Hello!

Kimberly Woods

Director of Engagement

kwoods@cidq.org

202-721-0226

CIDQ Council for Interior Design Qualification

225 Reinekers Lane

Suite 210

Alexandria, VA 22314

www.cidq.org

inquiries@cidq.org

202-721-0220

Council for Interior Design Qualification

NCIDQ The Mark of a Professional®

Panel Discussion

Moderator

Rose Botti Salitsky

ASID NE Government
Affairs Representative

UMass – Dartmouth
Program Coordinator

Sarah Narburgh

BS – Interior Design

(Endicott College, 2016)

NCIDQ Certified since 2019

Kseniia Bimbashi

Master of Interior Architecture

(Boston Architectural College, 2018)

NCIDQ Certified since 2020

Jennifer Ferreira

BS – Interior Design

(Mount Ida College, 2013)

NCIDQ Certified since 2019

CIDQ Council for Interior Design Qualification

NCIDQ The Mark of a Professional®

Why is NCIDQ Certification Important?

- Industry Standard

- Differentiator

- Recognized by nearly all regulated jurisdictions in North America

- Increased Salary Potential
  - NCIDQ certification makes a difference. Median salary is $16k higher compared to those not currently holding any type of certifications and credentials.
    - Source: ASID 2019 Interior Design Salaries & Benefits: General Report

  - Those with an NCIDQ certification reported a median salary $10,000 greater than those without ($70,000 versus $60,000).
    - Source: 2018 IIDA Interior Design Compensation Report

What You Need to Know

- Recent News for 2021
- Exam Information
  - Basics and Exam Blueprints
- Application Process
  - Eligibility Paths – Education + Work Experience
- Dates, Deadlines, and Fees
- Studying for the Exams
- Certification

*For all information and questions, please visit www.cidq.org.

Recent News for 2021

Important

- New exam blueprints are in effect for the spring 2021 administration. These blueprints reflect the results of the 2019 Practice Analysis (survey of the profession).

- Candidates taking the Practicum Exam are utilizing and applying new codes.

Exam Basics

The NCIDQ Exam consists of 3 separate sections:

Exam Name	Format	Number of Questions	Duration
Fundamentals (IDFX)	Multiple Choice	125*	3 hours
Professional (IDPX)	Multiple Choice	175*	4 hours
Practicum (PRAC)	Hot Spot, Drag and Place, Fill in the Blank	120*	4 hours

*The IDFX and IDPX Exams each contain 25 ungraded pre-test questions. The PRAC Exam contains 15 ungraded pre-test questions, 5 per case study.

2020 Statistics		
Exam Name	Exams Administered	Passing Rate
Fundamentals (IDFX)	1,628	69%
Professional (IDPX)	1,386	64%
Practicum (PRAC)	1,285	73%

Practicum Exam

- No drawing

- Not software specific

- 120 total questions

- 4 hours in duration

- 3 separate case studies (large commercial, small commercial, residential) with provided resources (tabs)

Demo available on YouTube: https://youtu.be/tOiw9Wll7cQ and at https://www.cidq.org/practicum
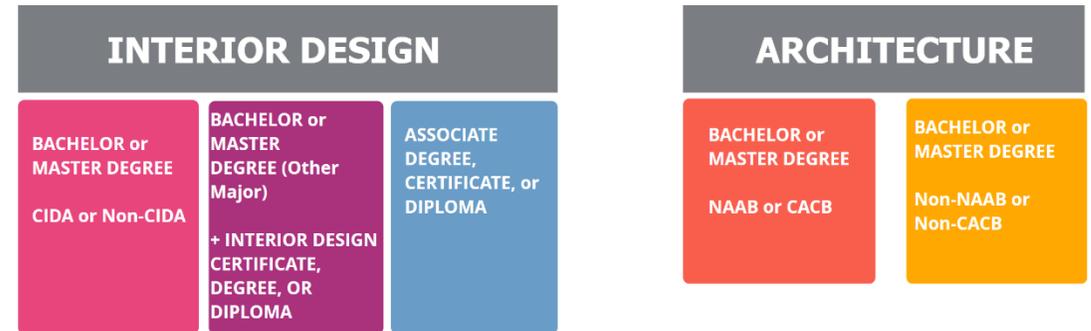
Eligibility Paths

Education

Official education transcripts must include a minimum of 60 semester or 90 quarter credit hours of post-secondary interior design coursework that encompasses a certificate, degree, or diploma from an accredited institution to be eligible.

