



National Certification for Interior Design Qualification

NCIDQ Certification is the industry's highest recognition of proficiency in interior design principles and a designer's commitment to the profession.

Professional interior designers who possess the NCIDQ Certification have distinguished themselves by demonstrating a specific set of core competencies, supported by verified work experience and a college degree. They have proven their expertise in understanding and applying current codes established to protect public health, safety and welfare. They are passionate about their profession and dedicated to its recognition and integrity.

The strenuous requirements of the NCIDQ Examination give clients and employers added confidence in the caliber of work from NCIDQ Certified designers. The exam covers seven areas that capture the core competencies of interior design: building systems, codes, construction standards, contract administration, design application, professional practice and project coordination. The exam's contents are regularly updated to ensure they reflect the most current knowledge required to design safe, functional and innovative interior spaces.

To earn certification, qualified interior designers can apply to take the NCIDQ Examination. Qualified interior designers must possess a Bachelors or Masters degree in Interior Design or Architecture along with 2-3 years full time experience working under the direct supervision of a NCIDQ Certified Interior Designer or licensed Architect. After CIDQ approves their eligibility, candidates register for each of the three sections of the exam and must pass each section within a specified time-frame.