Hello!

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Why is NCIDQ Certification Important?

- Industry Standard

- Differentiator

- Recognized by nearly all regulated jurisdictions in North America

- Increased Salary Potential
  - NCIDQ certification makes a difference. Median salary is $16k higher compared to those not currently holding any type of certifications and credentials.
    - Source: ASID 2019 Interior Design Salaries & Benefits: General Report

  - Those with an NCIDQ certification reported a median salary $10,000 greater than those without ($70,000 versus $60,000).
    - Source: 2018 IIDA Interior Design Compensation Report

CIDQ Council for Interior Design Qualification

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What You Need to Know

- Exam Information

- Application Process

- Dates, Deadlines, and Fees

- Scoring the Exam

- Certification

*For all information and questions, please visit www.cidq.org.

CIDQ Council for Interior Design Qualification

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Exam Basics

The NCIDQ Exam consists of 3 separate sections:

| Exam Name	Format	Number of Questions	Duration
Fundamentals (IDFX)	Multiple Choice	125*	3 hours
Professional (IDPX)	Multiple Choice	175*	4 hours
Practicum (PRAC)	Hot Spot, Drag and Place, Fill in the Blank	120	4 hours

*The IDFX and IDPX Exams each contain 25 ungraded pre-test questions.

2019 Exams Administered + Passing Rates

|	IDFX	IDPX	PRAC
Exams Administered	2,107	1,988	1,675
Passing Rate	65%	61%	63%
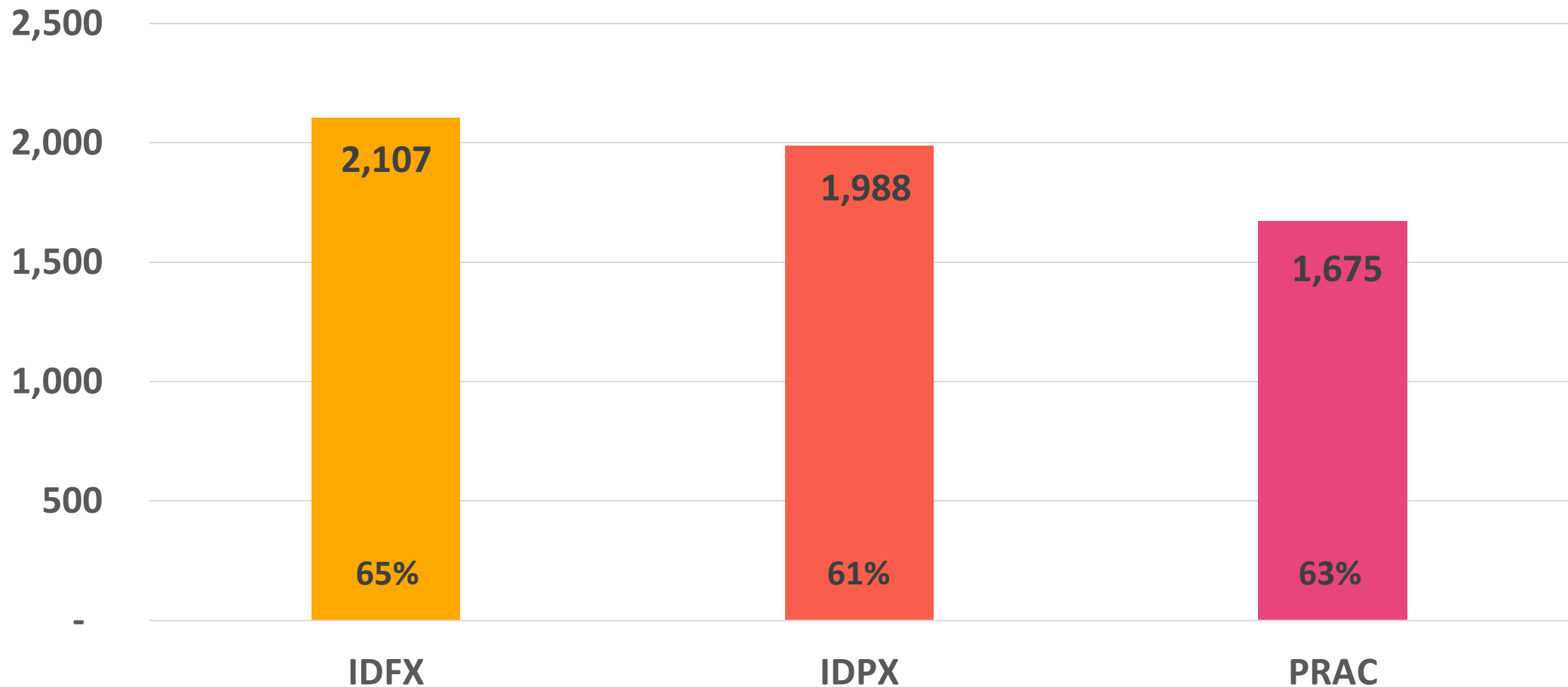
IDFX Exam

