

THE NCIDQ EXAM COVERS:

FIRE SAFETY

NCIDQ

The NCIDQ Exam is the industry standard for interior design certification and ensures candidates who pass the exam are well qualified to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public through practice. Each of the exam's three sections covers myriad subjects essential to the protection of the public, including fire safety issues and information.

The building codes establish minimum requirements to provide a reasonable degree of safety from fire in buildings and structures. NCIDQ Certificate holders protect the public from building fires by applying building codes and their requirements to their designs.

Here you will find details and insight on which topics of life and fire safety code are covered in each section of the exam, as well as sample practice questions created by subject matter experts that help create the NCIDQ Exam.

IDFX

The **Fundamentals Exam** assesses candidate knowledge and understanding of the following life and fire safety topics and areas:

- Means of egress system components/requirements
- Fire separation requirements between occupancies
- Fire-rated assemblies and protected openings
- Classification of interior finishes based on fire spread
- Sprinkler system requirements based on fire area and occupancy group
- Portable fire extinguisher requirements

IDPX

The **Professional Exam** assesses candidate knowledge and understanding of the following life and fire safety topics and areas:

- Fire protection systems, (e.g. coordination of sprinklers, strobes, alarms, extinguishers, smoke and heat detectors)
- Existing conditions analysis
- Building components, including wall assemblies
- Systems of transport
- Emergency escapes

PRAC

The **Practicum Exam** assesses candidate knowledge and understanding of the following life and fire safety topics and areas:

- Means of egress system requirements and different components
- Criteria by which buildings are classified into use groups and occupancy classifications
- Existing conditions analysis to identify the critical components and deficiencies in life and fire safety of building
- Construction types and materials used in building. Combustible and non-combustible materials
- Requirements for fire resistance rated construction, including structural members, partitions, and horizontal assemblies
- Minimum requirements for active fire protection systems to perform the functions of detecting fire and alerting occupants

These are some sample practice questions, written by NCIDQ subject matter experts, that show how the NCIDQ Exam assesses candidates' knowledge of fire safety.

What Class of Fire rating is required for vertical and ceiling finishes in a non-sprinkled Business Occupancy Group?

- (A) Class A
- (B) Class C
- (C) Class I
- (D) Class II

Answer Key: A

Adding an automatic sprinkler system will:

- (A) increase the fire rating requirement of doors.
- (B) reduce the allowable area of a floor within a building.
- (C) reduce the fire-resistance rating of partitions for a space.
- (D) reduce the allowable area of glass in a rated partition assembly

Answer Key: C

CONTACT US: INQUIRIES@CIDQ.ORG | 202.721.0220

VISIT US: CIDQ.ORG

COUNCIL FOR INTERIOR DESIGN QUALIFICATION (CIDQ) 225 REINEKERS LANE SUITE 210 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314