



Drywall Finisher

Job Description

Drywall finishers seal joints between plasterboard or other wallboards, mix sealing compound, press paper tape over joints to embed tape into compound and seal joints, or tape joints using mechanical applicators that spread compound and embed tape in one operation. They sand rough spots after compound dries, fill cracks and holes in walls, and may apply texturing compound and primer to walls and ceilings preparatory to final finishing, using brushes, roller, or spray gun. They may countersink nails or screws below the surface of walls prior to applying sealing compound, using a hammer or a screwdriver.

Working Conditions

The work is done on residential, industrial, and commercial properties, both new and existing construction, inside as well as outside.

Length of Apprenticeship

The apprenticeship lasts three years. Apprentices must complete a minimum of 144 hours per year of related classroom training and a total of 6,000 hours on-the-job training.

Minimum Qualifications

Apprenticeship applicants must be at least 17 years of age. In addition, they must provide proof of high school graduation or general education development (GED) equivalent. Local apprenticeship committees may require additional qualifications.

Apprenticeship Committees

Portland Drywall Finishers JATC	Area
Portland: 503-287-4856	1, 2
Eugene: 541-747-1884	
www.paintertraining.org	



Wages (Average, State of Oregon, 2018)

Beginning apprentices start at 50 percent of the journey-level wage. Upon successful completion of the required related class work and on-the-job hours, wages increase periodically, usually every six months, until reaching the journey-level rate.

- **Hourly:** \$25.40
- **Annual:** \$52,830