

What should I expect from a 3M Preferred Training and Testing?

All 3M Preferred classes are a combination of a written and skilled based testing. Once you pass this test you will become a 3M Preferred Installer in the area you tested (ie: 3M Fleet Preferred Installer). You will also be added to the into [3M's Installer locator](#) so customers can find skilled professional, like you, to get their job done with confidence.

What is the Installer Training Schedule for 2021?

Always check 3M.com/GraphicsTraining site as changes to the schedule may occur.

Are 3M™ Installer Training classes only offered in St. Paul, MN?

No, we have Authorized Training facilities across the US:

- [3M Center](#) in St. Paul, MN
- [Lowen Certified](#) in Hutchinson, KS
- [Geek Wraps](#) in Ft. Lauderdale, FL
- [Wrapix Academy](#) in Burbank, CA.
- [Accent Distribution](#) in Sarasota, FL
- [Energy Products Distribution](#) in Parkville, MD
- [Interwest Distribution](#) in Littleton, CO

See the list of programs and where they are offered.

3M Certified Certifications are only offered at 3M St. Paul.

I am new to 3M Films, which course should I register for?

Three important things to consider when registering for a 3M training course:

- 1) What market are you focused on? Find a training that is best suited to that market need:
 - **Digital Printing** – 3M Graphics Films Installation Training for Windows, Walls, Floors (WWF) and 3M Graphics Films Installation Training for Fleet
 - **Architectural** – 3M Films Training for DI-NOC™ Architectural Finishes
 - **Color Change** - 3M Films Installation Training for Vehicle Color Change
 - **Window Tinting** - 3M Films Installation Training for Automotive Window Films
 - **Paint Protection Films** - 3M Films Installation Training for Paint Protection Films

- 2) Your current skill level. 3M Preferred hands on-tests are intended for installers with well-established skill sets. 3M does not recommend new installers take the Preferred Test.
- 3) 3M offers Intro courses. These are a 1-day course learning the fundamentals of the vinyl and installation techniques these courses help to prepare you for the 3M Films Installation Training courses.

Is 3M Certified changing?

The changes to the 3M Certified Company are the following:

- The 3M Preferred Installer is split into different types of market segments accreditations. The two accreditations an installer will need to have as a prerequisite to become a 3M Certified Company are - The 3M Windows, Walls & Floors Preferred Installer and the 3M Fleet Graphics Preferred Installer. Both accreditations will only be offered at the 3M Application Center in St. Paul, MN.
- The structure of the 3M Certified Company training will change to the updated 3M Graphic Films Installation Training for Windows, Walls, Floors and Fleet.

I have been installing for 10+ years, will I find a benefit in taking 3M's training course?

Yes! 3M Films, tools and techniques have changed over the years. With all our courses across the globe, we use the latest in film techniques, tools and technologies. The courses will help you individually, and/or your company to optimize your workflow by using the latest in 3M film technologies. Being a Preferred Installer in your industry will help set you apart from your competition.

Can I take the 3M Preferred test if I have not taken training?

Yes, if the installer feels confident enough to take the 3M Preferred test, they are welcome to do so. However, 3M Preferred hands on-tests are intended for installers with well-established skill sets. We strongly suggest everyone to register for the training to prepare themselves for the Preferred Test. For more information please contact Todd Straub at tmstraub@mmm.com

I don't have any tools – what do I need to bring to training?

Tools will be supplied during any training program. During the classes, other great tool recommendations will be offered as options to help assist the installs. If you prefer to bring your own tools to training, that is allowed.

I have a couple of employees I would like to send to training. There are some specific things I would like them to learn, is this possible?

Course descriptions and agendas are provided. If what you are looking for is not listed, 3M offers [Custom Training](#) with a 3M Authorized Trainer to meet your needs at your facility with your team.

Does 3M offer additional trainings aside from Commercial Graphic Installations?

Yes, 3M offers a wide variety of trainings from Vehicle Color Change, Architectural, Paint Protection Films, Automotive Window Films, Illuminated Signage and more.

How much does training cost?

The average cost for training is \$500.00 a day.

How many days is 3M training?

This is depending on which course you take. Installer trainings range from one to three days. If you sign up for testing, this is an additional day added onto the training days.

I am not from the area, where do I stay when taking training at 3M in St. Paul?

When you register, 3M will send you information on the hotels near our campus.

When training in St. Paul, is transportation included to and from the hotel every day?

All recommended hotels will have shuttle services going to and from the 3M Campus.

What are the St. Paul class times?

Class times are typically 7am to 4pm.

How many students are in a training?

3M St. Paul Campus typically teaches up to 12 students. During the COVID-19 pandemic, trainings on the 3M Campus will be reduced to 6 students per course. If you are considering a 3M Authorized Training Facility, typically they have 6 - 12 students per course, however, please check with them on their class size during the COVID-19 pandemic.

If I take 3M training, do I have to take the 3M Preferred test the same week?

No, you only take the testing if you feel ready and comfortable to do so.

What is the difference between being a 3M Preferred Installer and 3M Certified Company?

The 3M Preferred Installer is for the Individual and the 3M Certified Company is for the Company. Please see the registration page for further information.

What do I need to bring to 3M training to be prepared?

3M and/or 3M Authorized Training sites will provide all materials and tools needed.

I already have a 3M Preferred Graphics Installer title; how do the new 2021 program changes affect my title?

Anyone who has passed the 3M Graphics Preferred Installation Test prior January 4, 2021 will be grandfather into the 3M Fleet Graphics Preferred Installer and 3M Windows, Walls, and Floors Preferred Installer. These are now two titles and will be represented that way on our locator.

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What will happen to my 3M™ Knifeless Endorsed and 3M™ Architectural Endorsed titles?

Anyone who has been 3M Endorsed in Knifeless will be grandfather to 3M™ Vehicle Color Change Preferred Installer. The 3M Architectural Endorsed title will be grandfathered to 3M™ DINOC™ Architectural Finishes Preferred Installer.

I took 3M Advanced Installation Training and Testing a few years ago. Is there any value for me to register for the new 3M Graphics Films Installation Training for Walls, Windows and Floors or the 3M Graphics Films Installation Training for Fleet?

It is up to you, however, is highly recommended to take the new training classes. The new 3M Graphics Films Installation Training for WWF and Fleet has been updated to the newest techniques and 3M films used in the industry. This would be a great opportunity to learn new techniques and refresh your skills.