- Programming and Site Analysis
- Human Behavior and the Design Environment
- Building Systems and Construction
- Furniture, Finishes, Equipment, and Lighting
- Construction Drawings and Specification
- Technical Drawing Conventions
- Design Communication
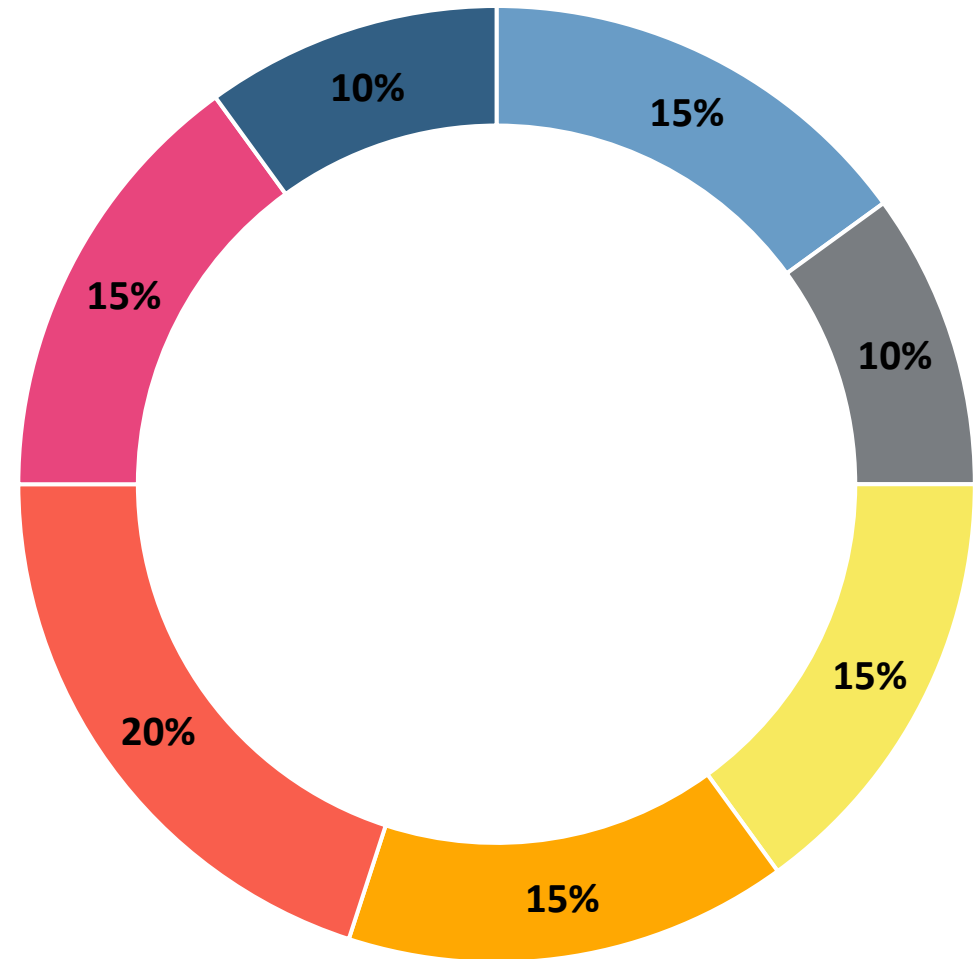
IDPX Exam

- Project Coordination
- Codes and Standards
- Building Systems and Integration
- Product and Material Coordination
- Contract Documents
- Contract Administration
- Professional and Business Practice

