).
- Copying or communicating examination content is a violation of security regulations and may result in the cancellation of your examination results and/or legal action taken under copyright laws.

**Personal Items**

We recommend that you do not bring any unnecessary personal items to your examination appointment as storage may not be available.

- Notes, books, calculators, pens and pencils are not permitted. You will have access to an online calculator.
- Electronic equipment (e.g., cameras, tape recorders, cellular telephones, PDAs, pagers) are not permitted in the testing areas.
- No hats, scarves, or other non-essential garments are allowed in the testing center.
- Pocket items beyond keys or a wallet are not permitted in the testing center.
- Other personal items (e.g., briefcases, backpacks) are not permitted in the testing center.

**Breaks**

Once you have been seated and the examination begins, breaks are not permitted. You may leave the examination center only to use the restroom, and only after obtaining permission from the proctor. In this case, you must also sign out/in on the roster and you will not receive extra time to complete the examination.

**Misconduct or Disruptive Behavior**

Candidates who engage in any kind of misconduct, disruptive, or offensive behavior may be dismissed from the examination. Such behavior includes giving or receiving help, sharing supplies, taking part in an act of impersonation, removing test materials or notes from the testing room, using rude or offensive language and behavior that delays or interrupts testing.

Any candidate seen giving or receiving assistance, found with unauthorized materials, or who violates any security regulations will be asked to surrender all examination materials and to leave the examination center. All such instances will be reported to the Department and you may be denied licensure.

**Weapons**

Weapons are not allowed at the testing center.

**Important:** Before an examination begins, the test center administrator will perform an inspection to ensure candidates are not in violation of any of the above rules and collect any materials that violate the rules.

**Exam Security**

All test questions are the copyrighted property of the Department. It is forbidden under federal copyright law to copy, reproduce, record, distribute or display these test questions by any means, in whole or in part, without the Department's written permission. Doing so may subject you to severe civil and criminal penalties, including up to five years in prison and/or a \$250,000 fine for criminal violations.

By registering for the exam, you agree to comply with all testing regulations required by NYC DOB and/or NYC DOB's authorized contractors administering the Licensing Exam(s). Furthermore, you agree without limitation that you will help maintain exam security by not: cheating; providing or accepting improper assistance; using unauthorized materials that are in any way related to the licensing requirements; allowing other persons to use any of your licensing exam answers or personal registration information; disclosing, publishing, reproducing, or transmitting any confidential information, in any form, to any third party (including those who have also taken the test); requesting any other individual to disclose any test or any part thereof to you; bringing in or taking out any materials from the examination area without permission; nor any other unauthorized behavior that violates exam security. **Failure to comply, may result in fines; civil action; denial, suspension, or revocation of license; indefinite ban from seeking a license; or any other action that NYC DOB view as appropriate.**

## Written Examination Results

For the written examination, the Proctor will give you a printed score report immediately following completion of the examination. The report indicates overall score and grade and whether you passed or failed. Proctors do not have any information about these tests or scoring methods.

Whether you pass or fail, you will receive a printed score report following completion of the examination. The Department requires you to submit the original pass score report as part of the submission of your background investigation documents.

### Duplicate Score Reports

You can get a duplicate score report through your personal *Pearson Vue* web account any time after completing the examination.

## Taking Your Practical Examination

The practical examination site is set up to accommodate exercises which will demonstrate your mastery of on-the-job practical tasks. **Please note that the exercises and list of materials are specific to each scheduled examination only. If you reschedule, future examinations may include different exercises and required equipment, so you must review the information provided in your scheduling notice carefully prior to each scheduled practical examination.**

### Test Description

Applicants will be required to produce two work specimens:

