



Certified Installer Program Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why did VSI create this program?

VSI began the VSI Certified Installer course in 2005 as a way to help prevent improper vinyl siding installation, which is the primary cause of poor product performance and homeowner dissatisfaction. VSI believes that proper installation can be achieved by training and certifying installers through a standardized program.

Q: Who can be certified?

VSI recognizes individuals as *Certified Installers* based on a combination of work experience and successful completion of a course of training and examination based on the body of knowledge and applied skills needed to properly install vinyl siding as well as soffit and accessories.

Installers with a minimum of two years of installation experience can become a *VSI Certified Installer*. Those with less than two years of experience can still attend a training course as a Non-certification Participant or as an Apprentice Installer; however, for an Apprentice Installer, certification cannot be achieved until the required experience is completed.

Q: Does the program certify installers to an industry standard?

Certification is based on *ASTM D4756, Standard Practice for Installation of Rigid Poly (Vinyl Chloride) (PVC) Siding and Soffit*, as detailed in the *VSI Vinyl Siding Installation Manual*, which is updated on a regular basis and last revised December 2014. Training must be conducted by a *VSI Certified Trainer*.

Q: How do I become certified?

For skilled siding installers, becoming a *VSI Certified Installer* is easy – just take a class taught by a *VSI Certified Trainer* and pass an exam that tests your knowledge about vinyl siding installation. Classes are offered across the U.S. and Canada. If a classroom is not convenient, VSI offers an online certification class. Go at your own pace – all at once, or chapter at a time, whenever and wherever you want.

Q: How long is certification good for?

Certification through the *VSI Certified Installer Program* is valid for three years. Certified Installers must recertify and provide verification that they have remained active installing vinyl siding during the period of their certification. Upon contacting the Administrator and payment of the recertification fee, the Certified Installer will receive an open book examination via mail or online. Passing this examination is required for each additional three-year certification.

Q: Who administers the program?

While VSI sponsors the program, [DataBanque](#) is responsible for registration, required document verification, examinations, scoring, issuing credentials, record maintenance, and performing other services applicable to the administrative function of the program.

Q: How much does it cost to become a Certified Installer?

The Certified Trainer sets the fees for Certified Installer classes, which include a Certification Administrative Fee that goes to the Administrator. Fees are approximately \$175.

Q: How are Certified Installers listed and identified?

VSI Certified Installers are listed on the [Official Registry of Certified Installers](#) on the VSI website, www.vinylsiding.org and have use of a program logo. Certified Installers receive a photo identification badge and a certificate with expiration dates.

Q: Is vinyl siding itself certified?

VSI also sponsors the *VSI Vinyl Siding Product Certification Program* that allows manufacturers to certify, with independent third-party verification, that their vinyl siding meets or exceeds *ASTM D3679*, the industry standard for quality.

Q: Who is responsible for bad installation?

The installer or installing company is responsible for its installation. VSI's role is limited to validating that individuals are properly trained and companies are properly staffed and managed to install certified vinyl siding, soffit, and accessories, consistent with *ASTM D4756*.