Alabama Interior Design Coalition

POSITION PAPER

Date: February 18, 2025
Author: Jim Griffo
Subject: Update of The Code of Alabama 1975
Alabama Interior Design Registration Act of 2010
Title 34
Section 15C

PURPOSE

The referenced Act (current law) is out of date with current practices and unfairly limits the ability of Registered Interior Designers in the State of Alabama from practicing their craft and conducting business. Current limits on the Scope of Work for Registered Interior Designers do not recognize the qualifications and capabilities of the subject practitioners.

It is proposed that the Privileges and restrictions of the practice of Registered Interior Designers (RID) be better defined and area (project square footage) and occupancy type limits be lifted for the design professionals subject to this Act. Qualifications that the State of Alabama previously set, the makeup and operations of the Alabama Board for Registered Interior Designers are not changed by these proposed updates; nor are the capabilities of any other design professional altered.

GOALS

Updating of this Alabama statute will allow the expansion of business opportunities for Registered Interior Designers in the State of Alabama and allow them to qualify for projects for which they currently restricted. The effect of the update will primarily expand the opportunities and revenue generation of small businesses in the state. It will also eliminate (or significantly curtail) the current "workarounds" of third party review and sealing of documents which if not against the letter of the law, certainly violates the spirit of the law.

BACKGROUND

Alabama was the first state to recognize Interior Design as a profession with the passage of the "Interior Design Title Act" in 1982. Subsequently in 2010, The Alabama Interior Design Registration Act of 2010 was enacted restricting the use of "Registered Interior Designer" (RID) and allowing RIDs to seal Construction Documents for commercial spaces up to 2,500 square feet in area and of non-assembly occupancy.

Since the enactment of that statute, the qualifying exam for recognition as a Registered Interior Designer has evolved to require understanding of Building Codes and other Health, Safety and Welfare components of the built environment. This has been documented in a joint report by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) and the Council for Interior Design Qualification (CIDQ).

The Table of Contents of the current NCIDQ Exam can be found in the Appendix.

In addition, the limitations imposed upon Registered Interior Designers by the current Act not only restrict the practices of qualified designers, but it also imposes undue hardship on these businesses in their normal operations. Other states have recognized these hardships and have modified previous legislation or enacted new laws to address these hardships.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The updates proposed to the Alabama Interior Design Registration Act of 2010 are edits to eliminate the area (project square footage) and occupancy type restrictions currently imposed upon the business practices of Registered Interior Designers in the State of Alabama. Proposed updates are mostly "strike-though" of these limitations with the occasional additional phrasing to clarify there are no restrictions on occupancy types.

No changes concerning the requirements set by the State of Alabama to qualify as a Registered Interior Designer, the composition, operation or responsibilities of the Alabama Board for Registered Interior Designers are included or implied.

CHANGES TO THE NCIDQ EXAM SINCE PASSAGE OF THE ALABAMA ID LAW

The NCIDQ Exam began including ADA requirements after the ADA law passed in 1991. In 2001 The exam included a section on the IBC codes and in 2010 the exam became 100% focused on HSW including specific IBC codes tested throughout the exam using an NCIDQ code book made of selected IBC codes

ADA, egress ,occupancy load calculations and egress requirements, life safety elements and their placement, mechanical , electrical and structural knowledge was tested in the exam content using this NCIDQ code book. This change came from the Alabama Law passed in 2001 pushing NCIDQ to become code focused.

In 2017 the exam became fully digital and at that time included a tab to directly access the ICC codes requiring individuals to know how to find and apply the applicable codes for correct answers. Building on the codes already being tested, the exam expanded the scope of material tested to include knowledge of wall systems; fire ratings; occupancy classifications and uses; permitting process; high rise buildings; stages and platforms; construction classifications and combustible materials; fire walls, barriers and partitions; vertical openings; shaft enclosures; placement of life safety alarm and detection devices; egress components and requirements; travel distance; building ht. and areas; stairways; corridors; horizontal exits, ventilation and smoke dampers; ducts and transfer openings; elevators and hoistways; plumbing fixture calculations; accessible requirements and clearances throughout work, dining, and living spaces.

These codes come from 14 chapters in the ICC code book, 10 sections in the IPC, and 6 chapters of the A117.1 Accessible codes. The exam since 2010 has also included more sustainable content in the exam. CIDQ is committed to updating the exam to protect the HSW of the public. (See Appendix for verification of ICC code knowledge required and used on the current Exam.)

INDEPENDENT REPORTS RELEVANT TO THE PROPOSED UPDATES

The proposed updates to the Alabama ID Law are adapted from Model Legislation composed by the Interorganizational Council on Regulation. (ICOR

ICOR is currently made up of the Council for Interior Design Qualification (CIDQ), Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB), National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) and National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES).