Experience **Hours must be earned and affirmed by a Direct Supervisor and/or Sponsor***

- Up to 1,760 hours of interior design work experience, earned prior to graduation, may be included in overall work experience total.
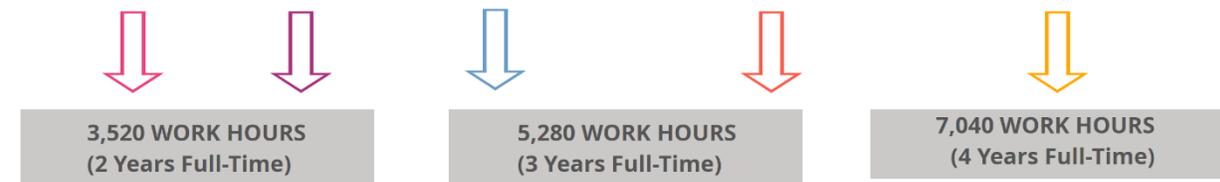
Education

Official education transcripts must include a minimum of 60 semester or 90 quarter credit hours of post-secondary interior design coursework that encompasses a certificate, degree, or diploma from an accredited institution to be eligible.

INTERIOR DESIGN		
BACHELOR or MASTER DEGREE CIDA or Non-CIDA	BACHELOR or MASTER DEGREE (Other Major) + INTERIOR DESIGN CERTIFICATE, DEGREE, OR DIPLOMA	ASSOCIATE DEGREE, CERTIFICATE, or DIPLOMA

ARCHITECTURE	
BACHELOR or MASTER DEGREE NAAB or CACB	BACHELOR or MASTER DEGREE Non-NAAB or Non-CACB

+ Experience Hours must be earned and affirmed by a Direct Supervisor and/or Sponsor*

Up to 1,760 hours of interior design work experience, earned prior to graduation, may be included in overall work experience total.

3,520 WORK HOURS (2 Years Full-Time)	5,280 WORK HOURS (3 Years Full-Time)	7,040 WORK HOURS (4 Years Full-Time)

Meeting CIDQ's education and work experience requirements does not guarantee that a candidate will meet their jurisdiction's requirements to be a licensed/registered/certified interior designer. Individuals are reminded to check with their jurisdiction regarding those specific requirements.

*For full eligibility paths and work experience requirements, visit https://www.cidq.org/paths.

Application Requirements

IDFX ONLY

- Request school to email official transcript(s) to CIDQ directly at transcripts@cidq.org (preferred method) or mail in sealed, official transcript(s).
- Pay application fee and submit.

PLUS apply for IDPX/PRAC (*after* approval of IDFX ONLY and completion of work experience)

- Request school to email official transcript(s) to CIDQ directly at transcripts@cidq.org (preferred method) or mail in sealed, official transcript(s).
- Upload completed work verification form(s).
- Pay application fee and submit.

OR

All Three (3) Sections of Exam (IDFX, IDPX, PRAC)

- Request school to email official transcript(s) to CIDQ directly at transcripts@cidq.org (preferred method) or mail in sealed, official transcript(s).
- Upload completed work verification form(s).
- Pay application fee and submit.

Fees

Fees if Applying in Two Parts*

APPLICATION FEE	EXAMS	EXAM FEE	EXAM PAYMENT & SCHEDULING PERIOD
$95	IDFX	$295	**Spring:** January 3 – March 31 **Fall:** July 1 – September 30
$145	IDPX	$355	
	PRAC	$460	

*Candidates who do not meet the work experience requirement and apply for the IDFX Only first must submit another application for the IDPX/PRAC once the work experience requirements have been met.

