FALSE STATEMENT: NCIDQ-certified Interior Designers do not have the education, experience, and testing to provide health, safety, and welfare-related interior design services.

TRUE STATEMENT: NCIDQ-Certified Interior Designers (CIDs) undergo formal education, thousands of hours of paid, supervised experience, and an internationally-recognized, eleven-hour certification exam to prepare for protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public in practice. CIDs are eminently qualified to independently design non-loadbearing, non-seismic, and non-structural interior design elements in code-regulated spaces.
NCIDQ Examination Eligibility Paths

Specific education and work experience requirements exist to be eligible to sit for the NCIDQ Examination.

**EDUCATION**

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

**INTERIOR DESIGN**

- **Bachelor or Master Degree**
  - CIDA or Non-CIDA
  - + Interior Design Degree

- **Bachelor or Master 'Other Major' Degree**

**ASSOCIATE DEGREE, CERTIFICATE or DIPLOMA**

**ARCHITECTURE**

- **Bachelor or Master Degree**
  - NAAB or CAAB

- **Bachelor or Master Degree**
  - Non-NAAB or Non-CAAB

**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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work Hours</th>
<th>3,520</th>
<th>5,280</th>
<th>7,040</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(2 years full time)</td>
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<td>(3 years full time)</td>
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<td>(4 years full time)</td>
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</table>

**WHO CAN BE A DIRECT SUPERVISOR AND/OR SPONSOR?**

A direct supervisor and/or sponsor must be a design professional, defined as someone who meets at least one of the following three criteria:
- NCIDQ Certified Interior Designer
- State/Provincial Licensed/Registered/Certified Interior Designer in the US or Canada
- State/Provincial Licensed/Registered Architect in the US or Canada who provides interior design services

A **Direct Supervisor** is a design professional, as defined above, who provides substantial oversight and control of a candidate’s work and possesses detailed knowledge of the tasks performed.

A **Sponsor** is a design professional, as defined above, who agrees to review a candidate’s professional progress and affirm interior design work experience hours. A sponsor may or may not work within the same firm as the candidate.

**NCIDQ-CERTIFIED INTERIOR DESIGNERS:**

HIGHLY-QUALIFIED DESIGN PROFESSIONALS