

advocacy

WHY REGISTRATION MATTERS



WHAT IS REGISTRATION?

After a state legislature passes a law that creates a title of “registered interior designer” (RID), only those who have submitted the necessary education, experience, and examination to the state can call themselves a “RID.” Sometimes these laws also allow RIDs to stamp and seal drawings for permits and/or bid on state projects. In some states, registration is used interchangeably with certification.

WHY DOES REGISTRATION MATTER?

Registration shows consumers and clients that you have met the minimum standards to call yourself a RID. Clients can be assured you have the education, examination, and experience necessary to be a professional interior designer.

Additionally, registration laws gives consumers a venue for the redress of grievances and complaints against RIDs.

Numbers don't lie. If you want to enhance your state's interior design legislation, high numbers of RIDs show legislators that registration matters to the profession.

Registration shows that interior designers are registered design professionals on par with architects, landscape architects, and engineers for their specific area of expertise.

BENEFITS TO PROFESSIONALS

- **Awareness** – “RID” shows other professionals that you support increasing public awareness of interior design as a profession.
- **Identification** – RID is a registered design professional, which is defined in the International Building Code, as “an individual who is registered or licensed to practice their respective design profession as defined by the statutory requirements of the professional registration law of the state in which the project is being constructed.”
- **Reciprocity** – Most states that regulate interior design offer reciprocity, which means RIDs from another state can easily become registered in that state.
- **Permitting** – Registration can give the privilege and responsibility of submitting documents of interiors for building permits.
- **Bidding** – In some jurisdictions, registration can allow interior designers to bid on government projects.

BENEFITS TO THE PUBLIC

- Interior design registration expands the options for consumers for design services in the interior environment.
- The public can identify qualified interior designers easily and effectively.
- The public is assured those with the RID title will make informed choices regarding building codes, suitability of materials, and will create healthy, functional, and engaging interior environments.

CONTINUING EDUCATION:

Interior design is continuously evolving as a profession as we change how we use and understand the interior environment. As such, most states require RIDs to complete continuing education courses to ensure the public that registration means a professional knows not only the basics but current best practices in interior design. Many states require at least some of those hours directly relate to health, safety, and wellness.

HOW DO I GET REGISTERED?

Most states require an interior design degree, preferably from a Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA) accredited program, at least two years of relevant & diverse interior design experience, and successful passage of the National Council of Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ) examination.

For specific state information and links to state boards, please visit advocacy.iida.org.

For more information about NCIDQ, please visit www.ncidq.org

For more information about CIDA, visit www.accredit-id.org

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