In June 2024, ICOR issued its draft report for the regulation and practice of Registered Interior Designers. The scope of practice language was developed as a conjunction of the definition of Interior Design developed by CIDQ and specific, defined inclusions and exclusions in the practice of "registered interior design" developed and recently passed in several state legislatures.

Given the political realities behind professional regulation and reasonable regulation of interior design, this language is notable because it was developed in collaboration between interior design and architecture communities in those states, and all legislation containing this language ultimately passed unopposed

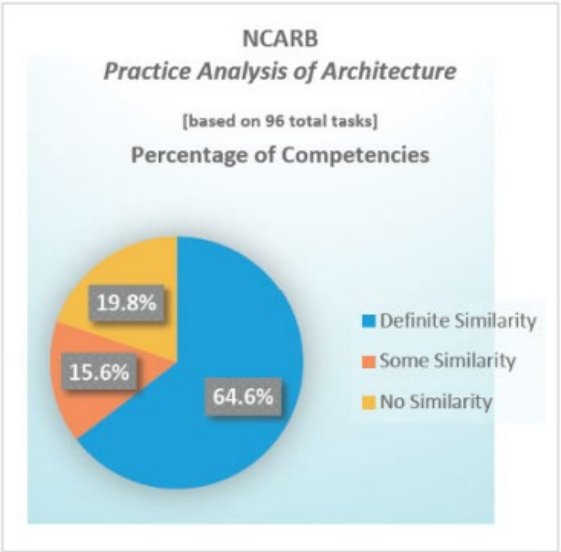
In December 2021, the **National Council of Architectural Registration Boards** (NCARB) and the **Council for Interior Design Qualification** (CIDQ) issued a joint report that assesses areas of correlation and distinction between the knowledge, skills, and tasks required for competency in the fields of architecture and interior design. NCARB and CIDQ are the nonprofit credentialing organizations that administer the Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®) and NCIDQ Examinations, respectively. The report's purpose is to enable a better understanding of the two professions' respective roles and responsibilities when it comes to protecting the public's health, safety, and welfare, ultimately leading to more effective collaboration and regulation.

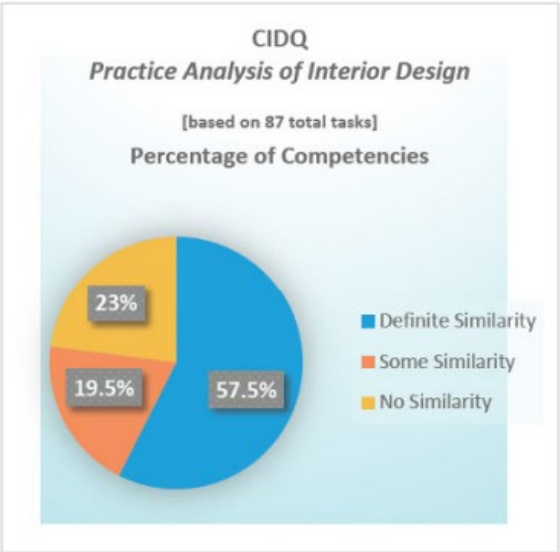
The effort began when NCARB's FY18 Interior Architecture Work Group was charged with comparing "interior design" and "interior architecture" degree programs, and eventually expanded to include a comparison of NCARB and CIDQ's most recent practice analyses. Each organization appointed subject matter experts (SMEs) who independently compared practice analyses and examination assessment objectives. The SMEs then met to review and explore findings, ultimately identifying areas of definite similarity, some similarity, or no similarity.

The report does not advocate that architecture and interior design are interchangeable, should be merged, or should become more connected. However, CIDQ and NCARB SMEs found that:

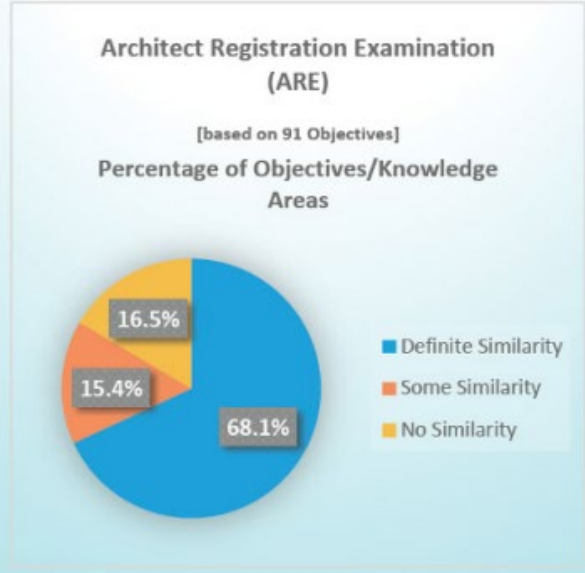
- The pathways to regulated practice for both architects and interior designers have the same basic requirements: Specialized education, relevant professional experience, and examination of essential knowledge and skills. In addition, NCARB and CIDQ follow a similar, well-established process to determine the requirements for experience and examination.
- Following careful research and discussion, NCARB and CIDQ identified several areas of definite similarity between the professions and their respective examinations, as well as areas where there is some similarity or no similarity. Areas of no similarity are equally as important as areas of some or definite similarity.
- While similar in practice and required knowledge, architecture and interior design are unique and distinct disciplines that both have an important role in protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public within the built environment.

