



Date of Board Meeting: May 19, 2026

Subject: Plumbing Technology and Pipefitting Programs

Recommendation: Approve Plumbing Technology – Tradesman Program (Credit) & Pipefitting Noncredit Program (Noncredit)

Background and Rationale:

WCJC received special appropriations from the state for Phase II expansion of the Skills Trade Center, which includes the development of instructional programs in Plumbing and Pipefitting. These programs were initially designed as continuing education (noncredit) offerings, and two faculty members have been hired to develop curriculum and begin instruction in Fall 2026.

Following further review and based on faculty recommendation, the College is seeking Board approval of a new Plumbing program that is credit-bearing. The new program will provide students with a structured pathway to a credential of value while maintaining alignment with workforce needs. The second request seeks approval to offer a noncredit Pipefitting program delivered using the National Center for Construction Education & Research curriculum, consistent with the certification preferences of local industry partners.

The proposed curriculum for Plumbing will align with Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board guidelines for plumbing instruction and licensure, which reflect the Texas State Board of Plumbing Examiners’ five-course sequence designed to prepare students for the Tradesman Plumber-Limited License examination. While traditional training pathways require approximately two years and 4,000 hours of experience, this proposed Level I Certificate offers an accelerated pathway for students to attain licensure.

The Plumbing program consists of 15 semester credit hours and can be completed within a single semester, allowing the College to offer two cohorts per academic year, with the potential to expand summer professional training offerings. The curriculum includes the following courses:

- PFPB 1306 Basic Blueprint Reading for Plumbers
- PFPB 1323 Plumbing Codes 1
- PFPB 1321 Plumbing Maintenance and Repair
- PFPB 2308 Piping Standards and Materials
- PFPB 2309 Residential Construction Plumbing 1

Budgetary Implications: Funded within state special appropriations FY26 and FY27

Strategic Priority Alignment: Student Success Community Impact
 Resource Optimization Institutional Excellence

Resource Personnel: Leigh Ann Collins, Vice President of Instruction

Approval:

 Lac 5-4-26
Cabinet-Level Member

 Amanda (L) 5/19/26
President