

NCIDQ

History Timeline

1972

American Interior Designers (AID) and National Society of Interior Designers (NSID) met to discuss the merits of forming a single organization to test minimum competency of interior designers. It was resolved that the National Council for Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ) be chartered to pursue this goal. Membership on the Council was solicited from all interior design organizations.

1973

The first and biggest challenge was to develop an appropriate exam. AID and NSID agreed to retain the services of Educational Testing Services (ETS) to evaluate their respective exams and to assist in developing a new exam utilizing content from both AID's and NSID's exams. This new exam became known as "The Interior Design Qualification Examination."

The standards for taking the exam were studied and a committee to develop an exam guide was established.

1974

NCIDQ was formally incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation. Exam centers were established in 20 locations throughout the United States, and the first exam was given in April.

Two hundred forty-two individuals participated in the first exam. Eight candidates passed both parts of the exam.

Arthur Kornblut, NCIDQ's first legal counsel, presented a proposal for developing a model licensing statute for the profession. NCIDQ approved the concept and Kornblut completed his research later in the year, recommending that NCIDQ establish guidelines for introducing interior design legislation.

1975

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) awarded a \$13,000 grant to ASID's Educational Foundation to fund NCIDQ's investigation of procedures for the licensing of interior designers. The grant provided for a survey of the profession to determine which knowledge and tasks are required to practice interior design.

1976

Based on the results of the NEA grant survey, the NCIDQ exam was evaluated and modified to ensure appropriateness.

1977

Interior Designers of Ontario (now known as the Association of Registered Interior Designers of Ontario—ARIDO) was accepted as a member of the Council, marking the growth of NCIDQ into Canada.

NCIDQ was accepted as a member of the International Federation of Interior Designers and Architects.

NCIDQ held its first meeting for presidents of the interior design organizations to familiarize them with the exam.

NCIDQ's growth continued with requests from Alaska and China for exam centers.

1978

NCIDQ opened its own office and operated as a truly independent organization for the first time. Its first home was located at 75 East 55th Street in Manhattan.

Flammability, toxicity, barrier-free design and office procedures were introduced as subject areas in the exam.

1979

Arthur Kornblut reminded the Council that legal regulation of the profession was inevitable and that designers should be taking a proactive role in establishing regulation. NCIDQ prepared for such a role.

1980

NCIDQ and the Foundation for Interior Design Education and Research (FIDER) established liaison relationships.

NCIDQ continued to be approached by foreign countries with requests to use the NCIDQ Examination.

The Council considered establishing an NCIDQ Foundation.

1981

NCIDQ developed an updated survey to determine the knowledge and tasks required to practice. Results of the survey were used to realign the exam where necessary and, as a separate result, to determine the number of interior design students in interior design programs so that NCIDQ could estimate the number of future exam candidates.

NCIDQ established a special task force to prepare the definition of interior design for submission to various federal agencies.

1982

NCIDQ established a relationship with the National Center for a Barrier-Free Environment to provide technical information to interior designers on the topic of access to the built environment.

A draft of the “Tentative Standards for Interior Design” was submitted to various federal agencies.

1983

The NCIDQ written exam committee expanded its ranks by adding outside consultants with expertise in special fields to grow the item bank and to consider the development of alternative exam formats.

A new procedure for handling candidates with special needs was implemented.

The NCIDQ office expanded and relocated to 118 East 25th Street in Manhattan.

1984

Interior Designers of Canada (IDC) became a member of the Council, acting as the umbrella organization for all Canadian provinces.

NCIDQ continued its growth with increasingly large numbers of candidates.

1985

NCIDQ approved the concept of a “National Certification Program for the Interior Design Profession” and began to evaluate the Council’s increased role in administering the certification program.

Preparation for implementing a new written exam proceeded.

1986

NCIDQ approved the concept of restructuring the Council to accommodate representatives from state and provincial licensing boards.

The Council moved into the computer era by purchasing computer equipment to handle word processing, test administration and statistical analysis of test results and candidates.

NCIDQ representatives met with a representative of the Québec Design Society to discuss translation of the exam into French.

1987

NCIDQ undertook its largest survey to date of the profession and an evaluation of its exam with the assistance of an \$85,000 grant from ASID. The Council retained the services of ETS to conduct the job analysis.

1988

A task force to evaluate the current structure of the Council was formed.

NCIDQ completed the job analysis survey and work began on the development of a new exam format. Hale Associates was retained as an expert in performance-based testing to assist with exam format development.

1989

The format for the new NCIDQ Examination was completed and pilot tests were administered, yielding positive results and feedback.

The Examination Guide was developed.

NCIDQ's restructure to allow representation by state and provincial agencies was approved.

1990

The newly formatted exam was administered for the first time and declared a success.

NCIDQ approved the "Certificate Renewal" program, allowing the Council to develop and maintain a record on each Certificate holder to assist in reciprocity between states.