8% 10% 18% 18% 16% 16% 14%
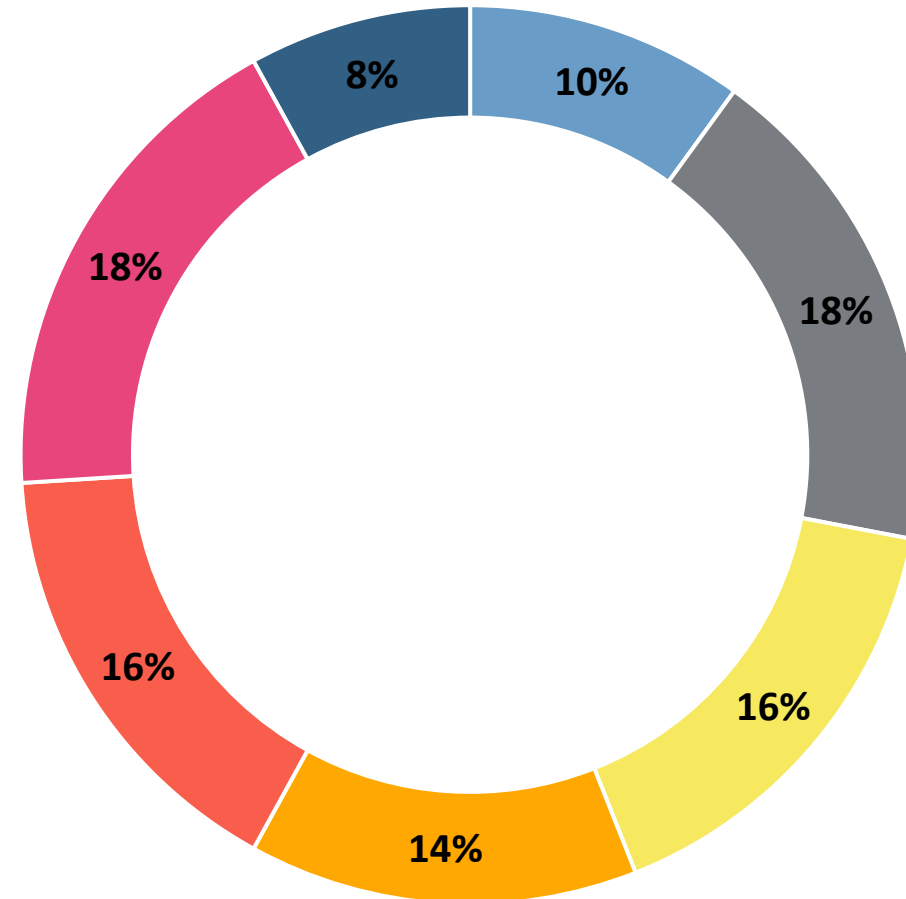
PRAC Exam

- Programming and Site Analysis

- Building Systems and Integration

- Codes and Standards

- Contract Documents

15%

20%

25%

40%

Council for Interior Design Qualification

CIDQ

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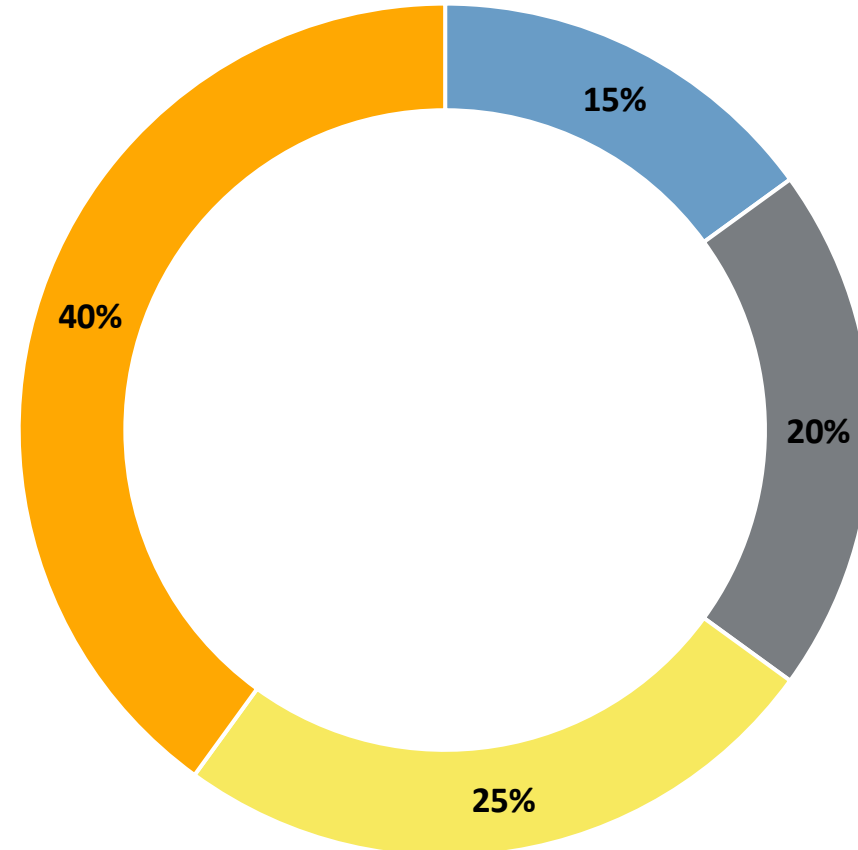
Practicum Exam

