

National Apprenticeship Week promo (November 13-19)

The Finishing Trades Institute of the Mid-Atlantic Region

The mission of the Finishing Trades Institute of the Mid-Atlantic Region (FTI) is to supply area contractors with the most highly skilled craftspeople in the construction industry. In particular, the six industries for which they have apprenticeship standards registered; Architectural Glass & Metal Installers (Glaziers), Coatings Applicator Specialist (Industrial Painters), Commercial Paint & Wall Covering, Drywall Finishing, Glassworkers, and Multi-Craft Decorators. The FTI designs programs that produce some of the best journeypersons, supervisors, and project managers in North America. The FTI provides a unique learning environment with state-of-the-art classroom and lab spaces. The FTI uses a competency based training model; as recommended by the U.S. Department of Labor. Besides its nationally recognized apprenticeship programs the FTI exists to provide some of the finest journeyperson continuing education courses in North America. The FTI uses a time proven model of related classroom theory training and hands-on activities to achieve the academic excellence for which it has been recognized. Because of its learning model, based on Organizational Development, Leadership, and Team Building principles, the FTI and its students are responsible and effective communicators that are proud of their abilities to learn quickly and lead effectively; increasing jobsite productivity and moral for the contractors for which they work. Moreover, each student graduates their apprenticeship with 60+ college credits to be used towards achieving their Associates Degree.

- Photos and logos attached
- Description of trades offered at FTI

COMMERCIAL PAINTER : The first priority of the Commercial Painters is to prepare the surface for the finishes to be applied. Some of the processes that are used are: wash, scrape, wire brush or sand the surface and, in some cases, use chemicals, electric scrapers, sandblasters or blow torches to remove old paint. It is the job of the applicator to sand any irregularities, fill cracks and holes, and remove excess dirt and grease. The Commercial Painters uses three major tools to apply paints and coatings: The spray gun, the roller, and the brush. The skilled Commercial Painters knows and uses what is best for each job. Although some PAINTERS do all types of painting, most specialize in one type, such as: interior or exterior work, new construction, signs, remodeling, particular structures and buildings (apartments, homes, bridges, water tanks, and structural steel), special effects and decorative designs, metal surfaces, or transportation equipment.

Working Conditions: Painting/Wall Covering is strenuous work, requiring much walking, standing, reaching, kneeling, stooping, climbing and carrying. Occupational hazards include falls from ladder or scaffolds, and skin or throat irritations from paint fumes and thinners. Exterior painters lose some work time each year due to bad weather. Interior painters who work primarily on new construction may lose work time during slowdowns in construction activity.

WALL COVERER : The Wall Coverer measures the surface he is to cover and cuts the covering to fit. Next the Wall Coverer mixes the adhesive, applies it to the back of the strip of the covering, places the strip in correct position on the wall and smooth's it with a smoothing brush or knife. They are very careful to match the paper's pattern, making sure the design continues from strip to strip without a visible break.

Painters and Wall Coverers may also estimate material, time and cost of each job, produce decorative designs, restore natural wood color by bleaching or refinishing, or apply special coatings.

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INDUSTRIAL & BRIDGE PAINTER : It is the task of the Industrial Painter to remove previous coatings and prepare substrates and surfaces for application of coatings and to apply those coatings where necessary on industrial structures. The Industrial Painter must possess an interprovincial trade qualification seal or a provincial certificate of trade qualification and certificates of apprenticeship as required.

The Industrial Painter must be skilled in surface preparation and coating application techniques. He or she must also be familiar with safety requirements of the job site, with the equipment associated with industrial painting, with personal and environmental hygiene practices and requirements of the trade. Due to the risks associated with this work, the industrial painter must be physically fit and not intimidated with the height of the work

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DRYWALL FINISHER : The Drywall Finisher finishes gypsum wallboard surfaces by taping, spotting, pointing, filling, finishing, and sanding joints, angles, internal and external corners, and all field surfaces. Skill is required in the use of hand filling and machine tool methods for both preparation and application techniques. As such, the Drywall Finisher shall be familiar with all aspects of the trade including: the tools, materials, procedures, environmental conditions on the job site as well as the regulations and standards of the various authorities having jurisdiction.