1991

The NCIDQ Examination was translated and administered in French for the first time.

Teleconferencing was approved by the Board as an alternative meeting venue and used for the first time in July.

NCIDQ conducted its first Annual Members Conference in Toronto. The Louis S. Tregre Award was developed to recognize the efforts of NCIDQ's grassroots volunteers. The first recipient was Will Ching, FIBD.

1992

NCIDQ again undertook a restructuring study to evaluate the current board structure in light of current organizational trends and requested from the profession an expansion of the Council's focus.

NCIDQ's Annual Members Conference in Philadelphia was conducted in tandem with the National Legislative Coalition of Interior Designers (NLCID). This marked the first time that the professional organizations met with regulatory boards and various coalitions.

1993

The Council approved a new plan for governance which allowed for equal representation by all organizations and state/provincial regulatory bodies and allowed for the expansion of its certification program.

The NCIDQ office expanded and relocated to White Plains, NY.

The second joint conference with NLCID was conducted in Boston.

1994

NCIDQ successfully implemented its restructuring plan. The Council of Delegates was created, providing representation by each interior design organization and state and provincial regulatory board or association.

The Council formed task forces to study advanced certification, an interior design experience program, CEU monitoring and all aspects of the larger certification program.

NCIDQ conducted its third annual joint conference. The Council celebrated 20 years of service to the profession.

1995

NCIDQ developed its first Web site and the Board discussed the possibility of creating online computer services.

1996

The Interior Design Experience Program (IDEP) was initiated after research and development by Buie Harwood, Dianne Jackman and the late Ron Veitch.

1997

Hale and Associates conducted the NCIDQ Analysis of the Interior Design Profession, utilizing the most extensive survey of the interior design profession ever undertaken in North America. This was made possible by a generous grant from the IIDA Foundation.

Continuing education tracking was moved from ACT to the NCIDQ office.

1998

NCIDQ's Web site was moved to its current location, www.ncidq.org.

NCIDQ retained Columbia Assessment Services (today known as CASTLE Worldwide) to provide professional psychometric development and administration of the exam.

The NCIDQ office expanded and moved to Washington, DC, its current location.

1999

As one of CASTLE's first responsibilities to NCIDQ, they facilitated a Panel of Experts meeting to analyze the recent Practice Analysis in relation to the exam content and format.

The bylaws were revised adding the first President-Elect to the Board and paving the way for the first Public Member position to be added to the Board in 2000.

NCIDQ began development of a monograph program to provide self-study continuing education courses for interior designers related to health, safety and welfare.

NCIDQ celebrated its 25th Anniversary in Scottsdale, AZ in conjunction with its Annual Meeting.

2000

In response to the results of the recent practice analysis and the work of the Examination Transition Task Force, NCIDQ altered the format of the exam and the jurying process. The new exam comprised three sections and was offered for the first time in the fall.

Voting membership on the Council of Delegates was altered so that only groups that use the NCIDQ exam as a requirement for government approved certification/licensure/registration could be members. All other organizations were encouraged to attend meetings and participate in discussion, but would not have any voting power.

A new Certification Task Force reviewed the 1995 proposal and made a presentation at the Annual Council of Delegates meeting.

The Model Language Task Force reviewed the 1994 Model Language document and made recommendations to revise the language for use with Title Acts.

2001

The President, President-Elect and Past President officer structure went into effect.

NCIDQ's first continuing education monograph, *Ethics and the Design Professions*, was published.

The Model Language Task Force reviewed Practice Act language from Florida, Nevada and Louisiana and created a document for jurisdictions to use when creating Practice Acts.

2002

NCIDQ launched the new Practice Analysis Study for the Profession of Interior Design.

The *Lighting to Protect* monograph was published.

2003

A task force was formed to review the definition of interior design used by NCIDQ.

The results of the recent Practice Analysis and a Panel of Experts meeting confirmed that the NCIDQ exam covers the knowledge, skills and abilities required of entry-level interior design practitioners.

2004

The Council celebrated 30 years of protecting the public health, life safety and welfare.

NCIDQ, together with ASID, IIDA, IDC, IDEC and FIDER, launched the Careers in Interior Design Web site.

2005

Three new monographs (*ADA Guidelines, Creating Sustainable Interiors* and *Structures in Interior Design*) and the *NCIDQ Examination Study Guide, Third Edition* were published.

A new statement of NCIDQ's Core Ideology and Vision were adopted.

Cases of harm were collected from member boards to build on the case for public protection.

2006

A vendor was hired to transform our customer service from paper-based processes to online processes. A new examination service vendor (ACT, Inc.) was selected to begin work on the NCIDQ Examination in 2007. New paper filing systems were instituted for exam application and Certificate holder files.

A new Work Plan format was instituted to guide the activities of the Board, committees, task forces and staff.

A new booth for use at NeoCon was designed, built and installed, increasing NCIDQ's presence and outreach at this important trade show.