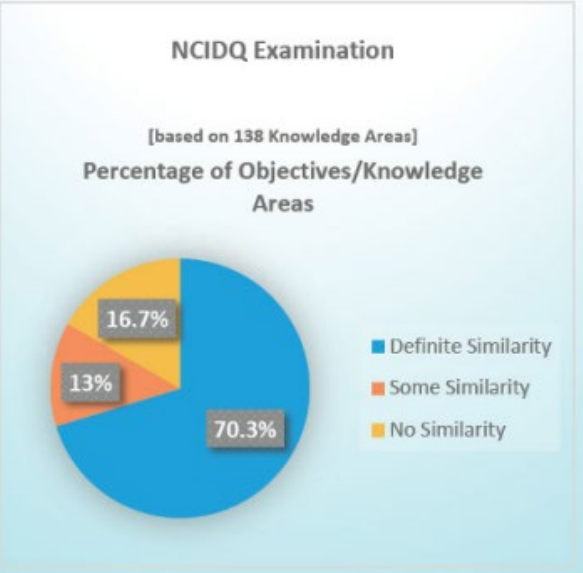
The following charts illustrate the proportion of tasks identified in each organization's most recent practice analysis that have definite, some, and no similarity to tasks identified in the other organization's practice analysis. A Practice Analysis is a scientific study conducted periodically with practitioners of a profession to define the knowledge and skills they must possess and the tasks they must be able to perform at the time of licensure or credentialing.





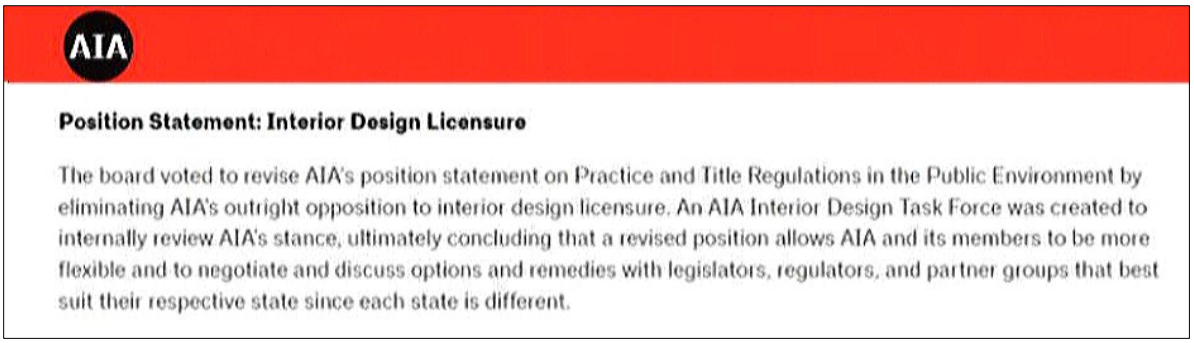
These charts illustrate the proportion of each organization's examination objectives/knowledge areas that have definite, some, and no similarity to the other organization's examination objectives/knowledge areas.





The full Statement from the NCARB and CIDQ can be found in the Appendix.

American Institute of Architects Statement on Interior Design Licensure



Position Statement: Interior Design Licensure

The board voted to revise AIA's position statement on Practice and Title Regulations in the Public Environment by eliminating AIA's outright opposition to interior design licensure. An AIA Interior Design Task Force was created to internally review AIA's stance, ultimately concluding that a revised position allows AIA and its members to be more flexible and to negotiate and discuss options and remedies with legislators, regulators, and partner groups that best suit their respective state since each state is different.

AIA Board Approves the Revised AIA Position on ID Licensure (FAQs)

- Today, Friday, December 10, 2021, the AIA National Board voted [overwhelmingly/unanimously] to update AIA's current policy position on interior designer licensure. The revised stance addresses practice and title in the built environment by eliminating AIA's outright opposition to interior design licensure.

What does this updated position statement do?

- This updated position statement brings more focus to the role of the architect and provides AIA state components with latitude to discuss the issues and craft a solution that best fits its members when they encounter this issue at their respective statehouse since each state is different.
- This revised position also allows AIA more flexibility to negotiate and review possible remedies with legislators, regulators, and partner groups. AIA members will be encouraged to work with interior designers (and others in the design collaboration team) to engage with policymakers on what level of regulation is best for their specific profession.

Why did AIA decide to change its position statement on interior design licensure?