- No drawing

- Not software specific

- 120 total questions

- 4 hours in duration

- 3 separate case studies (large commercial, small commercial, residential) with provided resources (tabs)
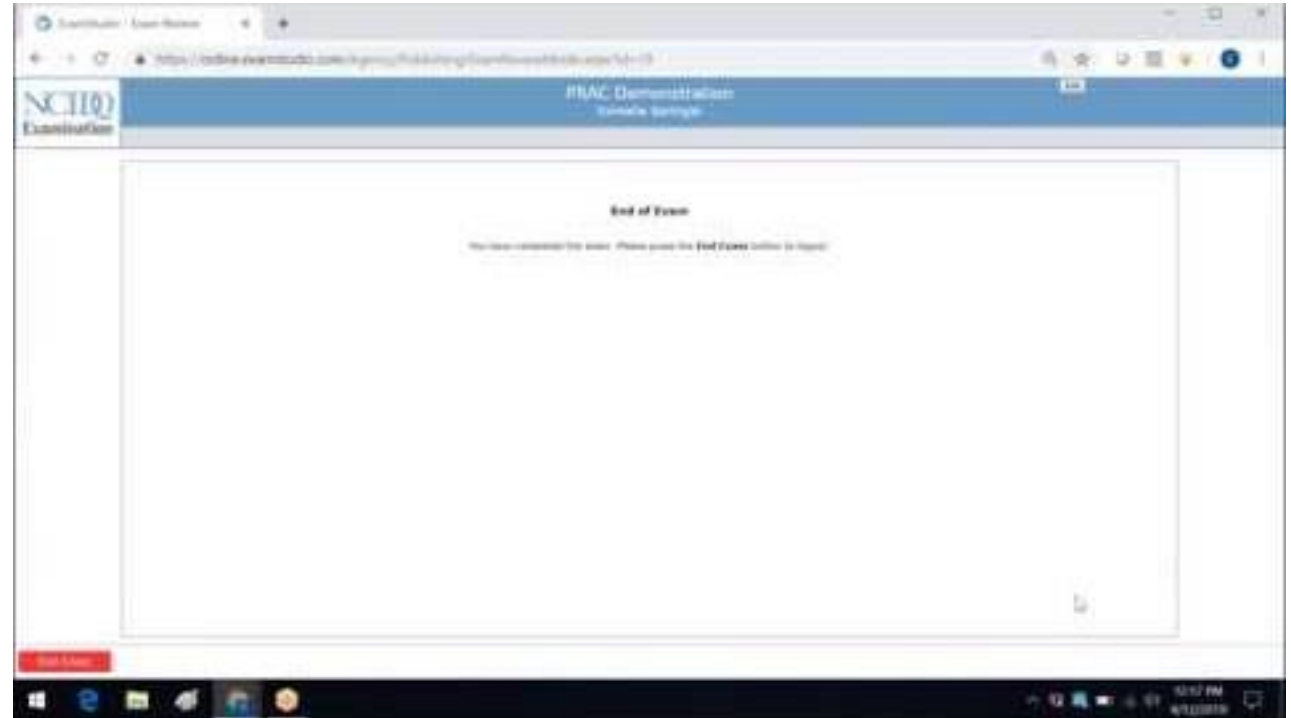
Demo available on YouTube: https://youtu.be/tOiw9Wll7cQ and at https://www.cidq.org/practicum

