

NCCER DRYWALL CURRICULUM

The following is a brief description of subjects contained in both levels of the drywall program as well as the core curricula that all level one students are expected to pass.

CORE CURRICULUM

The core curricula provides a basic introduction to construction work for all crafts. The core curriculum consists of 9 modules taught through in-person instruction and supplemented by online programming.

Basic Safety

Presents basic jobsite safety information to prepare workers for the construction environment. Describes the common causes of workplace incidents and accidents and how to avoid them. Introduces common personal protective equipment (PPE), including equipment required for work at height, and its proper use. Information related to safety in several specific environments, including welding areas and confined spaces, is also provided.

Introduction to Construction Math

Reviews basic math skills related to the construction trades and demonstrates how they apply to the trades. Covers multiple systems of measurement, decimals, fractions, and basic geometry.

Introduction to Hand Tools

Introduces common hand tools used in a variety of construction crafts. Identifies tools and how to safely use them. Proper hand tool maintenance is also presented.

Introduction to Power Tools

Identifies and describes the operation of many power tools common in the construction environment. Provides instruction on proper use, as well as on safe-handling guidelines and basic maintenance.

Introduction to Construction Drawings

Introduces the basic elements of construction drawings. The common components of drawings are presented, as well as the most common drawing types. The use of drawing scales and how to measure drawings is also covered.

Basic Rigging

Provides basic information related to rigging and rigging hardware, such as slings, rigging hitches, and hoists. Emphasizes safe working habits in the vicinity of rigging operations.

Basic Communication Skills

Provides good techniques for effective communication on the job. Includes examples that emphasize the importance of both written and verbal communication skills. Describes the importance of reading skills in the construction industry and covers proper techniques to use in a variety of different written communication formats.

Basic Employability Skills

Describes the opportunities offered by the construction trades. Discusses critical thinking and essential problem-solving skills for the construction industry. Also identifies and discusses positive social skills and their value in the workplace.

Introduction to Material Handling

Describes the hazards associated with handling materials and provides techniques to avoid both injury and property damage. Common material-handling equipment is also introduced.

DRYWALL – LEVEL ONE

Orientation to the Trade

Reviews the history of the trade, shows examples of the work involved, describes the apprentice program, identifies career opportunities for construction workers, and lists the responsibilities and characteristics a worker should possess.

Construction Materials and Methods

Gives the trainees an overview of the materials and techniques used in building and finishing residential and commercial buildings, including wood-framed and steel-framed structures, masonry construction, and concrete-formed structures.

Thermal and Moisture Protection

Covers the selection and installation of various types of insulating materials in walls, floors, and attics. Also covers the uses and installation practices for vapor barriers and waterproofing materials.

Drywall Installation

Describes the various types of gypsum drywall, their uses, and the fastening devices and methods used to install them. Contains detailed instructions for installing drywall on walls and ceilings using nails, drywall screws, and adhesives. Also covers fire-rated and sound-rated walls.

Drywall Finishing

Covers the materials, tools, and methods used to finish and patch gypsum drywall. Includes coverage of both automatic and manual taping tools.

DRYWALL – LEVEL TWO

Commercial Drawings

Focuses on techniques for reading and using architectural and structural drawings and specifications.

Steel Framing

Describes the types and grades of steel framing and provides instructions for selecting and installing steel framing for interior walls, exterior nonbearing walls, and partitions. Includes coverage of engineered framing systems.

Acoustical Ceilings

Covers the materials, layout, and installation procedures for many types of suspended ceilings used in commercial construction, as well as ceiling tiles, drywall suspension systems, and pan-type ceilings.

Interior Specialties

Covers the composition and use of various specialty interior finishing products, such as vinyl-covered and fabric-covered panels, wood wall, and ceiling panels, and glass fiber-reinforced gypsum (GFRG) panels.

Exterior Cladding

Covers a variety of specialized exterior finish products, including EIFS, stucco, synthetic veneer stone, panelized cladding, and glass fiber-reinforced concrete (GFRC) panels.

Specialty Finishes

Covers the materials, tools, and application methods used for specialized interior finishes, such as sand, marble, clay, and Venetian plaster.



THE NCCER PROGRAM

NCCER (National Center for Construction Education & Research) maintains a portable and widely recognized credentialing and certification system through its Registry. This Registry assures portability of skills by providing transcripts, certificates, and wallet cards to students who successfully complete the NCCER Curriculum through an accredited sponsor. These valuable industry credentials benefit students as they seek employment and build their careers. To be entered in NCCER's Automated National Registry, you must complete and sign a Registration and Release form. This form will be completed on the first night of class in each semester and requires your Social Security Number and your signature.

NCCER has developed a consistent program of accreditation, instructor certification, standardized curriculum, registry, assessment, and certification, which is a key element in developing a skilled workforce of craft professionals.

NCCER is the accrediting body for the industry and establishes the benchmark for quality training and assessments. By partnering with industry and academia, NCCER has developed a system for program accreditation that is similar to those found in institutions of higher learning. This process ensures that students receive quality training based on uniform standards and criteria.

The NCCER Curriculum, in cooperation with publishing partner Pearson, has developed and publishes a world-class curriculum created by "Subject Matter Experts" representing contractors and schools from around the country. "Subject Matter Experts" ensure exceptional training programs that meet or exceed national industry standards. The NCCER Curriculum, which includes more than 60 craft areas, is taught worldwide by contractors, associations, construction users, and secondary and post-secondary schools. In addition, multiple State Departments of Education recognize the curriculum along with the U.S. Department of Labor - Office of Apprenticeship.