A skilled Drywall Finisher will be organized and capable of working independently. The Drywall Finisher shall possess a recognized certificate of trade qualification, certificates of apprenticeship as required, and have completed an approved training course, as well the Drywall Finisher shall have the minimum acceptable level of education as required by the industry. Safety is stressed in all aspects of the drywall finishing trade. Physical and health hazards include the dangers of toxic poisoning from paint and related material fumes and dusts and falls from elevated work platforms or ladders.

The Drywall Finisher will also be familiar with the regulations and standards which outline those requirements. The Drywall Finisher should be physically fit to perform the tasks required by the trade, and capable of taking detailed instruction on the job site.

Working Conditions: Standing, bending, some lifting (up to 75 lbs.). Coating and/or sanding with the use of a respirator. High production oriented craft.

GLAZIER : An Architectural Glass and Metal technician, called a Glazier, is responsible for selecting, cutting, installing, replacing, and removing all types of glass and architectural metal.

Work in the glazing field can include both residential and commercial projects. Residential projects may include replacing a home's window sash to improve energy efficiency; using various techniques and materials to incorporate good weatherization strategies; installing glass mirrors, architectural shower doors, and bathtub enclosures, glass or plastic solar panels; and fitting glass for tabletops and display cases. Commercial interior glazing projects include installing items such as heavy metal or glass decorative room dividers or security windows. Other glazing projects may involve installing storefront metal and glass for establishments such as supermarkets, auto dealerships, or banks. In the construction of large commercial buildings, glaziers fabricate architectural aluminum framework, layout and install such, weld, apply sealants and much more; using a large variety of architectural metal and glass systems.

An Architectural Glass and Metal technician, called a Glazier, is responsible for selecting, cutting, installing, replacing, and removing all types of glass and architectural metal. Work in the glazing field can include both residential and commercial projects. Residential projects may include replacing a home's window sash to improve energy efficiency; using various techniques and materials to incorporate good weatherization strategies; installing glass mirrors, architectural shower doors, and bathtub enclosures, glass or plastic solar panels; and fitting glass for tabletops and display cases. Commercial interior glazing projects include installing items such as heavy metal or glass decorative room dividers or security windows. Other glazing projects may involve installing storefront metal and glass for establishments such as supermarkets, auto dealerships, or banks. In the construction of large commercial buildings, glaziers fabricate architectural aluminum framework, layout and install such, weld, apply sealants and much more; using a large variety of architectural metal and glass systems.

Glaziers are continuously promoting the application of green technology with the use of solar performance and sustainability in the glazing trade. The glazing trade is specifically focused on energy efficient retrofitting projects as well as the design and installation of energy efficient weatherization materials and solar technology in both residential and commercial applications.

Care must be exercised in the removal and installation of all types of glass for building fixtures and other uses. Oftentimes, the glass is precut and mounted in frames at a factory or a contractor's shop. It arrives at the jobsite ready for glaziers to position and secure it in place. Cranes and hoists with suction cups may be used to lift large, heavy pieces of glass.

The work may have to be prepared either inside or outside a building, and scaffolding may be used in installations. Safe work habits are important in this trade. With advancements in building technology, welding skills and proper techniques are necessary to safely fasten the window system to the substrate. In order to prepare the glazier to properly perform welding techniques the glazier may be trained to the standards set forth by the American Welding Society (AWS.)

Working Conditions: Glaziers walk, bend, lift, crouch, climb, kneel and stand for long periods of time. Some of the lifting is heavy (maximum 75 lbs.). Glaziers also use hoists and/or cranes and move heavy material with various dollies and trucks.

- Time/date/location of apprenticeship exam:

The Finishing Trades Institute is the official training provider for District Council 21 and accepts Apprentice Applications exclusively online. To apply visit www.fti.edu/apply.html.

- Length of Apprenticeship:

4 years

- Starting rate of a first year apprentice:

Commercial Painter/Wall Coverer - \$17.21/hour plus benefits

Bridge Painter- \$27.60/hour plus benefits

Drywall Finisher- \$17.22/hour plus benefits

Glazier - \$18.27/ hour plus benefits

- Requirements necessary to enter the apprenticeship program include:

All applicants must have a High School Diploma or GED, a valid Driver's License, be 18 years of age or older, etc. The rest of the requirements can be found on the website at www.fti.edu/apply.html