

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA CLASS SPECIFICATION

Class Title: Plumbing Inspector

Class Code: 060265
Pay Grade: GI

A. Purpose:

Inspects plumbing installations to ensure proper compliance with plumbing codes and assists the public, plumbers, and plumbing contractors with plumbing questions.

B. Distinguishing Feature:

Plumbing Inspectors work statewide to inspect the work done by the public, journeymen plumbers, and plumbing contractors. The incumbent interprets the plumbing codes for plumbers and ensures that the work is in compliance with applicable plumbing codes. Building Maintenance Specialists maintain or install plumbing systems that may be inspected by a Plumbing Inspector.

C. Functions:

(These are examples only; any one position may not include all of the listed examples nor do the listed examples include all functions that may be found in positions of this class.)

1. Inspects plumbing installations to ensure compliance with plumbing rules and regulations.
 - a. Verifies that plumbers are licensed.
 - b. Looks at the methods and materials used.
2. Prepares written reports of all inspections to ensure plumbing installations comply with the plumbing code and are not a hazard.
 - a. Documents all inspections and discrepancies.
 - b. Recommends corrective action.
 - c. Follows up with correction reports by re-inspecting the installations to ensure errors have been corrected according to the Uniform Plumbing Code.
3. Follows up on correction reports to ensure errors have been corrected according to the plumbing code.
 - a. Contacts plumbers or property owners.
 - b. Re-inspects plumbing installations.
4. Presents information regarding the plumbing code to the public, plumbing contractors, and plumbers to ensure that the public receives accurate information.
 - a. Conducts workshops and classes.
 - b. Responds to requests for information.
5. Advises municipal inspectors, contractors, architects, various state agencies and consumers to ensure compliance with plumbing codes and regulations.
 - a. Interprets codes of building projects.
 - b. Reviews blueprints of building projects.

6. Performs other work as assigned.

D. Reporting Relationships:

Reports to Executive Director of the State Plumbing Commission.

E. Challenges and Problems:

Challenged to dealing directly with the public who are doing their own plumbing work. This is difficult because they have to convince them of the importance of installing plumbing safely.

Typical problems include allocating time to cover a large geographic area and arranging times to meet with citizens, plumbers, or plumbing contractors to do inspections; resolving differences of opinions regarding codes; and maintaining a good working relationship with the public, plumbers, and plumbing contractors while achieving inspection program goals.

F. Decision-making Authority:

Decisions made include the approval of plumbing installations; interpreting the national plumbing code; determining if a plumbing installation is a hazard; disapproving installations and enforcing corrective measures; and recommendations to improve state and national codes.

Decisions referred include contractor requests for a second opinion on an inspection or code interpretation, and questions regarding administrative matters involving the State Plumbing Commission.

G. Contact with Others:

Daily contact with licensed plumbers to answer code questions and inspect their work, with the public to inspect plumbing installations on their property. Monthly contact with plumbing and water supply personnel to discuss problems.

H. Working Conditions:

The Plumbing Inspector is in danger of asphyxiation from toxic gas. The incumbent works from home and travels a large section of the state perform inspections. The incumbent is available at all times of the day to make inspections or answer phone calls.

I. Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

Knowledge of:

- applicable laws, regulations, ordinances, and rules affecting plumbing;
- pertinent tools, equipment, and facilities;
- the most current SD Uniform Plumbing Code

Ability to:

- perform thorough inspection work;

- write clear, concise, and accurate reports;
- establish and maintain effective working relationships with the public;
- communicate information clearly and concisely;
- testify at hearings or in court;
- submit required paperwork;
- take direction;
- be flexible.

J. Licensure or Certification:

Must be licensed as a journeyman plumber or plumbing contractor.