1. Black Steel Piping Assembly:
2. Copper Sweat Assembly:

### Candidates are Required to Bring the Following:

#### Black Steel Piping Assembly

- [10 feet] -  $\frac{3}{4}$ " Black steel pipe
- [4] -  $\frac{3}{4}$ " Black nipple sets (any size in any denominations up to 6")
- [1] -  $\frac{3}{4}$ " Black malleable 90°
- [3] -  $\frac{3}{4}$ " Black malleable tees
- [4] -  $\frac{3}{4}$ " Black malleable 45°
- [1] -  $\frac{3}{4}$ " Black malleable union
- [1] -  $\frac{3}{4}$ " Steel flange set with nuts, bolts, and gasket material
- [1] -  $\frac{3}{4}$ " Left/right nipple with coupling

**Copper Sweat Assembly**

- [1] - Roll groover with machine
- [3 feet] - 3" Type L Copper Tubing
- [1 foot] - 1 ½" Type L Copper Tubing
- [1] - 3" Copper x Copper Coupling
- [1] - Mechanical Coupling for 3" copper pipe
- [1] - Mechanical Cap for 3" copper pipe
- [1] - 3" X 1 ½" Copper Reduction Coupling
- [1] - 1 ½" x ½" Copper Reducer Coupling
- [1] - ½" Copper female street adapter (½" male x ½" female I.P.S)

**The following materials are required to connect your specimens to the compressed air manifold:**

- [4] - ½" Black nipples 4" to 6" long
- [1] - ½" Black malleable elbow
- [1] - ½" Black malleable union
- [2] - ½" ISP Ball valves
- [1] - ¾" by ½" malleable reducing coupling

**Tools:**

- B-Tank with regulator, hose, a set of gauges, a Prestolite torch with required tips, and/or a Turbo torch (any brand is acceptable)
- Tubing/pipe cutter with reamer to accommodate 1" tubing and ¾" pipe
- Flux, sufficient lead-free solder
- Tripod vise
- ¾" ratchet stock
- Pipe cutter and cutting oil
- Pipe wrenches
- Swaging tool
- All required pipe wrenches and pipe joint compound
- Rainbow gasket material, as needed to fabricate a gasket on site
- Safety equipment as required by OSHA, including but not limited to safety goggles and work gloves
- Tubing cutter for up to and including 3" copper tubing
- Hacksaw
- Half-round file to ream the 3" copper tubing piece
- Clamp-on bench vise
- Emery cloth and/or sand cloth and/or a scratch pad and a wire brush
- Calculator
- Yellow or White Roller ball paint marker (no silver)
- Adjustable wrench
- Tubing cutter

\*\*\*\*Substitution of fittings or materials with items other than those specified may result in failure. Tools must be manually operated. Candidates may also elect to use hand-held battery-powered tools but are advised that no charging facilities will be provided at any point during the examination. Further, no scoring allowance will be made for malfunctioning or inoperable tools.\*\*\*\*

**NOTICE:** Use of a hammer, mallet, or similar tool/object is prohibited on the Black Steel Pipe Assembly itself (e.g., a hammer can be used to create a gasket). Any candidate seen using a hammer, mallet, or similar tool/object on the Black Steel Pipe Assembly will fail the Alignment criteria.

### **Arrival**

On the day of the examination, you should arrive promptly at your call time to allow sufficient time for sign-in, identification verification, and transporting materials to the test site.

*If you arrive more than fifteen (15) minutes after the examination begins, you may not be admitted to the examination site and you will forfeit your examination fee.*

### **Required Identification at Practical Examination Site**

Upon arrival, you will be required to present two forms of identification in order to take your practical examination.

The first form of identification must be a **current and valid, government-issued identification with a photo**. In addition, it must contain your signature and the name on the identification must match the name you used to register for your examination. Acceptable forms of identification that meet these standards include the following:

- State Issued Driver's License
- State Issued Identification Card
- Current U.S. Government Issued Passport
- U.S. Government Issued Military Identification Card
- U.S. Permanent Resident card with a photo ("Green Card")

The second form of identification may be any non-expired identification **with a photo**.

