

# HOW NCIDQ EXAM SCORES ARE CALCULATED

NCIDQ Examination and  
Certification for the  
Professional Practice of  
Interior Design



## STEP 1



### ESTABLISH STANDARD

Through a facilitated process, a panel of subject matter experts (SMEs), all NCIDQ-Certified volunteers, determines what a 'Minimally Competent Candidate' will be expected to know and not know, in accordance with the exam blueprint.

## STEP 2



### RATE QUESTIONS

Individual panel members take the exam and rate how many 'Minimally Competent Candidates' out of 100 would answer each question correctly.

## STEP 3



### ANALYZE SCORES & RATINGS

Panel members' exam results and ratings are statistically correlated, and an average pass score is derived for discussion. The panel then focuses on questions where the ratings deviate and adjustments are made to individual ratings.

# PASSING SCORE

## STEP 4

### FINAL RECOMMENDATION

Final ratings are calculated and analyzed, resulting in a recommendation for a final passing score. The CIDQ Board of Directors reviews the work of the panel and decides whether to accept the panel recommendation or modify within statistically valid parameters to arrive at the passing score.



Council for  
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Qualification

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