

# Exam & IDEP<sup>®</sup> Eligibility Requirements



National Council for  
Interior Design Qualification

## CIDA Degree (Route 1)

### Education

**Bachelor's or master's degree from a CIDA-accredited interior design program<sup>1</sup>**

96 sem/144 qtr credits completed

Apply for IDEP now!

Up to 1,760 hours of qualified work experience can be earned before education is completed<sup>2</sup>

Completion of education

### Work Experience

**3,520 hours qualified interior design experience<sup>3</sup>**

Final 1,760 hours must be earned after all education is completed

APPLY FOR EXAM!

Year 1

Year 2

Year 3

Year 4

Year 5

Year 6

## Interior Design Degree – Non-CIDA (Route 2)

### Education

**Bachelor's degree (minimum) in an interior design program not accredited by CIDA<sup>1</sup>**

*Including:* No less than 120 semester or 180 quarter credits, of which no less than 60 semester or 90 quarter credits are interior design coursework

96 sem/144 qtr credits completed

Apply for IDEP now!

Up to 1,760 hours of qualified work experience can be earned before education is completed<sup>2</sup>

Completion of education

### Work Experience

**3,520 hours qualified interior design experience<sup>3</sup>**

Final 1,760 hours must be earned after all education is completed

APPLY FOR EXAM!

Year 1

Year 2

Year 3

Year 4

Year 5

Year 6

## Other Degree + Interior Design Degree (Route 3)

### Education

**Bachelor's degree (minimum) in any other major<sup>4</sup>  
AND  
No less than 60 semester or 90 quarter credits of interior design coursework that culminates in a certificate, degree or diploma**

30 sem/45 qtr interior design credits completed

Apply for IDEP now!

Up to 1,760 hours of qualified work experience can be earned before education is completed<sup>2</sup>

Completion of education

### Work Experience

**3,520 hours qualified interior design experience<sup>3</sup>**

Final 1,760 hours must be earned after all education is completed

APPLY FOR EXAM!

Year 1

Year 2

Year 3

Year 4

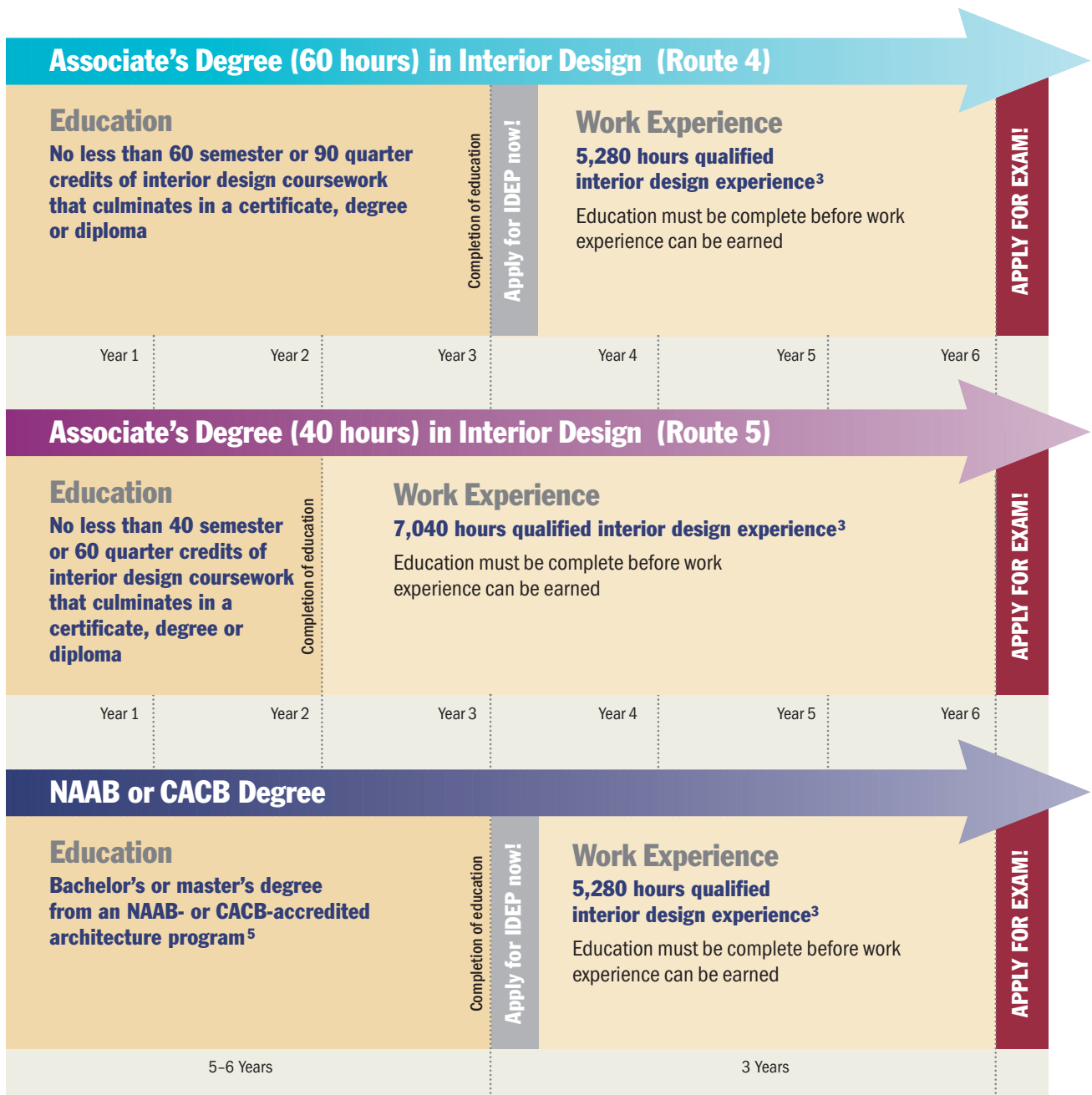
Year 5

Year 6

IDEP is recommended as a structured, comprehensive program for earning your entry-level work experience. By completing IDEP you automatically satisfy NCIDQ's supervised work experience requirement.

<sup>1</sup> CIDA—the Council for Interior Design Accreditation—was formerly known as FIDER. To qualify, the degree program must have been CIDA-accredited at graduation or must have become CIDA-accredited within two years following graduation.

<sup>2</sup> If you receive academic credit for work experience, you cannot count that work toward NCIDQ's work experience requirement.



<sup>3</sup> If you began accruing interior design work experience **after January 1, 2008**, you must earn *qualified* work experience in order to be eligible to take the NCIDQ Examination.

Earn your qualified work experience under an NCIDQ Certificate holder, licensed/registered interior designer or architect who offers interior design services and your hours are counted at 100%. Other work environments and supervisory relationships accrue at lower rates.

<sup>4</sup> Any major other than interior design is included in this route: English, nursing, psychology, etc.

<sup>5</sup> NAAB—the National Architectural Accrediting Board  
CACB—the Canadian Architectural Certification Board  
To qualify, the degree program must have been accredited at graduation or within two years of graduation.



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