**If you arrive at the test center without IDs that meet the above requirements, you will not be permitted to test, and you will have to reapply and pay the required fee again.**

## Testing Regulations for the Practical Examination

To ensure that all candidates are tested under equal and favorable conditions, the regulations and procedures outlined below will be observed. Failure to follow these procedures may result in disqualification from licensure.

CPS HR reserves the right to audiotape, photograph, and videotape any examination session.

Please note that the following security procedures will apply during the examination:

- No smoking, eating, or drinking is allowed in the examination site.
- You are not permitted to bring any visitors to the test facility (e.g., children are not allowed in the examination area).
- Copying or communicating examination content is a violation of security regulations and may result in the cancellation of your examination results and/or legal action taken under copyright laws.

### Personal Items

We recommend that you do not bring any unnecessary personal items to your examination appointment as storage may not be available.

- Personal notes, books, pens, pencils and calculating devices are not permitted. You will be provided with pencils, a calculator, and scratch paper.
- Electronic equipment (e.g., cameras, tape recorders, cellular telephones, PDAs, pagers) are not permitted in the testing areas.
- No hats, scarves, or other non-essential garments are allowed in the testing room.
- Pocket items beyond keys or a wallet are not permitted in the testing center. (Note: There is no space to store these materials at the examination center.) Small purses (size of a wallet) will be permitted. Larger purses cannot be taken into the testing room.
- Other personal items (e.g., briefcases, backpacks) are not permitted in the testing center.

### Breaks

Once the examination begins, breaks are not permitted. You may leave the examination center only to use the restroom, and only after obtaining permission from the rater. A proctor will escort you to the restroom and all examination materials will remain in the testing room. In this case, you will not receive extra time to complete the examination.

**Misconduct or Disruptive Behavior**

Candidates who engage in any kind of misconduct, disruptive, or offensive behavior may be dismissed from the examination. Such behavior includes giving or receiving help, sharing supplies, taking part in an act of impersonation, removing test materials or notes from the testing room, using rude or offensive language and behavior that delays or interrupts testing.

Any candidate seen giving or receiving assistance, found with unauthorized materials, or who violates any security regulations will be asked to surrender all examination materials and to leave the examination site. All such instances will be reported to the Department and you may be denied licensure.

**Weapons**

Weapons are not allowed at the testing center.

**Important:** Before an examination begins, the test center administrator will perform an inspection to ensure candidates are not in violation of any of the above rules and collect any materials that violate the rules.

**Exam Security**

All test questions are the copyrighted property of the Department. It is forbidden under federal copyright law to copy, reproduce, record, distribute or display these test questions by any means, in whole or in part, without the Department's written permission. Doing so may subject you to severe civil and criminal penalties, including up to five years in prison and/or a \$250,000 fine for criminal violations.

By registering for the exam, you agree to comply with all testing regulations required by NYC DOB and/or NYC DOB's authorized contractors administering the Licensing Exam(s). Furthermore, you agree without limitation that you will help maintain exam security by not: cheating; providing or accepting improper assistance; using unauthorized materials that are in any way related to the licensing requirements; allowing other persons to use any of your licensing exam answers or personal registration information; disclosing, publishing, reproducing, or transmitting any confidential information, in any form, to any third party (including those who have also taken the test); requesting any other individual to disclose any test or any part thereof to you; bringing in or taking out any materials from the examination area without permission; nor any other unauthorized behavior that violates exam security. **Failure to comply, may result in fines; civil action; denial, suspension, or revocation of license; indefinite ban from seeking a license; or any other action that NYC DOB view as appropriate.**



## Practical Examination Results

### Scoring

A candidate can either pass or fail each exercise. Passing status is determined by functionality and design standards of each of the exercises. You must achieve a score of pass on all criteria for each exercise in order to receive an overall passing score. The rating guide includes the following elements:

- Soundness of Assembly (i.e., pressure testing for leaks)
- Working to Diagram Specifications (e.g., accuracy of measurements)
- Workmanship (e.g., levelness/flatness, alignment, quality of soldering)

Additional rating information will be provided for you in writing on your exam form. Applicants will be given four hours to complete the above. Re-working of the examination assemblies is permitted within the time limits. Compressed air will be made available to the applicants to test their work.

