

**STATE OF WISCONSIN**  
**CLASSIFICATION SPECIFICATION**

**STEAMFITTER**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

A. Purpose of This Classification Specification

This classification specification is the basic authority under ER 2.04, Wis. Adm. Code, for making classification decisions relative to present and future skilled trade positions located within state government. This classification specification will not specifically identify every eventuality or combination of duties and responsibilities of positions that currently exist, or those that result from changing program emphasis in the future. Rather, it is designed to serve as a framework for classification decision-making in this occupational area.

Classification decisions must be based on the “best fit” of the duties within the existing classification structure. The “best fit” is determined by the majority (i.e., more than 50%) of the work assigned to and performed by the position when compared to the class concepts and definition of this specification or through other methods of position analysis. Position analysis defines the nature and character of the work through the use of any or all of the following: definition statements; listing of areas of specialization; representative examples of work performed; allocation patterns of representative positions; job evaluation guide charts, standards or factors; statements of inclusion and exclusion; licensure or certification requirements; and other such information necessary to facilitate the assignment of positions to the appropriate classification.

B. Inclusions

This classification is to be used exclusively for positions performing the full range of journey level steamfitter work for a majority of the time.

C. Exclusions

Excluded from this classification are the following types of positions:

1. Positions that meet the definition of confidential, professional or supervisor as defined in s. 111.81 (7) and (13) and (19) as administered and interpreted by the Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission.
2. Positions that perform semi-skilled trades work for a majority of the time such as Facilities Repair Worker, Facilities Mechanic, or HVAC Specialist. Semi-skilled trades work means the repair or replacement of existing equipment or building components with equipment or components of the same kind and does not alter or affect the performance of any building system, structure, exterior walls, roof or exits.
3. All other positions that are more appropriately identified by other classification specifications.

- D. Entrance Into This Classification  
Employees enter positions in this classification through competition.

## II. DEFINITIONS

### STEAMFITTER

This is journey level steamfitter work. Employees lay out, assemble, install and maintain pipe systems, pipe supports, and related hydraulic and pneumatic equipment for steam, hot water, heating, cooling, lubricating, sprinkling, and industrial production and processing systems. Employees perform steamfitter work at the journey level of skill, normally on a full time basis; however, other related duties may also be assigned as necessary. Positions in this classification may also direct and instruct apprentices, helpers and other assistants.

Positions are assigned any combination of the following duties:

- Assemble and secure pipes, tubes, fittings and related equipment, according to specifications, by welding, brazing, cementing, soldering and threading joints.
- Attach pipes to walls, structures and fixtures, such as radiators or tanks, using brackets, clamps, tools or welding equipment.
- Cut and bore holes in structures, such as bulkheads, decks, walls, and mains, prior to pipe installation, using hand and power tools.
- Cut, thread, and hammer pipe to specifications, using tools such as saws, cutting torches, and pipe threaders and benders.
- Inspect, examine, and test installed systems and pipe lines, using pressure gauge, hydrostatic testing, observation, or other methods.
- Lay out full scale drawings of pipe systems, supports, and related equipment, following blueprints.
- Measure and mark pipes for cutting and threading.
- Modify, clean, and maintain pipe systems, units, fittings, and related machines and equipment, following specifications and using hand and power tools.
- Plan pipe system layout, installation, or repair according to specifications.
- Select pipe sizes and types and related materials, such as supports, hangers, and hydraulic cylinders, according to specifications.
- Install, repair and replace steam pipes, valves, traps, fittings, connections and equipment.
- Install heating and refrigerating systems.
- Repair hot water tanks, autoclaves, sterilizers and other steam equipment.
- Maintain, repair and calibrate the more complex thermostats, air conditioning controls and water meters.
- Maintain and repair power house steam lines.
- Perform gas and arc welding.
- Direct and instruct apprentices, helpers and other assistants in the trade.
- Keep records and make reports.

### **III. QUALIFICATIONS**

The qualifications required for these positions will be determined at the time of recruitment. Such determinations will be made based on an analysis of the goals and worker activities performed and by an identification of the education, training, work, or other life experience which would provide reasonable assurance that the knowledge and skills required upon appointment have been acquired.

Steamfitter: Graduation from high school or attainment of age 18 and completion of an apprenticeship approved by the Department of Workforce Development as a steamfitter. Formal recognition of status by the appropriate international or local trade organization or some type of similar formal validation of journey status may also be accepted. Persons having informal training and experience equivalent to the formal apprenticeship and journey status may also be accepted upon submission of documented proof of such training and experience.

Equivalent training and experience for this craft: Evidence of at least 8,000 hours of training and experience in all of the following work processes: (1) installation of residential and apartment heating systems; (2) installation of industrial and commercial heating, ventilation and refrigeration systems; (3) installation and repair of power house systems; (4) repair and servicing of all types of heating, refrigeration and air conditioning systems; (5) installation and final testing of all types of refrigeration and air conditioning systems; (6) installation and final adjustment of temperature controls; and (7) completion of 500 hours of prescribed instruction. Such evidence may include letters or statements from past customers/clients and/or employers.

### **IV. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

This classification was created in the 1970s. The specification was modified effective May 14, 2006 and announced in Bulletin OSER-0093-MRS/SC in order to convert the specification to the format used in 2006, provide more specific work examples, reinforce the requirements of the skilled trades and better distinguish the work of the skilled trades from that of the semi-skilled trades (such as Facilities Repair Worker, Facilities Mechanic, etc.).

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