



Path to Becoming a New York State Certified Interior Designer

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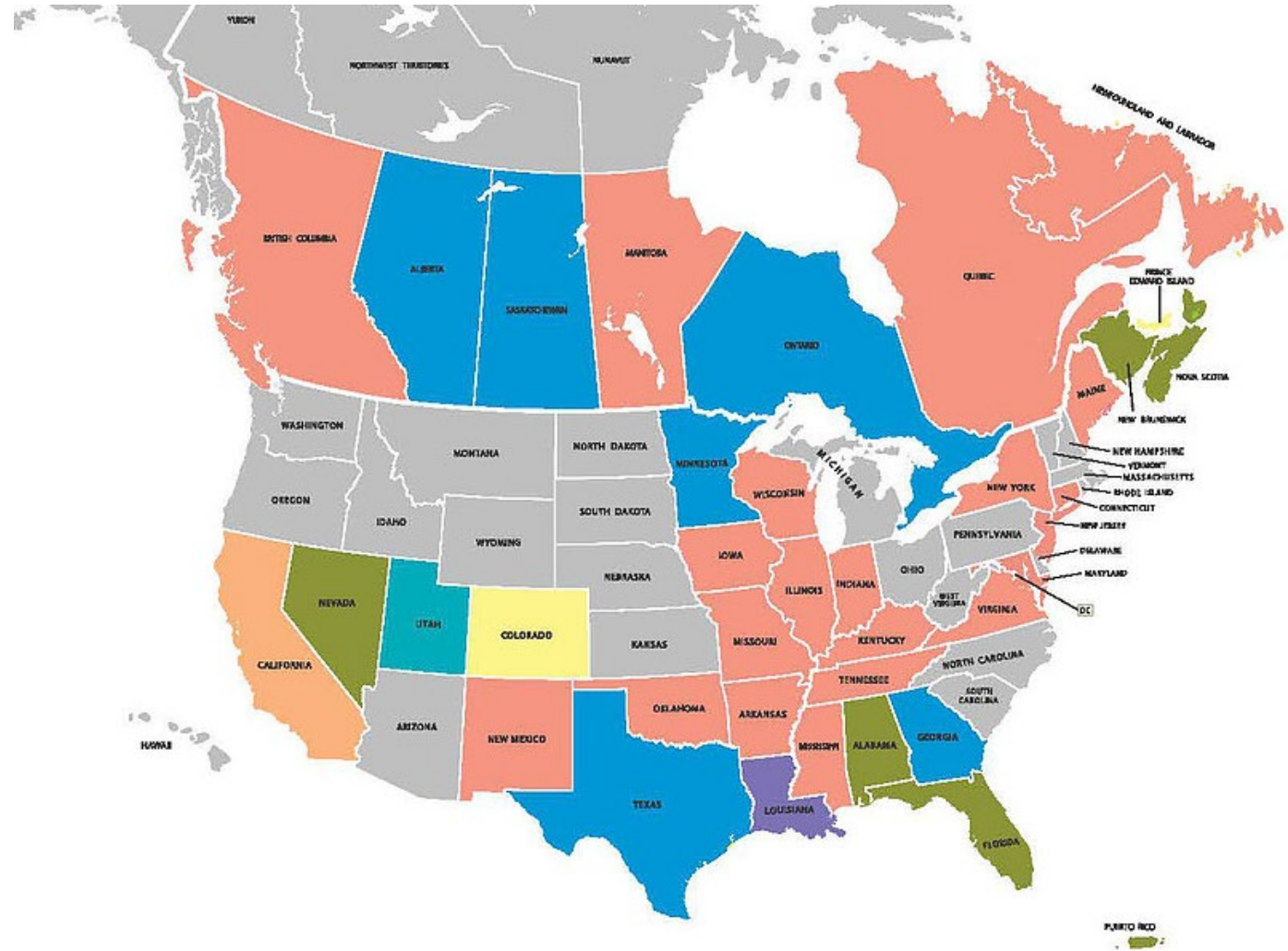
Why become a Certified Interior Designer (CID) in New York State?

- The **un-qualified** versus the **qualified** interior designer.
- A **qualified** interior designer will have the proper education and training, and understand the relevant health, welfare, and safety codes in order to design an effective space.

How do I become a Certified Interior Designer (CID) in New York State?

