We are **CIDA**

CIDA (pronounced “see-dah”) is the definitive accrediting agency for post-secondary interior design education.

Our mission is to advance the interior design profession as the definitive source for quality standards and accreditation in higher education.

It’s an exciting time to be an **interior designer**.
Our Vision

Interior designers are sought after professionals because of their education and expertise in elevating the human experience in the built environment.
CIDA was founded in 1970 under the name Foundation for Interior Design Education Research (FIDER) by a coalition of interior design professional organizations (Interior Design Educators Council, American Institute of Interior Designers, and the National Society of Interior Designers).
CIDA is the only accrediting body specifically focused on interior design and is recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation for professional-level interior design programs that culminate in a bachelor’s or master’s degree.
Changing the face of interior design.

Over 18,000 students are currently enrolled in CIDA-accredited programs, with thousands graduating annually and entering the interior design profession.
Our Supporters

- CIDA receives annual contributions from the major interior design organizations and industry partners who believe that quality interior design education is of critical value to the profession's future.
- Annual contributors include: ASID, IIDA, IDC, IDEC, and CIDQ. Recent industry partners include: Steelcase, Allsteel, Gensler, Herman Miller, Haworth, Teknion, Interface.
Why is CIDA accreditation important?
For educators,

- CIDA provides future-focused, flexible standards and respected accreditation.
- We contribute to recruitment and retention, as CIDA is among the first and most common resources that students and parents consult when choosing an interior design program.
For practitioners,

- CIDA provides a baseline of quality and consistency in the workforce.
- Students from CIDA-accredited programs score an average of 16% higher on the NCIDQ Exam than non-CIDA grads. For the IDFX, the pass-rate is 18.5% higher.
CIDA’s value for students

- CIDA provides future-focused knowledge, industry forecasts and a valuable return on your educational investment.
- Over 70% of professionals from CIDA programs believe that accreditation has positively impacted their ability to differentiate from others during a job search.
CIDA’s value for volunteers

- CIDA provides a connection to the larger interior design community.
- Consider volunteering for CIDA today! We have a number of ways to engage so please visit: accreditid.org/volunteers or email laura@accreditid.org for more details.
How are CIDA’s accreditation standards for higher education developed?
How are CIDA’s accreditation standards for higher education developed?

CIDA believes in future-focused and flexible standards for interior design education. CIDA standards are continually updated to reflect contemporary and emerging factors influencing interior design practice, from technology to human behavior, health and wellness to global issues and other dynamic trends.

Interested in learning more about the trends, technologies and disciplines that are shaping the future of the interior design practice? Check out the CIDA 2018 Summit report on our website.

Why are CIDA accreditation standards always changing?

- CIDA believes in future-focused and flexible standards for interior design education.
- CIDA standards are continually updated to reflect contemporary and emerging factors influencing interior design practice, from technology to human behavior, health and wellness to global issues and other dynamic trends.
Where can I learn more?

CIDA Summit Report

- CIDA is passionate about growing and articulating the knowledge at the heart of the interior design profession for the benefit of educators, students and interior design practitioners.
- Because of this commitment, we conduct an annual scan and prepare forecasting reports, including the Summit Report, that inform and inspire educators, students, interior design practitioners, and the larger design industry.

Click [here](#) to read the full forecast.
How does an interior design program become accredited?
How a program becomes accredited.

1. PRE VISIT
   - NEW PROGRAMS SUBMIT APPLICATION

2. SITE VISIT
   - PROGRAM CONDUCTS SELF-STUDY
     Programs independently evaluate current compliance with CIDA standards.
   - PREPARE FOR SITE VISIT
     Schedule site visit and submit self-study report 8 weeks prior to site visit.
   - PARTICIPATE IN SITE VISIT
     Site visitors arrive and conduct three-day review that involves participation of faculty, students, and administration.

3. POST VISIT
   - SUBMIT REPORT FOR REVIEW
     Site visitors submit Visiting Team Report to CIDA for review and editing.
   - PEER REVIEW
     Report is submitted and moves through a peer review process.
   - ACCREDITATION DECISION
     After thorough review, the Accreditation Commission makes a final decision on the status of a program.

6 YEARS UNTIL NEXT REVIEW
How can I find an accredited program?

- Check our website for the latest information about accredited programs, online programs, and standards.
How can I get involved?
Opportunities for involvement

Volunteering for CIDA

- Nearly 200 volunteers, all drawn from interior design practice and education, currently assist CIDA in carrying out our work.
- Our volunteers:
  - Play an integral role in a process that produces recognizable and tangible outcomes
  - Are excited by charting new territories
  - Gain satisfaction in helping integrate the worlds of practice and academia
  - Raise the bar of professionalism for the field of interior design
- Interested? info@accredit-id.org

CIDA VOLUNTEERS HOLD A NUMBER OF ROLES:

- Site visitors
- Standards Committee
- Appeal Board
Opportunities for involvement

Becoming an active advocate

- Active advocates help us strengthen our brand relevance for the advancement of the interior design profession.

- Three easy ways to become an active advocate:
  1. Engage with us on social media, including LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter.
  2. Add your involvement with CIDA and/or CIDA-accredited education to your Bio and About pages.
  3. Share our latest Summit Report or Summit Series posts (found on any of our social media pages) with your colleagues and friends!
Opportunities for involvement

Educators should submit for our annual Award of Excellence

- The CIDA Award for Excellence Competition recognizes outstanding practices in interior design education.
- The competition is open to faculty members and collaborating teams at CIDA-accredited interior design programs.
- Annually, one first place winner receives a $5,000 award and up to two merit winners receive $2,000 awards.
Questions?