Fees if Applying for all Three (3) Exam Sections

APPLICATION FEE	EXAMS	EXAM FEE	EXAM PAYMENT & SCHEDULING PERIOD
$225	IDFX	$295	**Spring:** January 3 – March 31 **Fall:** July 1 – September 30
	IDPX	$355	
	PRAC	$460	

Dates and Deadlines

	SPRING EXAMS	FALL EXAMS
Applications Accepted	August 1 – January 31 **DEADLINE: January 31***	February 1 – July 31 **DEADLINE: July 31***
Exam Payment & Scheduling Period	January 3 – March 31	July 1 – September 30
Exam Administration	April 1 – 30	October 1 – 31

*A complete application must be submitted by the application deadline date to be eligible for review for the upcoming exam administration.

Studying for the Exams

STUDY GROUPS

As the author and administrator of the NCIDQ Exam, CIDQ does not teach the exam or offer advice on coursework to take in preparation for it. However, CIDQ does provide information on study groups, as a service to NCIDQ candidates, when such notices become available to CIDQ staff. Below, you can find a list of interior design association chapters who offer NCIDQ study sessions on a regular basis. CIDQ cannot validate the usefulness of such study groups, nor guarantee the availability of study groups in any specific region or time frame.

In addition, outside companies have developed study tools for the exams. CIDQ does not review or endorse any outside company's exam prep resources and is not responsible for content found in those materials. Outside test prep providers are not involved in any way with developing or scoring this exam.

NCIDQ STUDY GROUPS

EXAM RESOURCES:
The Reference List contains resources used in the development of the NCIDQ Exam.

EXAM REFERENCE LIST

Studying for the Exams

TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

IDFX Practice Questions

IDPX Practice Questions

EXAM BLUEPRINTS (CONTENT OUTLINES):

FUNDAMENTALS (IDFX) EXAM BLUEPRINT

PROFESSIONAL (IDPX) EXAM BLUEPRINT

PRACTICUM (PRAC) EXAM BLUEPRINT

Studying for the Exams – Practicum specific

PRACTICUM EXAM CODES   **PRACTICUM CASE STUDY STANDARDS**

SPRING 2021 PRACTICUM EXAM CODES

specific to spring 2021

*To view the full Spring 2021 Practicum Exam Codes,
visit https://www.cidq.org/study.

NCIDQ Examination

Spring 2021 Practicum Exam Codes

With the shift to the use of the International Building Code (IBC)(2018) for the Spring 2021 Exam Administration, CIDQ would like to provide additional information which may be helpful to candidates in understanding the changes specifically related to the Practicum exam.

In an effort to be as transparent as we can be without compromising the integrity of the NCIDQ exam, we have developed the Code document below in order for you to know what to expect on exam day. Below is the Table of Contents for the NCIDQ Exam - Building Codes and Regulations document that will appear on the Spring 2021 exam. The actual exam document will include the content directly from the IBC for each of the Chapters/Sections identified below (minus any images). The Building Code document will be provided as part of the Case Study for each question. We hope this document will help you narrow down the Code information you should familiarize yourself with for the upcoming exam.

Please note that each Case Study will have a different Code document attached, including only those Codes that are applicable to that Case Study. The Codes identified below are all inclusive, and therefore, applicable to at least one of the three Case Studies that will be on the Spring 2021 exam.

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2018 INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE

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SECTION 105   PERMITS
SECTION 107   SUBMITTAL DOCUMENTS
CHAPTER 2 DEFINITIONS
CHAPTER 3 OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION AND USE
SECTION 302   OCCUPANCY CLASSIFICATION AND USE DESIGNATION
SECTION 303   ASSEMBLY GROUP A
SECTION 304   BUSINESS GROUP B
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SECTION 306   FACTORY GROUP F
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Jurisdictional Regulation

- Be sure to check with your local jurisdiction to ensure you are in compliance with local laws and regulations.

*For more information, visit https://www.cidq.org/regulated-jurisdictions.

Thank You! Any Questions???

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inquiries@cidq.org

202-721-0220

Kimberly Woods

Director of Engagement

kwoods@cidq.org

202-721-0226

Did you know?
Educators can request a group application discount for students applying for IDFX Only.