**NOTICE:** Use of a hammer, mallet, or similar tool/object is prohibited on the Black Steel Pipe Assembly itself (e.g., a hammer can be used to create a gasket). Any candidate seen using a hammer, mallet, or similar tool/object on the Black Steel Pipe Assembly will fail the Alignment criteria.

### Notification

Your practical examination score report will be sent to you via U.S. Mail within four (4) to six (6) weeks of the date of your examination.

## Obtaining Licensure

If you pass the written and practical examinations, you are required to submit, in person, a Background Investigation Questionnaire and all required documents within one (1) year of passing the practical examination to the Department's Licensing & Exams Unit. Prior to submitting the Background Investigation Questionnaire, you must meet one (1) of the levels of experience listed under License Requirements. Please refer to the Department website for information regarding submission of background investigation documents. If you successfully pass the background investigation, you will receive a notice of qualification from the Department. Upon receipt of the notice, you must contact the Department's Licensing & Exams Unit to schedule an appointment to obtain the license. You have one year from the receipt of the notice of qualification to appear and furnish to the Department all requested original forms, documents and fees. Failure to do so will result in the denial of the license and will require a re-examination and reapplication.

If you have any questions regarding the application or the application process, please contact the Department of Buildings' Licensing & Exams Unit at [www.nyc.gov/buildings](http://www.nyc.gov/buildings) or email [LicenseExams@buildings.nyc.gov](mailto:LicenseExams@buildings.nyc.gov).

## Retaking the Examinations and the Appeals Process

### Retaking the Examinations

If you fail the *written examination*, you must wait fourteen (14) days before re-applying for the examination. You may retake the examination, when available, up to three (3) times within a six (6) month period. Each time you wish to take the examination, you must reapply through the Department and pay the full examination fee. Candidates who fail the written test three (3) times within six (6) months must wait six (6) months before applying again to take the written examination.

If you fail the *practical examination*, you must wait ninety (90) days from the date of your examination before reapplying to take the examination again. You may take the practical examination two (2) times within a twelve (12) month period. Candidates who fail the practical examination two (2) times within twelve (12) months must wait six (6) months before applying again to take the practical examination. Each time you wish to take the examination, you must reapply through the Department and pay the full examination fee.

**\*Note:** There is no limitation to the number of times you can take the practical examination.

### Release of Score Information

Examination scores are released only with the candidate's written consent. In order for CPS HR to release a score to the Department, the candidate must give CPS HR consent. You will be asked for consent when scheduling the written examination before the examination is administered. Your consent is required before you can schedule the examination. If you do not consent, you will not be able to schedule the examination and you will not be reimbursed for the examination fees.

### Appeals Process

CPS HR's goal is to provide quality examinations and a pleasant testing experience for candidates. If you are dissatisfied with either and believe CPS HR can correct the problem, please use the comment forms available during your written examination administration or following your practical examination. Your comments will be reviewed by CPS HR.

If you fail the written examination by five (5) points or fewer, or if you fail the practical examination by no more than one (1) exam criterion, you may submit an appeal. The appeal must state the title of the license examination, your name, return address, the date of the test, and a detailed statement of the grounds for appeal. Your appeal must be received no later than thirty (30) days from the date of notification of failure to pass the license examination. An appeal form can be found at the CPS HR website: <https://link.cpshr.us/DOBAppealForm>.

Please review and fill out the Written and Practical Examination Appeal form. Submit your appeal to CPS HR Consulting at [nycdob@cpshr.us](mailto:nycdob@cpshr.us) using the same email address provided to NYC DOB on your LIC41 (<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/buildings/pdf/lic41.pdf>) or LIC42 (<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/buildings/pdf/lic42.pdf>). The Appeals Committee will review your appeal and send you a response (via USPS) within sixty (60) days of receipt.

