



**National Council for
Interior Design Qualification**

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The NCIDQ Credential: The Mark of a Professional



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NCIDQ Credential

It is more important than ever for clients and the public to expect interior design professionals to demonstrate their competency in all areas of interior design. It is not enough for a provider of interior design services to understand just the aesthetics. The designed safety of interiors for home owners, business owners or users of public and private spaces requires much more in today's complex world.

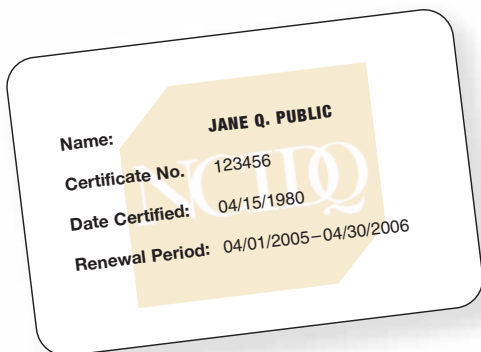


The NCIDQ Credential

Earning an NCIDQ Certificate is an important credential for any interior designer. In today's increasingly competitive marketplace, an NCIDQ Certificate demonstrates that the designer is uniquely qualified through education, experience and examination to competently practice interior design.

NCIDQ is not a membership organization and "NCIDQ" is not used as an appellation. The NCIDQ credential is a design practice credential. NCIDQ Certificate holders are interior designers who have demonstrated their competence in the profession by passing a comprehensive examination. Many are registered or licensed to practice in states or jurisdictions across the United States and Canada that use the NCIDQ exam as the testing standard for legal recognition of practitioners. Others have voluntarily taken the examination to verify their competence in the profession.

The correct "Mark of the Professional" is Jane Public, NCIDQ Certificate No. 123456.



NCIDQ

The National Council for Interior Design Qualification, a non-profit organization, has served since 1974 to designate, through administration of a comprehensive examination, those individuals competent to practice interior design in the United States and Canada. It is the only body within the interior design profession to establish comprehensive standards for interior design professionals in order to protect the public health, life safety and welfare.

NCIDQ is much more than a competency examination. It is an organization of dedicated volunteer interior design professionals and educators managed by an eight-person Board of Directors, which includes a public member who is not a designer. It is supported by a professional staff in the Council's Washington, DC office and is governed by a Council of Delegates, which represents each member regulatory board.



What is Interior Design?

Interior design is a multi-faceted profession in which creative and technical solutions are applied to interior environments to produce an interior space that fulfills the project goals. It includes:

- A systematic process that involves research, analysis and integration of knowledge into the creative process, to produce an interior space that fulfills the project goals.
- Designs that adhere to building and accessibility codes and other regulatory requirements.
- Designs that encourage the principles of environmental sustainability.
- Solutions that are functional, enhance the quality of life and are aesthetically attractive.

The Examination

The examination focuses on those aspects of the profession that affect the public health, life safety and welfare as well as the common body of knowledge essential to the competent professional practice of interior design. NCIDQ Certificate holders are judged competent in such skills as:

- Analysis of client goals and requirements
- Application of life-safety codes and accessibility regulations
- Knowledge of environmental and sustainability guidelines
- Formulation of scaled drawings, specifications and other documents
- Selections of furniture, materials, finishes and colors to convey design concepts and meet requirements
- Preparation of construction documents, contract administration and collaboration with allied design professionals



Did You Know?

NCIDQ also provides many other services to the interior design profession. Among them are:

- The Interior Design Experience Program, a monitored work experience program for entry-level interior designers that serves as a transition between formal education and professional practice.
- Model language that jurisdictions can use when writing interior design legislation.
- A continuing education transcript service so professional continuing education can be verified.

Ask your interior designer to prove that he or she has demonstrated competence in the knowledge skills and abilities required as a professional by having the NCIDQ Certificate. Make sure you require the same level of competence from your interior design professional as you do from the architects, engineers and other building professionals involved in your project.

Visit our Web site at www.ncidq.org for more information or call 202-721-0220.