You will need the following qualifications:

- **Education (Graduated with a CIDA or CIDA equivalent interior design degree)**
- **Experience (Worked under qualified supervisors)**
- **Examination (Passed the NCIDQ)**



- Practice Act with permitting privileges
- Title Act with permitting privileges
- No Legislation with permitting privileges
- Practice Act with no permitting privileges
- Title Act with no permitting privileges
- No Legislation with no permitting privileges
- Commercial Interior Design Certification Practice Act
- Private Certification

United States Interior Design Laws - Protected Titles

Alabama*	"Interior Designer"/"Registered Interior Designer"	Missouri	"Registered Interior Designer"
Arkansas	"Registered Interior Designer"	Minnesota	"Certified Interior Designer"
California	"Certified Interior Designer"	Nevada*	"Registered Interior Designer"
Connecticut	"Registered Interior Designer"	New Jersey	"Certified Interior Designer"
Florida*	"Interior Designer"	New Mexico	"Licensed Interior Designer" and "Licensed Designer"
Georgia	"Registered Interior Designer"	New York	"Certified Interior Designer"
Illinois	"Registered Interior Designer"	Oklahoma	"Registered Interior Designer"
Indiana	"Registered Interior Designer"	Puerto Rico*	"Interior Designer"
Iowa	"Registered Interior Designer"	Tennessee	"Registered Interior Designer"
Kentucky	"Certified Interior Designer"	Texas	"Registered Interior Designer"
Louisiana*	"Registered Interior Designer" and "Interior Designer"	Virginia	"Certified Interior Designer"
Maine	"Certified Interior Designer"	Washington, DC*	"Interior Designer"
Maryland	"Certified Interior Designer"	Wisconsin	"Wisconsin Registered Interior Designer"

* Indicates a state which has had a Practice Act

Practice Acts require that interior design services be provided by a licensed design professional

<https://www.iida.org/resources/content/1/0/2/documents/Protected%20Titles.pdf>

History of IDLNY 1984 - 1990

1984

Under the guidance of Ruth Lynford, Interior Designers for Legislation in New York (IDLNY) was founded and incorporated in the State of New York for the purpose of defining and promoting interior design as a licensed, recognized, legal profession in New York State.

1986

IDLNY raised funds to hire a Lobbyist and Public Relations firm, called Howard Rubenstein. The goal in hiring a Lobbyist and Public Relations firm was help to oversee the draft bill editing and submit the draft bill to the New York State legislature that introduced Interior Design as a Title Act.

1990

After more than five years of bill drafting, editing, negotiations, many trips to Albany and overcoming opposition, IDLNY had enough support to pursue a cohesive Title Act with two strong Sponsors of the bill – Assemblyman Oliver Koppel and Senator Kenneth LaValle.

On Monday, July 2, 1990, Governor Mario Cuomo signed the Title Act into law and Interior Design became the 33rd recognized profession in New York State. The Title Act created the formal criteria of who could be called a **Certified Interior Designer (CID)**, in New York State.

IDLNY was formed by a coalition of six New York design organizations

1984

1985

IDLNY paid their first visit to Albany

After five years of bill drafting and negotiations, Interior Design became a recognized profession in the state of New York and received its Title Act

1990

2004, 2005 & 2008

Additional bills introduced

New legislation introduced to recognize sign, stamp and permit privileges to Certified Interior Designers

2013 - NOW

- Both the National Headquarters and local New York chapter(s) of each group support IDLNY's mission.
- The National Headquarters work together to support and manage a lobbying firm to advance potential legislation and serve as a watchdog for the profession in Albany.
- IDLNY leads all grassroots strategy and action that accompanies the lobbying strategy.

Numbers of Registered Licensees – 2018

Profession	Number Registered as of April 1, 2018
Interior Design	328
Landscape Architecture	1,344
Architecture	19,361
Professional Engineering	29,835
Certified Public Accountant	60,266
Medicine	97,757
Registered Professional Nurse	305,585

We need to increase our NYS Certified Interior Designer registration numbers!



License Statistics

Licenses Issued, Past 5 Calendar Years

Profession Title	2015	2016	2016	2017	2018
Interior Designer	13	11	11	17	24

Geographic Distribution of Registered Licensees*

As of January 1, 2019

County	Number	County	Number	County	Number
Albany	4	Jefferson	0	Saratoga	2
Allegany	0	Kings	33	Schenectady	2
Bronx	7	Lewis	0	Schoharie	0
Broome	4	Livingston	0	Schuyler	0
Cattaraugus	0	Madison	2	Seneca	1
Cayuga	0	Monroe	27	Steuben	1
Chautauqua	0	Montgomery	0	St. Lawrence	0
Chemung	1	Nassau	17	Suffolk	15
Chenango	0	New York	74	Sullivan	0
Clinton	0	Niagara	1	Tioga	1
Columbia	1	Oneida	0	Tompkins	2
Cortland	1	Onondaga	5	Ulster	1
Delaware	0	Ontario	3	Warren	0
Dutchess	3	Orange	5	Washington	0
Erie	8	Orleans	0	Wayne	0
Essex	0	Oswego	0	Westchester	15
Franklin	0	Otsego	0	Wyoming	0
Fulton	0	Putnam	2	Yates	1
Genesee	0	Queens	16	NYS TOTAL	268
Greene	0	Rensselaer	6	OTHER US	65
Hamilton	0	Richmond	4	NON-US	1
Herkimer	0	Rockland	3	TOTAL	334

<http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/id/interiorcounts.htm>

General Requirements

Any use of the title "Certified Interior Designer," within New York State requires licensure.

