

International Union of Painters and Allied Trades

We are the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, or IUPAT. We represent men and women in Canada and the United States who work in what are called the Finishing Trades – Industrial & Commercial Painting, Drywall Finishing, Glazing & Glass Work, Sign & Display and Floor Covering Installation, and many more successful careers in the construction industry and public sector.

When you are a part of a union, what you do for a living is more than just a job – it's a career! As a union member you receive training, benefits and a pension. The best part is that you have a job while we train you, so you earn while you learn!

Although a typical apprenticeship lasts four years, if someone has experience in a craft it can be much shorter.

Take a closer look at what the men and women of the IUPAT work in as a career in the Finishing Trades:

Painting: Painters are responsible for preparing, protecting, and decorating interior and exterior surfaces by applying paint, wallpaper and various special coatings. These can be applied in a number of different settings, and are generally divided into commercial and residential.

Drywall Finishing: Drywall finishers work on new walls and ceilings, and repair pre-existing walls. They may work in the commercial or residential industry, either for a contractor or general construction company.

Glazing: Glaziers are responsible for selecting, cutting, installing, replacing and removing all kinds of glass.

Hazmat: Hazmat or hazardous materials removal workers, remove materials that are harmful to people and the environment. They respond when hazardous materials need to be located and removed.

EIFS/Stucco: A stucco worker, also called an exterior insulated finishing system (EIFS) mechanic, works on the exteriors of buildings. Stucco workers apply coats of plaster or stucco to walls, ceilings, or partitions of buildings.

A Career with Huge Demand. A Secure Future. And Students Earn While They Learn.

Careers in the finishing trades come with a great salary, health and retirement benefits. Through paid apprenticeships, your students can become highly skilled commercial, or industrial painters, wall coverers, drywall finishers, glass workers (glaziers), floor coverers, or sign and display workers.

After all, in an age where university leaves many students with staggering debt and no job offers, earning while you learn in the finishing trades provides virtually unlimited opportunities.



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