## Written Examination Content Outline

The content outline for the New York City Master Plumber Written Examination is provided below. The examination is closed book and contains 100 multiple-choice questions. The outline lists all topics covered in the examination and the number of questions asked about each topic.

**NOTICE:** The Examination Plan (shown below) applies to all written exam applications which were authorized to test beginning on or after May 1, 2023.

### Scope of Written Examination

The examination will assess a candidate’s knowledge of and experience in applying the relative portions of the NYC Codes, Rules and Regulations, as well as trade specific industry knowledge.

### Master Plumber Written Examination

# of Questions	Minimum Passing Score	Time Allowed
100	70 (70%)	4 hours

Subject Area	# Items	References
<b>Drainage</b>	21	
Installation	2	NYC PC Ch. 3
Maintenance	2	NYC PC Ch. 3, NYC PC Ch. 7
Inspection Requirements	3	NYC PC Ch. 1
Permits	2	NYC PC Ch. 1, NYC ADC Ch. 1, NYC BC Appendix G
Indirect/Special Waste	1	NYC PC Ch. 3, NYC PC Ch. 8
Sanitary Drainage	4	NYC PC Ch. 3, NYC PC Ch. 6, NYC PC Ch. 7, NYC FGC Ch. 3
Storm Drainage	3	NYC PC Ch. 3, NYC PC Ch. 11
Vents	4	NYC PC Ch. 9
<b>Equipment</b>	23	
Installation (Equipment)	2	NYC PC Ch. 3, NYC PC Ch. 4, NYC ADC Ch. 2, NYC ADC Ch. 3
Maintenance (Equipment)	1	NYC PC Ch. 3, NYC PC Ch. 6
Inspection Requirements (Equipment)	2	NYC PC Ch. 1, NYC PC Ch. 3
Permits (Equipment)	2	NYC PC Ch. 1
Materials (Equipment)	2	NYC PC Ch. 3, NYC PC Ch. 7
Limited Alterations	2	NYC ADC Ch. 1, NYC BC Ch. 1

Applicability	3	NYC PC Ch. 1
Fixtures, Faucets, and Fittings	4	NYC PC Ch. 4, NYC PC Ch. 6, NYC PC Ch. 8
Sizing	2	NYC PC Ch. 6, NYC PC Appendix E
Special Piping and Storage	2	NYC PC Ch. 12
Traps	1	NYC PC Ch. 10
<b>Gas Piping</b>	<b>29</b>	
Installation (Gas)	3	NYC FGC Ch. 1, NYC FGC Ch. 4
Maintenance (Gas)	3	NYC FGC Ch. 4, NYC ADC Ch. 3
Inspection Requirements (Gas)	3	NYC FGC Ch. 1, NYC FGC Ch. 4, NYC ADC Ch. 3
Permits (Gas)	3	NYC PC Ch. 1, NYC FGC Ch. 1, NYC ADC Ch. 1
Materials (Gas)	3	NYC FGC Ch. 4
Sizing (Gas)	3	NYC PC Ch. 8, NYC FGC Ch. 4
Gas Appliances	3	NYC PC Ch. 5, NYC PC Ch. 6
Drips and Sloped Piping	1	NYC FGC Ch. 4
Flow Controls	2	NYC FGC Ch. 4
Piping Support/Systems	3	NYC FGC Ch. 1, NYC FGC Ch. 4
Shut-off Valves	2	NYC FGC Ch. 4
<b>Water Supply</b>	<b>17</b>	
Installation (Water)	3	NYC PC Ch. 6
Maintenance (Water)	2	NYC PC Ch. 3
Inspection Requirements (Water)	2	NYC PC Ch. 1, NYC PC Ch. 3
Permits (Water)	3	NYC PC Ch. 1, NYC ADC Ch. 1
Water Recycling Systems	3	NYC PC Ch. 13
Water Distribution	4	NYC PC Ch. 3, NYC PC Ch. 4, NYC PC Ch. 6
<b>Fire Protection</b>	<b>10</b>	
Standpipe and Sprinkler Installation	3	NYC BC Appendix Q
Standpipe and Sprinkler Maintenance	3	NYC BC Ch. 33, NYC BC Appendix Q
Inspection Requirements (Fire)	2	NYC BC Appendix Q
Permits (Fire)	2	NYC ADC Ch. 1
<i>Note: NYC ADC = NYC Administrative Code. NYC BC = NYC Construction Codes: Building Code. NYC FGC = NYC Construction Codes: Fuel Gas Code. NYC PC = NYC Constructions Codes: Plumbing Code.</i>		

