

# Plumbers and Steamfitter/Pipefitters

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Heat Pumps

1. Is a Plumber able to install residential heat pumps?

Ductless split heat pump systems that require the installation of interconnected refrigerant (ACR) piping between the indoor and outdoor components require the work of a certified Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Mechanic. However, Plumbers may be involved in connecting the drain tubing lines to the building drain waste vent (and Construction Electricians to make the electrical connection from the junction box to the main electrical panel). If you are working in NS:

➔ [More Information](#) on the installation of residential heat pumps.

### G7 Gas Operator License

2. What does a G7 gas operator license allow a Plumber or Steamfitter/Pipefitter to do?

The G7 operator license is restricted to installing uncharged gas piping systems of any size from the outlet of the meter or second stage regulator to the last shut-off valve, before the appliance.

3. How does a Plumber or Steamfitter/Pipefitter obtain a G7 gas operator license?

**Option One:** Write the 50-question G7 exam, which is automatically scheduled for apprentices at the end of the technical training level in which the gas-related content is taught.

- Steamfitter/Pipefitters write at the same time as the level 3 exam.
- Plumbers write at the end of level 4 training.
- Those who pass the G7 exam and obtain their certificate of qualification in either Plumber or Steamfitter/Pipefitter will have 4 years (from the date of the exam writing) to apply to Technical Safety for a G7 license. After 4 years, they will have to apply to re-write the G7 exam using Option Two.

**Option Two:** Apply to Technical Safety to write the G7 exam and receive a G7 operator's license.

- This option is for Plumbers and Steamfitter/Pipefitters who either chose not to write the G7 exam at the end of technical training or wrote the exam and were unsuccessful; OR
- For Plumbers and Steamfitter/Pipefitters who allow four years to pass from the time they pass the G7 exam; OR
- For Plumbers and Steamfitter/Pipefitters who relocate to Nova Scotia.

4. What is the application process for options one and two?

- Complete [APPLICATION FORM](#)
- Pay application fee: \$126.00
- Provide proof of identity
- Provide proof of a Nova Scotia Certificate of Qualification and Certificate of Apprenticeship from 2005 or later (or equivalent) as a Plumber or Steamfitter/Pipefitter
- Provide G7 exam results for those who completed Option One
- Plumbers and Steamfitter/Pipefitters who do not complete their apprenticeship in Nova Scotia must also provide proof of having completed:
  - CSA Gas Fitter training modules 3, 4, 8 and 10; OR
  - Plumber apprenticeship course PLGA 1872 Gas Piping from the 2017 curriculum (which contains the CSA training modules above); OR
  - Plumber apprenticeship courses PLGA 1843 Gas Piping 1-Low Pressure & PLGA 1841 Gas Piping 2-High Pressure from the 2008 curriculum (which contains the CSA training modules above); OR
  - Steamfitter/Pipefitter apprenticeship courses STMA-1853 Gas Piping 1- Low Pressure and STMA-1854 Gas Piping 2- High Pressure (which contains the CSA training modules above)
- If approved, a G7 exam writing will be scheduled by the Technical Safety division and administered by the Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency (Option Two applicants only).

5. Where can I find more information about obtaining a G7 gas operator license?

➔ More information is found in [the Fuel Safety Regulations](#).



You may also contact:

Paul Fowler, Chief Inspector, Fuel Safety  
Labour, Skills and Immigration  
1-800-952-2687 | [Paul.Fowler@novascotia.ca](mailto:Paul.Fowler@novascotia.ca)

Marc LaMarche, Industry Training Consultant  
Nova Scotia Apprenticeship Agency  
1-902-578-0013 | [Marc.Lamarche@novascotia.ca](mailto:Marc.Lamarche@novascotia.ca)