- The AIA regularly reviews its Directory of Public Policies and Position Statements to ensure that they are current and relevant. AIA's leadership, many AIA component executives, and members believe it is past time to refresh AIA's position on interior design licensure. As result, this issue was made a priority by the AIA National Board in 2020 and an AIA National Interior Design (ID) Task Force was created to internally review AIA's stance.

The full Statement from the American Institute of Architects can be found in the Appendix.

EFFECT ON SMALL BUSINESSES

The restrictions imposed by the current Act impose undue restrictions and hardships primarily on small interior design practices. These small businesses, which are often women-owned enterprises, must incur additional costs to issue Construction Documents of their own making, by requiring the seal of a registered architect or engineer for submission to a building authority.

In and of itself, this practice skirts the intent if not the letter of the law, which requires the sealing professional to have been in reasonable charge of the development of the drawings. The updates proposed to this Act will eliminate this practice.

It should be noted that in many instances, Registered Interior Designers are now serving as the primary design professionals for the restricted (by the current Law) occupancies. RIDs in Alabama design and produce Construction Documents for healthcare, worship, performing arts and other assembly occupancy types for public and private sector clients. Under the current Act, these RIDs must either align themselves with a registered architect or engineer, or separately retain one at their expense to issue their documents for permit and construction.

The proposed update will eliminate this practice and places responsibility with the RID.

APPENDIX

The attached reports are referenced in the Position Paper.

The joint report from the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) and the Council for Interior Design Qualification (CIDQ) can be found here:
https://www.cidq.org/hsw

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) Statement can be found here:
https://www.asid.org/lib24watch/files/pdf/15469

NCIDQ EXAM – Table of Contents

Examples compiled by the Council for Interior Design Qualification (CIDQ)

The NCIDQ Exam is the industry standard (and required in Alabama) 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 the ability to understand and apply building codes and standards, including relevant sections of the International Building Codes. Here you will find details and insight on what building code topics 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.

Each of the exam's three sections covers myriad subjects essential to the protection of the public, including fire safety issues and information.

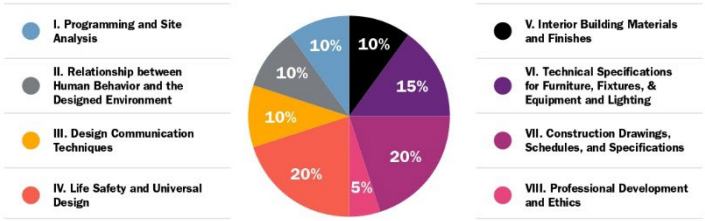
The building codes establish minimum requirements to provide a reasonable degree of safety from fire in buildings and structures. NCIDQ Certificate holders protect the public from building fires by applying building codes and their requirements to their designs.

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
Interior Design Fundamentals Exam

- 3 hours
- 125 questions
- Multiple Choice

The **Interior Design Fundamentals Exam (IDFX)** focuses on the concepts and principles of interior design with an emphasis on Health, Safety and Welfare. Candidates eligible for the IDFX includes students (in their final year of a Bachelor's or Master's in Interior Design degree program), recent graduates and emerging professionals with an applicable interior design degree. The IDFX exam covers competencies in: programming and site analysis; relationship between human behavior and the designed environment; design communication techniques; life safety and universal design; interior building materials and finishes; technical specifications for furniture, fixtures, & equipment and lighting; construction drawings, schedules and specifications; and professional development and ethics.



I. Programming and Site Analysis 10%

Demonstrate appropriate use of:

- **analysis tools** (e.g., spreadsheets, site photographs, matrices, bubble diagrams, graphs, behavioral based analytics)

Demonstrate understanding of:

- **research methods** (e.g., observations, interviewing, surveying, case studies, benchmarking, precedent studies)
- **the site context** (e.g., location, views, solar orientation, zoning, historical information, constraints, change of use, transportation)

II. Relationship between Human Behavior and the Designed Environment 10%

Demonstrate understanding of:

- **human factors** (e.g., ergonomics, anthropometrics, proxemics, psychological, physiological, social)
- **universal design** (e.g., accessibility, ability level, inclusivity, special needs, aging population, bariatric, pediatric)
- **contextual influences** (e.g., environmental and ecological, social, cultural, aesthetic, hierarchy of needs)

Demonstrate knowledge of:

- **sensory considerations** (e.g., acoustics, lighting, visual stimuli, color response, scent, tactile, thermal comfort)

CIDQ NCIDQ Examination

III. Design Communication Techniques 10%

Ability to apply:

- **data and research** (e.g., charts, infographics, analytics)
- **conceptual diagrams** (e.g., parti diagrams, bubble diagrams, adjacency matrices)
- **planning diagrams** (e.g., stacking/zoning diagrams, block plans/square footage allocations)

IV. Life Safety and Universal Design 20%

Demonstrate understanding of:

- **life safety** (e.g., egress, fire separation, fire-rated partitions and doors, and A/V alarms location coordination)
- **universal design** (e.g., inclusive design, accessible design)

V. Interior Building Materials and Finishes 10%

Demonstrate understanding of:

- **textiles** (e.g., types, testing standards and codes, applications, installation methods, estimating, technical specifications)
- **floor coverings** (e.g., types, transitions, testing standards and codes, applications, installation methods, estimating, slip resistance, technical specifications)
- **wall treatments** (e.g., types, testing standards and codes, applications, installation methods, estimating, technical specifications)
- **window treatments** (e.g., types, testing standards and codes, applications, installation methods, estimating, technical specifications)
- **ceiling treatments** (e.g., types, testing standards and codes, applications, installation methods, estimating, technical specifications)
- **acoustical products** (e.g., types, testing standards and codes, applications, installation methods, estimating, technical specifications)
- **wayfinding and signage** (e.g., types, testing standards and codes, applications, installation methods, estimating, technical specifications)

VI. Technical Specifications for Furniture, Fixtures, & Equipment and Lighting 15%

Demonstrate understanding of:

- **life safety elements** (e.g., flammability, toxicity, slip resistance, accessibility and egress clearances, fixed and loose furniture, indoor air quality, code compliance)
- **sustainability and environmental impact** (e.g., recyclability, cradle to cradle, embodied energy, carbon footprint, material sourcing, ratings and certifications)
- **materials and technical specifications** (e.g., color fastness, abrasion resistance, cleanability, reference standards, ANSI/BIFMA)
- **light fixture selection and specification** (e.g., general, accent and task lighting; color temperature, color rendering, lamp types, energy load)

VII. Construction Drawings, Schedules, and Specifications 20%

Demonstrate understanding of:

- **code required information** (e.g., egress, accessibility, specialty codes, fire/life safety, occupancy, plumbing calculations)
- **appropriate measuring conventions** (e.g., scale, unit of measure, dimensioning)
- **construction drawing standards** (e.g., annotations, hatch patterns, line types, symbols, north arrow, section cuts, cross referencing)

Understand and develop:

- **general information sheets** (e.g., general conditions and notes, drawing index, legend, symbols, location, consultant, contact information)
- **demolition plans**
- **floor plans** (e.g., partition plan, construction plan, dimension plan)
- **reflected ceiling and/or lighting plans** (e.g., supplies, returns, ceiling types, heights, monitoring and detection devices, switching, controls)
- **furniture plans**
- **finish plans**
- **elevations, sections, and details** (e.g., partition types, enlarged plans, custom details and assemblies)
- **power, data, and communication plans**
- **schedules** (e.g., finish, equipment, plumbing, lighting, door, window, hardware, accessories)
- **millwork** (e.g., construction techniques, coordination with Furniture, Fixtures, & Equipment, and utilities, substrates, shop drawings, material selection, accessibility)

VIII. Professional Development and Ethics 5%

Demonstrate understanding of:

- **professional ethics** (e.g., code of ethics, consumer protection, health, safety, welfare, social responsibility)
- **professional development** (e.g., professional organizations, continuing education)

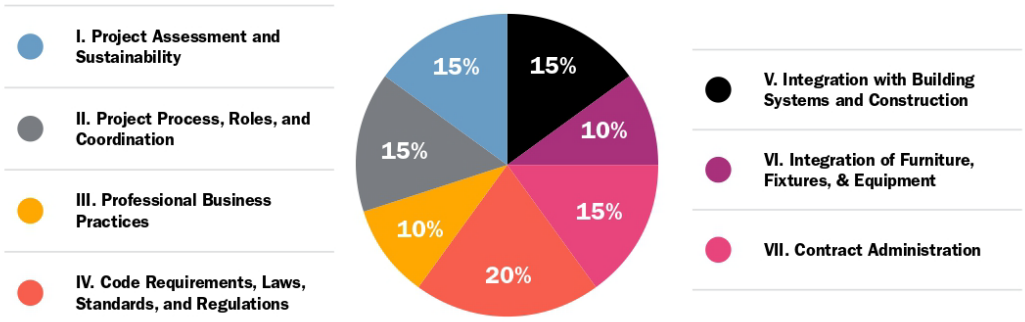
CONTACT US: INQUIRIES@CIDQ.ORG | 202.721.0220
VISIT US: CIDQ.ORG

CIDQ NCIDQ Examination

IDPX
Interior Design Professional Exam

- 4 hours
- 175 questions
- Multiple Choice

The **Interior Design Professional Exam (IDPX)** focuses on analyzing and applying the project management coordination of the interior design process with an emphasis on Health, Safety and Welfare. The IDPX exam covers competencies in: project assessment and sustainability; project, process, roles and coordination; professional business practices; code requirements, laws, standards, and regulations; integration with building systems and construction; integration of furniture, fixtures & equipment; and contract administration.