Eligibility Paths and Work Experience

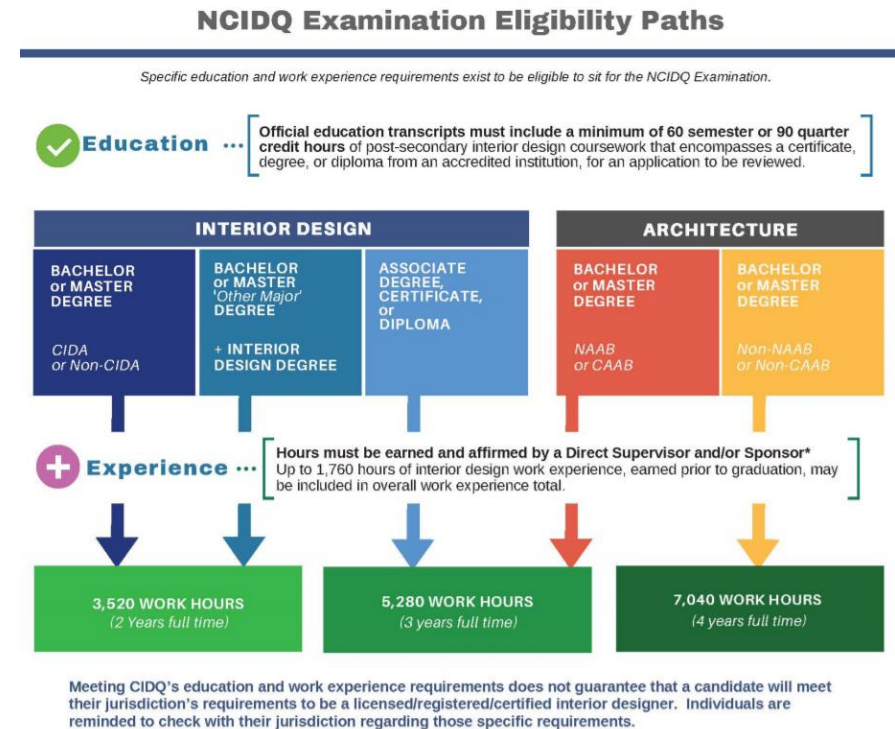- To be eligible for the exam, individuals must complete a combination of both education and work experience. There is also an alternative pathway for those who do not meet one of the traditional paths.

- All interior design work experience hours must be signed off on by either a direct supervisor and/or sponsor

*For full eligibility paths and work experience requirements, visit https://www.cidq.org/paths.

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 quarter **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			ARCHITECTURE	
BACHELOR or MASTER DEGREE	BACHELOR or MASTER 'Other Major' DEGREE	ASSOCIATE DEGREE, CERTIFICATE, or DIPLOMA	BACHELOR or MASTER DEGREE	BACHELOR or MASTER DEGREE
CIDA or Non-CIDA	+ INTERIOR DESIGN DEGREE		NAAB or CAAB	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.

3,520 WORK HOURS (2 Years full time)	5,280 WORK HOURS (3 years full time)	7,040 WORK HOURS (4 years full time)

Meeting CIDQ's education and work experience requirements does not guarantee that a candidate will meet their jurisdiction's requirements to be a licensed/registered/certified interior designer. Individuals are reminded to check with their jurisdiction regarding those specific requirements.

Application Requirements

IDFX ONLY
- Mail in official transcript(s).
- Pay application fee and submit.

PLUS (*after* approval of IDFX ONLY and completion of work experience)
- Mail in official transcript(s).
- Upload completed work verification form(s).
- Pay application fee and submit.

OR

All Three (3) Sections of Exam (IDFX, IDPX, PRAC)
- Mail in official transcript(s).
- Upload completed work verification form(s).
- Pay application fee and submit.

Dates and Deadlines

	SPRING EXAMS	FALL EXAMS
Applications Accepted	August 1 – January 31 **DEADLINE: January 31***	February 1 – July 31 **DEADLINE: July 31***
Exam Payment & Scheduling Period	January 3 – March 31	July 1 – September 30
Exam Administration	April 1 – 30	October 1 – November 24 (Fall 2020 administration only)

*A complete application must be submitted by the application deadline date to be eligible for review for the upcoming exam administration.

Fees

Fees if Applying in Two Parts*

APPLICATION FEE	EXAMS	EXAM FEE	EXAM PAYMENT & SCHEDULING PERIOD
$95	IDFX	$295	**Spring:** January 3 – March 31 **Fall:** July 1 – September 30
$145	IDPX	$355	
	PRAC	$460	

*Candidates who do not meet the work experience requirement and apply for the IDFX Only first must submit another application for the IDPX/PRAC once the work experience requirements have been met.

