

Qualified Work Experience

Route Work Experience

Requirements

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. When your work experience counts as “qualified” depends on which route you take for entry into the examination:

For Routes 1, 2, & 3	For All Other Routes
After you have completed 96 semester/144 quarter credits	After you have completed your education

When your direct supervisor is an NCIDQ Certificate holder, a licensed/registered interior designer or an architect who offers interior design services, your qualified hours are counted at 100% value. When you work in other supervisory relationships, your hours accrue lower values.

Use the chart below to see the value at which you can accrue your qualified interior design work experience hours.

Employment Setting

Type of Supervisor	Value for Work Hours	
	Direct Supervision ¹	Sponsorship ²
NCIDQ Certified interior designer	100%	100%
State/provincial licensed/registered interior designer in the U.S. or Canada	100%	100%
Architect who provides interior design services	100%	100%
Interior designer who is neither NCIDQ Certified nor licensed/registered in the U.S. or Canada	75%	50%
Not supervised by a design professional	25%	
Not supervised at all (self-employed)	25%	

EXAMPLES

100% value: 700 hrs worked = 700 hrs valued	75% value: 700 hrs worked = 525 hrs valued	50% value: 700 hrs worked = 350 hrs valued	25% value: 700 hrs worked = 175 hrs valued
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Go to www.ncidqexam.org to learn more and apply online!

- 1 A “direct supervisor” is a person who has detailed knowledge and direct control over your work, such as your immediate supervisor. This person may or may not work in the same physical location.
- 2 A “sponsor” is a design professional who agrees to oversee your work but does not have detailed knowledge and direct control over your work, such as an interior designer outside your firm.

The NCIDQ Certificate: Professionalism. Prestige.