I. Project Assessment and Sustainability 15%

Ability to understand and analyze:

- **square footage standards** (e.g., building codes, BOMA calculations and terminology)

Demonstrate understanding of:

- **environmental and wellness attributes** (e.g., energy and water, conservation, renewable resources, indoor air quality, resiliency, active design)
- **existing conditions analysis** (e.g., hazardous materials, seismic, accessibility, construction type, occupancy type)
- **project drivers** (e.g., stakeholder requirements, space usage, preferred culture and branding, goals and objectives, budget)

II. Project Process, Roles, and Coordination 15%

Understand and identify:

- **scope of project team members** (e.g., architects, engineers, specialty consultants, contractors, construction managers)
- **role of stakeholders** (e.g., management, identification, level of interest, level of influence, managing expectations)

Demonstrate understanding of:

- **project budgeting/tracking** (e.g., value engineering, alternates, timing and responsibility)
- **critical path** (e.g., design milestones, sequencing, design phases, deliverables)
- **design phase criteria** (e.g., deliverables, approval, sign-off, quality control, meeting project goals and objectives)
- **allied professionals' drawings** (e.g., mechanical, electrical, and structural engineering, architecture, security, specialty consultants)
- **specification types and format** (e.g., prescriptive, performance, proprietary, divisions)
- **phased construction plan**
- **post occupancy evaluation** (e.g., metrics, timing, scope, analyzing data, evaluating criteria, commissioning, employee surveys)

CIDQ NCIDQ Examination

III. Professional Business Practices
10%

Demonstrate understanding of:

- **scope of practice** (e.g., legal liability, laws and regulations, certification vs licensure, practice and title act)
- **business structures** (e.g., LLC, joint ventures, sole proprietor, partnership, corporation)
- **business management** (e.g., applicable taxes, accounting, liability and insurance)

Ability to understand and develop:

- **proposals** (e.g., time and fee estimation, Request for Proposals, process, project scope, presentation, exclusions, add services)
- **contracts** (e.g., legal considerations, liabilities, terms and conditions)
- **project budgeting principles and practices**

IV. Code Requirements, Laws, Standards, and Regulations
20%

Demonstrate understanding of:

- **environmental regulations** (e.g., indoor air quality, energy conservation, material conservation, water conservation)
- **reference standards and guidelines** (e.g., ADA/Accessibility, BIFMA, ASHRAE, OSHA, NFPA, IBC)
- **zoning and building use**
- **permit requirements** (e.g., processes, timing, awareness of jurisdictional differences)

V. Integration with Building Systems and Construction
15%

Demonstrate understanding and application of:

- **structural systems** (e.g., load bearing, non-load bearing, steel, concrete, post-tension)
- **plumbing systems** (e.g., low flow, waterless, filtration, water metering, gray water)
- **fire protection systems** (e.g., sprinklers, strobes, alarms, extinguishers, smoke and heat detectors)
- **low voltage systems** (e.g., data and communication, security, A/V)
- **mechanical systems** (e.g., types of systems, coordination with ceiling plans, indoor air quality)
- **monitoring systems** (e.g., building automation systems)
- **installation methods** (e.g., sequencing of work)
- **building construction types** (e.g., wood, steel, concrete)
- **building components** (e.g., doors, windows, wall assemblies, hardware, glazing assemblies)
- **vertical and horizontal systems of transport** (e.g., stairs, elevators)
- **lighting systems** (e.g., fixtures, zoning, sensors, daylighting, circadian rhythms, calculations, distribution, energy efficiency)
- **electrical systems** (e.g., outlet placement, switching, GFI, occupancy sensors)
- **acoustical systems** (e.g., sound masking, NRC, STC, CAC, AC, sound batting, wall types and ceiling elements)

VI. Integration of Furniture, Fixtures, & Equipment
10%

Identify and apply appropriate:

- **product components** (e.g., system furniture vs ancillary furniture, power integration of furniture, acoustic panels vs non-acoustic panels, modular wall systems)

Demonstrate understanding of:

- **equipment integration** (e.g., appliances or specialty equipment within the design, accessibility and code compliance)
- **and parameters of maintenance** (e.g., warranties, manuals, cleaning protocols, documents)
- **processes for procurement, delivery, and installation** (e.g., sequencing, purchase orders, prepayment requirements, Customer's Own Material, liabilities, shop drawings, lead time)

Ability to conduct and communicate:

- **budgeting and cost estimating** (e.g., quantity takeoffs, product cost, install cost, overage, attic stock, life cycle costing, Return on Investment)

VII. Contract Administration
15%

Demonstrate understanding of:

- **and application of documentation and procedures** (e.g., transmittals, contemplative change orders, change directive, change order, addenda, bulletin, purchase orders, Request for Information (RFIs))
- **project accounting** (e.g., payment schedules, invoices, contractor pay applications and approvals)