To be licensed as a certified interior designer in New York State you must:

- be at least 21 years of age
- meet education and examination requirements
- meet experience requirements
- be of good moral character

You must submit an application for licensure and the other forms indicated, along with the appropriate fee, to the Office of the Professions at the address specified on each form. It is your responsibility to follow up with anyone you have asked to send us material.

The specific requirements for licensure are contained in Title 8, [Article 161](#), Section 8305 of New York Education Law and [Section 52.18](#) and [Subpart 79-3](#) of the Commissioner's Regulations.

You should also read the [general licensing information](#) applicable for all professions.

Fees

The licensure fee for Certified Interior Design is **\$377**.

The fee listed is the fee that is currently in place when this page was posted. Fees are subject to change. The fee due is the one in law when your application is received (unless fees are increased retroactively). We will bill you for the difference if fees have been increased.

- Do not send cash.
- Make your check or money order payable to the New York State Education Department
- Mail the appropriate form and fee to:
New York State Education Department
Office of the Professions
PO Box 22063
Albany, NY 12201

Credit for Education

You may earn two years of education/experience credit for completion of an associate degree interior design program or four years credit for completion of a baccalaureate degree interior design program if the program is:

- registered by the New York State Education Department as licensure-qualifying, or
- accredited by an acceptable accrediting agency, or
- considered to be an "equivalent" program.

The [Council for Interior Design Accreditation](#) (CIDA - formerly FIDER, Foundation for Interior Design Education Research) is an acceptable professional accrediting agency for interior design for programs accredited at the professional level.

Earlier programs that were CIDA-accredited at the pre-professional assistant level will be reviewed for equivalency to an associate-degree curriculum.

Credit for Education (Continued)

For a program to be considered "equivalent:"

- A baccalaureate degree curriculum must contain at least 48 semester hours of coursework in the following content areas:
 - 1. Drafting and presentation techniques;**
 - 2. Fundamentals of space planning and design;**
 - 3. Materials and methods of construction;**
 - 4. Furniture, finishes, and equipment;**
 - 5. History of architecture and the decorative arts;**
 - 6. Codes - construction, fire, safety, and accessibility;**
 - 7. Environmental and building systems;**
 - 8. Color theory and application;**
 - 9. Business practices and ethics; and**
 - 10. Construction documents.**
- An associate degree curriculum must contain at least 30 semester hours of coursework in content areas (1) through (6) listed above for a baccalaureate degree curriculum.

Additionally, you may also earn education/experience credit for postsecondary-level courses completed in the content areas listed for a baccalaureate degree curriculum if the courses are offered through an approved program as described at the beginning of this section.

Education and Experience Requirements

Eligibility for licensure is based on a combination of education and experience for which years of credit are awarded. The credit awarded for education determines the required number of years of experience.

You must accrue at least seven years of acceptable education and experience credits, including the following:

- At least two but no more than five years of postsecondary education in an approved program of interior design, including an associate degree or its equivalent; and
- At least two years of interior design work experience satisfactory to the State Board for Interior Design. To be acceptable for licensure your practical experience must:
 - be under the direct supervision of an interior designer, architect, or professional engineer;
 - within the bounds of interior design practice as set forth in section 8303 of the Education Law, demonstrate diverse experience in all aspects of project planning and execution; and
 - reflect increased levels of professional growth.

Examination Requirement

You are required to pass all three sections of the Council for Interior Design Qualification (CIDQ) Examination which is administered twice yearly in April and October. The examination consists of the following three sections:

- Section 1 - Fundamentals - IDFX
- Section 2 - Professional - IDPX
- Section 3 - Practicum - PRAC 2.0



Access NYS CID Documents Digitally Here:

View Instructions on NYS Office of Professions Website:

<http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/id/interiorlic.htm>



Download CID Application Forms:

<http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/id/interiorforms.htm>

**Please encourage all Interior Designers to become NCIDQ
Certificate Holders and NYS Certified Interior Designers.**

Thank you!