



**FINISHING TRADES INSTITUTE**  
of the MID ATLANTIC REGION  
Where Quality Education is Priority #1



# SPOTLIGHT

## Finishing Trades Institute At a Glance

**Glazing Teaching Staff** 3 full-time | 11 part-time

**Main Campus** 2190 Hornig Road, Philadelphia, PA

**Northeast PA Campus** 66 Azalea Drive, Drums, PA

**Geographic Reach** Eastern PA, Southern NJ, and all of DE

**FTI was the first Dept. of Education accredited union training program!**



## ABOUT FTI

The Finishing Trades Institute of the Mid Atlantic Region (FTI) provides training for the apprentices and journeypersons of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, District Council 21 (DC 21). DC 21 total membership of 4,000 includes 1,250 glaziers. FTI has been registered with the Department of Labor since 1946 and in 2009, became [North America's first Department of Education accredited union training program](#). Accreditation means each graduating apprentice earns a specialized associate degree and can continue his or her education to earn bachelor's or master's degrees.

FTI is helping recruit and build a smarter, more diverse, and motivated workforce. Education has always been at the forefront of FTI initiatives. Today's construction workers need strong construction training plus analysis, problem-solving, and communication skills; the ability to organize and prioritize tasks; and a strong work ethic. FTI's custom learning system includes a digital curriculum available on iTunes University. Apprentices work on iPads and instructors can add new content at any time and grade online for streamlined teaching and learning.



# FTI Mission

To supply area contractors with the most highly skilled crafts-people in the construction industry.

## FTI Accomplishments

- Over 100,000 sf of training space including an interior three-story steel structure used for blueprint reading, hands-on skills development, welding, and health and safety training.
- 2009 Full accreditation from U.S. Department of Education.
- 2011 \$5.6 million Green Jobs Training Fund Grant.
- 2012 Department of Labor Innovator and Trailblazer Award.
- 2012 Construction Users Round Table (CURT) Workforce Development Award.
- 2014 IUPAT General President's Achievement Award recognizing success in apprenticeship training and education.
- 2016 Approval to award Associate in Specialized Technology (AST) degree for glazier program.
- 2016 ACE Mentor Program Eastern Pennsylvania Organization of the Year Award.
- 2018 Articulation agreement between FTI and Jefferson University; up to 72 apprenticeship credits are accepted toward a B.S. in Building Construction Studies.
- 2019 First commencement ceremony for FTI-awarded degrees.

## Future Workforce

FTI received a \$435,000 grant from the Philadelphia School Partnership to provide vocational training to Philadelphia high school students. Beginning in January 2018, seniors from Philadelphia public, charter, and Catholic high schools have the opportunity to attend FTI full time, earning six industry certifications and 30 college credits. The grant expands FTI's existing Vocational Intern Partnership (VIP) program from one day per week to a four-day immersive program. In addition to supporting a strong workforce, these programs dramatically increase the number of minority students in FTI apprenticeship programs.

*"Career and technical education programs like VIP are now more important than ever as we find alternatives to the traditional four-year college and the inherent debt that comes with it. CTE programs provide students with both valuable trade and life skills, as well as transferable college credits and industry certifications, all at little or no cost to the student."*

*- Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney*

## Learn More

FTI offers Allied Trades Continuing Education and Health and Safety training. **Visit [www.fti.edu](http://www.fti.edu) to learn more.**

Top to bottom: Glazier Academy Cadets prepare curtain wall mock-ups for water testing; Philadelphia School Partnership grant being received by FTI (Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney at far left); cadets erect stick-built curtain wall section