Fees if Applying for all Three (3) Exam Sections

APPLICATION FEE	EXAMS	EXAM FEE	EXAM PAYMENT & SCHEDULING PERIOD
$225	IDFX	$295	**Spring:** January 3 – March 31 **Fall:** July 1 – September 30
	IDPX	$355	
	PRAC	$460	

Studying for the Exams

NCIDQ STUDY GROUPS

EXAM BLUEPRINTS (CONTENT OUTLINES):

All NCIDQ Exams in the fall/October 2020 administration will reference the current/spring exam blueprints, below.
The updated blueprints will be implemented in 2021.

FUNDAMENTALS (IDFX) EXAM BLUEPRINT

PROFESSIONAL (IDPX) EXAM BLUEPRINT

PRACTICUM (PRAC) EXAM BLUEPRINT

Studying for the Exams

EXAM BUILDING CODES:

CIDQ has created and uses a specific, independent set of NCIDQ Exam Building Code Requirements for the purpose of taking the Practicum Exam. Exam exercises will be graded for compliance with these specific code requirements.

NCIDQ EXAM BUILDING CODES

EXAM REFERENCES:

This list contains resources used in the creation and development of the NCIDQ Examination. CIDQ would like to thank IDEC for their assistance in updating our reference list, as well as Fairchild Books for their donation of select texts.
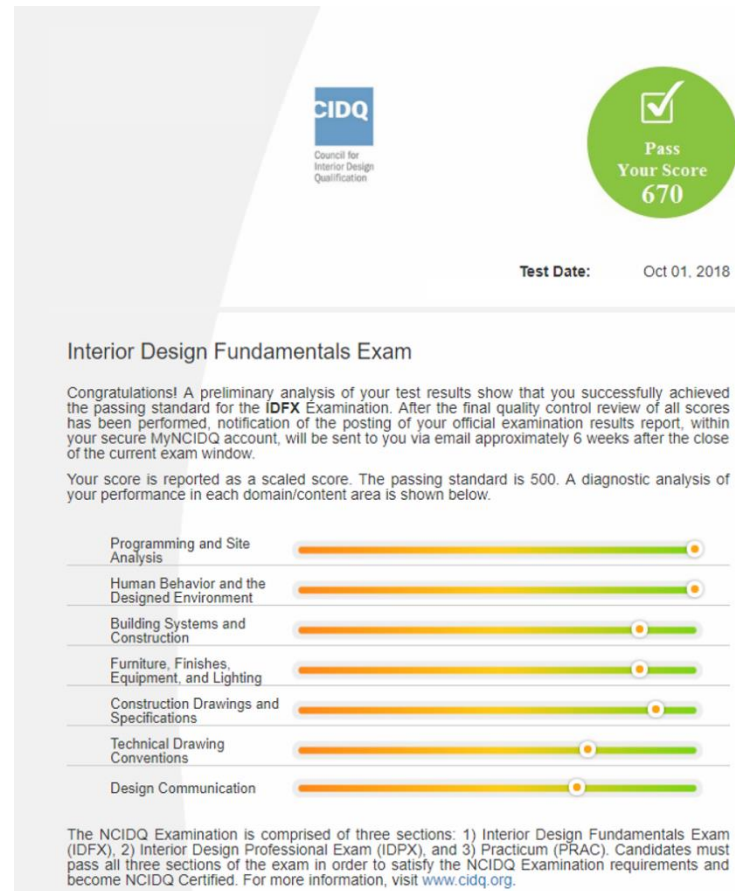
EXAM REFERENCE LIST

EXAM PRACTICE QUIZZES:

Test your readiness and prepare for the NCIDQ multiple-choice Exam Sections, by taking a practice quiz.

IDFX QUIZ 1 + IDFX QUIZ 2   **IDPX QUIZ 1 + IDPX QUIZ 2**   **PRACTICUM SMALL COMMERCIAL QUIZ**

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Sample Preliminary Score Report