Ability to lead:

- **project meetings** (e.g., management, protocol, minutes)

Demonstrate understanding and utilization of:

- **site visits and field reports**
- **shop drawings and submittals**
- **construction mock-ups**
- **punch lists/deficiency list**

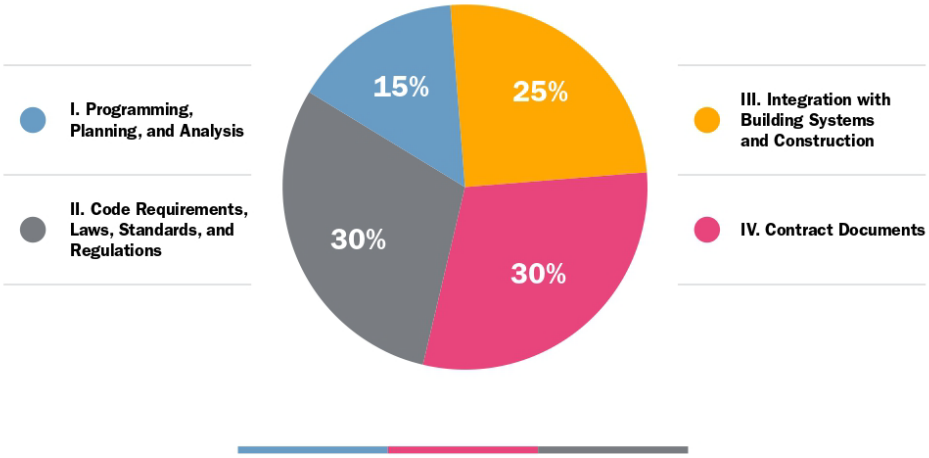
CONTACT US: INQUIRIES@CIDQ.ORG | 202.721.0220
VISIT US: CIDQ.ORG

CIDQ NCIDQ Examination

PRAC
Practicum Exam

- 4 hours
- 114 questions
- Fill in the Blank, Hot Spot, Drag and Place

The **Practicum Exam (PRAC)** utilizes three case studies (large commercial, small commercial, and multi-family residential) to assess the ability to apply, synthesize, and integrate information related to the design process using resources provided with an emphasis on Health, Safety and Welfare. The PRAC covers competencies in: programming, planning and analysis; code requirements, laws, standards, and regulations; integration with building systems and construction; and contract documents.



I. Programming, Planning, and Analysis 15%

Demonstrate understanding and appropriate use of:

- **analysis tools** (e.g., spreadsheets, site photographs, matrices, bubble diagrams, graphs, behavioral based analytics)
- **planning diagrams** (e.g., stacking/zoning diagrams, block plans/square footage allocations)

Demonstrate understanding of:

- **square footage standards** (e.g., building codes, BOMA calculations and terminology)
- **existing conditions analysis** (e.g., hazardous materials, seismic, accessibility, construction type, occupancy type)
- **universal design** (e.g., accessibility, ability level, inclusivity, special needs, aging population, bariatric, pediatric)
- **life safety codes and standards** (e.g., flammability, toxicity, slip resistance, accessibility and egress clearances, fixed and loose furniture, Indoor air quality, code compliance)

Assess the:

- **human factors** related to the interior space (e.g., ergonomics, anthropometrics, proxemics, psychological, physiological, social)

CIDQ NCIDQ Examination

II. Code Requirements, Laws, Standards, and Regulations
30%

Ability to integrate:

- **life safety** elements (e.g., egress, fire separation)

Demonstrate understanding of:

- **reference standards and guidelines** (e.g., BIFMA, ASHRAE, OSHA, NFPA, IBC)
- **zoning and building use requirements**
- **permit requirements** (e.g., processes, timing, awareness of regional differences)
- **universal design** (e.g., inclusive design, accessible design)

III. Integration with Building Systems and Construction
25%

Demonstrate knowledge and application of relevant:

- **plumbing systems** (e.g., low flow, waterless, filtration, water metering, gray water)
- **fire protection systems** (e.g., sprinklers, strobes, alarms, extinguishers, smoke and heat detectors)
- **mechanical systems** (e.g., types of systems, coordination with ceiling plans, indoor air quality)
- **building construction types** (e.g., wood, steel, concrete)
- **building components** (e.g., doors, windows, wall assemblies, hardware, glazing assemblies)
- **vertical and horizontal systems of transport** (e.g., stairs, elevators)
- **electrical systems** (e.g., outlet placement, switching, GFI, occupancy sensors)
- **acoustical systems** (e.g., sound masking, NRC, STC, CAC, AC, sound batting, wall types and ceiling elements)

Determine appropriate:

- **lighting systems** (e.g., fixtures, zoning, sensors, daylighting, circadian rhythms, calculations, distribution, energy efficiency)