## Practical Examination Content Outline

The content outline for the New York City Master Plumber Practical Examination is provided below. The examination is divided into two parts. The outline lists all topics covered in the examination.

### Scope of Practical Examination

The examination will assess a candidate's skill in applying the relative portions of the NYC Codes, Rules and Regulations, as well as trade-specific industry knowledge.

### Master Plumber Practical Examination

Examination Parts	Topic	Time Allowed
Part 1	Black Steel Piping Assembly	4 hours
Part 2	Copper Sweat Assembly - Vertical	

## Reference List

The reference list provided below includes suggested materials that could assist you in preparing for the examination. The examination questions reference NYC Codes, Rules and Regulations. Please note that the references below may cite portions of other codes, rules, or regulations. You may be tested on information in these additional sources that are applicable to your trade. The knowledge that will be tested in the examinations will be taken from these materials in addition to applied field knowledge of the Master Plumber trade.

This is not an open book examination; candidates are not allowed to bring reference materials into the testing site.

1. *2022 NYC Administrative Code, Title 28, Chapter 1: Administration; Chapter 2: Enforcement; Chapter 3: Maintenance of Buildings*, [www.nyc.gov/buildings](http://www.nyc.gov/buildings).
2. *2022 NYC Construction Codes: Building Code, Chapter 1: Administration; Chapter 33: Safeguards During Construction or Demolition; Appendix G: Flood-Resistant Construction; Appendix Q: Modified National Standards for Automatic Sprinkler, Standpipe, Fire Pump, Fire Alarm, and Smoke Control Systems*, New York City Store, Order Department, One Centre Street, Room 2223, New York City, NY 10007, <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/buildings/codes/codes.page>.
3. *2022 NYC Construction Codes: Fuel Gas Code, Chapter 1: Administration; Chapter 3: General Regulations; Chapter 4: Gas Piping Installations*, New York City Store, Order Department, One Centre Street, Room 2223, New York City, NY 10007, <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/buildings/codes/codes.page>.
4. *2022 NYC Construction Codes: Plumbing Code, Chapter 1: Administration; Chapter 3: General Regulations; Chapter 4: Fixtures, Faucets and Fixture Fittings; Chapter 5: Water Heaters; Chapter 6: Water Supply and Distribution; Chapter 7: Sanitary Drainage; Chapter 8: Indirect/Special Waste; Chapter 9: Vents; Chapter 10: Traps, Interceptors and Separators; Chapter 11: Storm Drainage; Chapter 12: Special Piping and Storage Systems; Chapter 13: Nonpotable Water Systems; Appendix E: Sizing of Water Piping System*, New York City Store, Order Department, One Centre Street, Room 2223, New York City, NY 10007, <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/buildings/codes/codes.page>.

## Contact Information

For questions regarding application status, background investigation, examination application, or licensing fees, contact the Department of Buildings, Licensing & Exams Unit:

Email [LicenseExams@buildings.nyc.gov](mailto:LicenseExams@buildings.nyc.gov) or visit [www.nyc.gov/buildings](http://www.nyc.gov/buildings)

For questions regarding the administration of the written or practical examination or other general questions about the testing process, contact CPS HR:

Call 855-224-6977 or email [NYCDOB@cpsr.us](mailto:NYCDOB@cpsr.us)