NCIDQ Exam Reference Materials

Most of the content of the NCIDQ Exam comes from a common body of knowledge that is generic to the practice of interior design. A well-rounded period of professional practice is your best preparation for the exam. However, you are encouraged to supplement your education and experience by reviewing interior design resources, particularly those that focus on area where you’re less skilled or experienced.

The materials listed here can help supplement your understanding. This list does not represent the entire body of information you can use as study material, and CIDQ does not guarantee all information contained in these references. This is a representative, but not exhaustive, list of references. Although the list may include more than one reference that covers a content area, one such reference may be enough – and other resources that are not on the list may adequately cover the content area.

Standard Forms and Documents

Also – make sure you familiarize yourself with project forms, contractual agreements, and construction documents as they are used throughout the practice of interior design and will be cited on the exam. These forms are individuals or jointly copyrighted and provided by the American Institute of Architects (AIA), the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID), and the International Interior Design Association (IIDA).

Example include:

- Standard Form of Agreement between Owner and Designer
- General Conditions to the Contract for Furniture, Furnishings, and Equipment
- Forms for change orders, addenda/um, and bonding of bids, performance, and materials

Trade Journals/Magazines/Product Manuals

A number of industry publications provide current technical information.

Building Codes

The following building codes are used in various parts of the United States and Canada:

- IBC – International Building Code
- Life Safety Code of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)
- National Building Code of Canada

Standards

- Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) and ADA-ABA (Architectural Barriers Act) Guidelines
- BOMA Standards
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Standards and Practices

Books

CIDQ uses a wide variety of books as references when developing multiple-choice exam questions. This list is not exhaustive, but represents books that are frequently used by our exam writers.

• Parrott, Kathleen; Beamish, Julia; Emmel, JoAnn; and Peterson, Mary Jo. *Bath Planning: Guidelines, Codes, Standards, second edition.* John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2013.
• USGBC. *USGBC LEED Green Associate Study Guide*. Prentice Hall. 2009.