IV. Contract Documents
30%

Demonstrate understanding of:

- **light fixture selection and specification** (e.g., general, accent and task lighting; color temperature, color rendering, lamp types)
- **equipment integration** (e.g., appliances or specialty equipment within the design, accessibility and code compliance)
- **allied professionals' drawings** (e.g., mechanical, electrical, and structural engineering, architecture, security, specialty consultants)

Ability to develop, analyze, and/or review:

- **phased construction plans**
- **code required information** (e.g., egress, accessibility, specialty codes, fire/life safety, occupancy, plumbing calculations)
- **general information sheets** (e.g., general conditions and notes, drawing index, legend, symbols, location, consultant, contact information)
- **demolition plans**
- **floor plans** (e.g., partition plan, construction plan, dimension plan)
- **reflected ceiling and/or lighting plans** (e.g., supplies, returns, ceiling types, heights, monitoring and detection devices, switch patterns, controls)
- **furniture plans**
- **finish plans**
- **elevations, sections, and details** (e.g., partition types, enlarged plans, custom details and assemblies)
- **power, data, and communication plans**
- **schedules** (e.g., finish, equipment, plumbing, lighting, accessories, door, hardware, window)
- **millwork** (e.g., construction techniques, coordination with Furniture, Fixtures, & Equipment, and utilities, substrates, shop drawings, material selection, accessibility)

Ability to analyze, and/or review:

- **measuring conventions** (e.g., scale, unit of measure, dimensioning)
- **construction drawing standards** (e.g., annotations, hatch patterns, line types, symbols, north arrow, section cuts, cross referencing)

CONTACT US: INQUIRIES@CIDQ.ORG | 202.721.0220
VISIT US: CIDQ.ORG

CIDQ NCIDQ Examination

NCIDQ Table of Contents

NCIDQ Examination

Practicum Exam Codes

In an effort to be as transparent as we can be without compromising the integrity of the NCIDQ exam, we have developed this Code document in order for you to know what to expect on exam day. Below is the Table of Contents for the NCIDQ Exam based on the International Building Code (IBC)(2018) and Related Codes. The actual exam document will include the content directly from the IBC for each of the Chapters/Sections identified below (minus any images). The Building Code document will be provided as part of the Case Study for each question. We hope this document will help you narrow down the Code information you should familiarize yourself.

Table of Contents

2009 ICC A117.1 ACCESSIBLE AND USABLE BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

CHAPTER 3 BUILDING BLOCKS

301 GENERAL

302 FLOOR SURFACE

303 CHANGES IN LEVEL

304 TURNING SPACE

305 CLEAR FLOOR SPACE

306 KNEE AND TOE CLEARANCE

307 PROTRUDING OBJECTS

308 REACH RANGES

309 OPERABLE PARTS

CHAPTER 4. ACCESSIBLE ROUTES

402 ACCESSIBLE ROUTES

403 WALKING SURFACES

404 DOORS AND DOORWAYS

407 ELEVATORS

410 PLATFORM LIFTS

CHAPTER 6. PLUMBING ELEMENTS AND FACILITIES

602 DRINKING FOUNTAINS

603 TOILET AND BATHING ROOMS

604 WATER CLOSETS AND TOILET COMPARTMENTS

605 URINALS

606 LAVATORIES AND SINKS

607 BATHTUBS

608 SHOWER COMPARTMENTS

609 GRAB BARS

610 SEATS

611 WASHING MACHINES AND CLOTHES DRYERS

CHAPTER 7. COMMUNICATION ELEMENTS AND FEATURES

701 GENERAL

703 SIGNS

CHAPTER 9. BUILT-IN FURNISHINGS AND EQUIPMENT

902 DINING SURFACES AND WORK SURFACES

903 BENCHES

ABOUT AIDC AND THE AUTHOR

The Alabama Interior Design Coalition (AIDC) is a not-for-profit, all volunteer organization whose mission is to inform consumers about Interior Design registration and serves to protect the legislative safeguards for Registered Interior Designers who practice in the State of Alabama. AIDC members include practicing professionals in design firms, independent designers, allied industry professionals, interior design faculty and design students. AIDC serves as an advocate for the Registered Interior Design profession in Alabama.

Alabama Interior Design Coalition

PO Box 130484

Birmingham, AL 35213

https://www.al-aidc.org/

Jim Griffo, AIA, IIDA, is president of AIDC. Jim is both a Registered Architect (#3439) and Registered Interior Designer (#113) in the State of Alabama. He practiced Architecture and Interior Design with a large commercial A&E firm, Gresham Smith, in Birmingham for 27 years. Upon his semi-retirement he began serving as an Adjunct Professor at Samford University in the Department of Architecture and Interior Design.

Jim can be contacted at:

JGriffo@Charter.net

205.937.5391