Certification

- Why it matters:
  - Professionalism
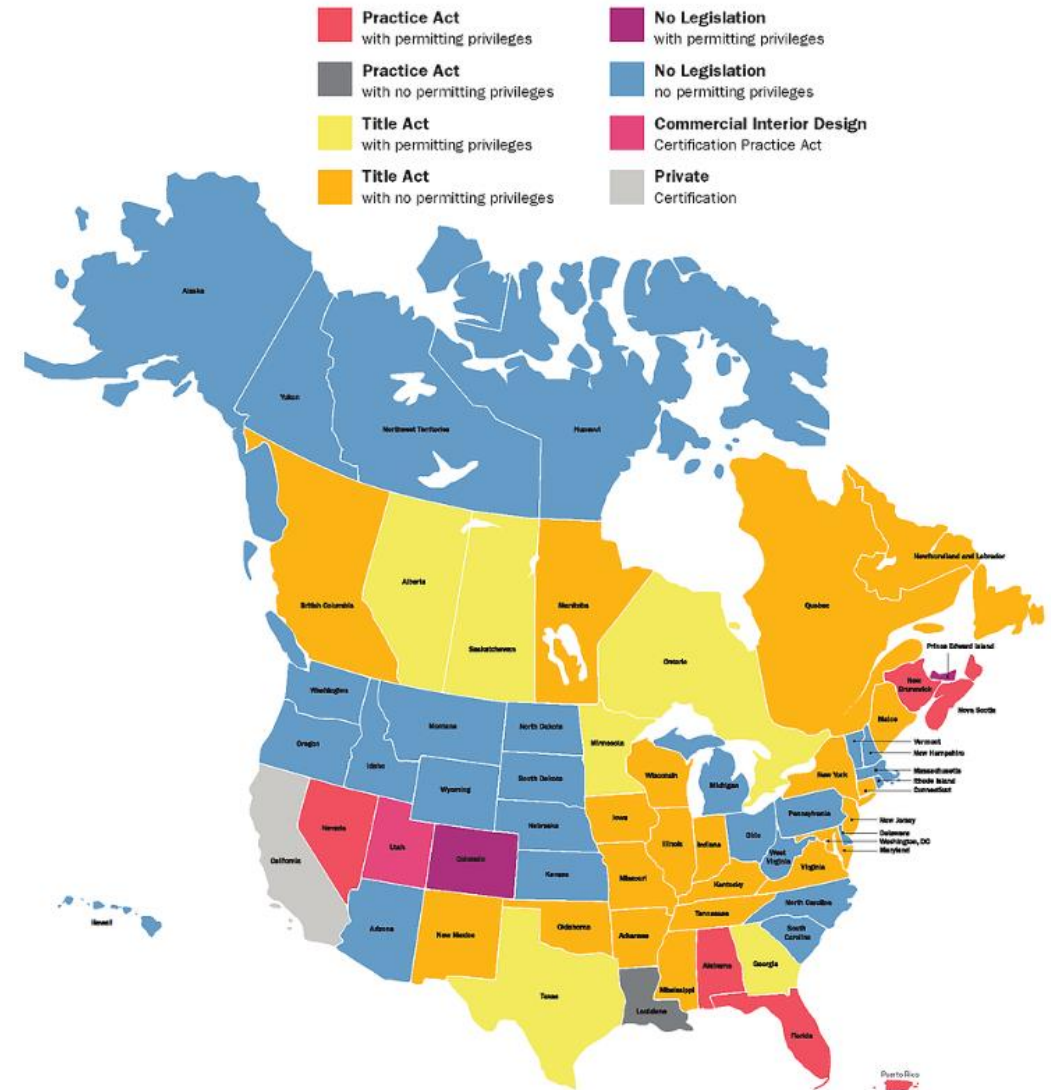 - Prestige
  - Opportunity
  - Eligibility
  - Leadership

Jurisdictional Regulation

- Be sure to check with your local jurisdiction to ensure you are in compliance with local laws and regulations.

- State of Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services –

  https://dsps.wi.gov/Pages/Professions/InteriorDesigner/Default.aspx

*For more information, visit https://www.cidq.org/member-boards.

Professional Organizations

COVID-19 Response

- Spring (April) 2020 exams were postponed to fall (October) 2020
- Applications are still being accepted as normal – deadline to apply for fall is July 31
  - Recommend sending transcripts via USPS with tracking (staff going into office once a week to process mail)
  - No staff are at the office to sign for or accept FedEx and UPS deliveries
- New blueprints will go into effect with spring (April) 2021 exam administration
- Fall (October) 2020 exam administration expanded – approved candidates will be eligible to test October 1 – November 24

Thank You! Any Questions???

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Did you know?
Educators can request a group application discount for students applying for IDFX Only.

Plus, educators can request a complimentary IDFX practice quiz to review in class.

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