

## Registered Interior Designer FAQs

**-As a licensed architect, do I need to take the NCIDQ exam to be called an interior designer?**

*The law is a title act, so if you wish to use the title “registered interior designer” you must apply for registration. However, your architect license in NC qualifies you for interior design registration so long as it’s in good standing. That being said, the definition of the practice of architecture has not changed, so your practice is not restricted in any way.*

**-Do out of state Interior Designers need to be licensed in NC to practice commercial interior design?**

*If you are using the title ‘registered interior designer’ and plan to submit documents for permitting in North Carolina, regardless of them being residential or commercial, you must be registered.*

**-The duties and responsibilities of an architect have always included interior design. Why do I have to apply for registration as an interior designer now?**

*Architects are not being restricted in any way, the definition of the practice of architecture has not changed.*

**-Will I, as an architect, be crossing the legal line when designing a project that has interior circulation if I don’t have an interior designer registration?**

*The law does not restrict your architectural services in any way.*

**-Can architects complete an application and fee without having to take the NCIDQ Examination?**

*Yes, the application for architects is in the registered interior designer section of the web site.*

**-Is there any reason why an architect would seek to also be a registered interior designer? Is there anything that a registered interior designer is allowed to do that an architect is not allowed to do?**

*The most popular reason that an architect would want to be registered as an interior designer to use the title “registered interior designer.” Your services as an architect are not restricted in any way.*

**-If a firm has a Registered Designer on staff, our understanding is that the designer cannot seal plans for the firm unless the firm is a registered firm.**

*Yes, in order for the firm to offer and render registered interior design services, it must hold a registration from the Board. Refer to [Interior Designer Firm Registration Scenarios](#).*

**-If the owner of a firm is an RID, the firm still has to get registered? Or can the owner seal the plans as an RID?**

*If the services are being offered through an incorporated entity, the firm must hold a registration. If the RID is offering the services as a sole proprietor, they may do so under their individual registration number. Refer to [Interior Designer Firm Registration Scenarios](#).*

**Once registered what is the correct appellation for a Registered Interior Designer? NCRID, NC RID or RID?**

*The rules and laws do not make any reference to appellations. The implication is that RID means Registered Interior Designer, so if they choose to use that designation, a registration must be held.*

**I was registered in 2021. How does this impact CE? How much CE do we need to complete by the end of June?**

*Per the rules, you are exempt from CE for the year in which you were registered. For example, to renew for 2022-2023, one must obtain 12 hours of CE during the previous calendar year, which is 2021. Since you were registered in 2021, you are exempt from CE. On the renewal, you will check the box that says, “in compliance”.*

*Following are some useful charts:*

To Renew for the license year	Obtain CE during the calendar year
2022-2023	2021
2023-2024	2022
2024-2025	2023
2025-2026	2024
2026-2027	2025

If you are licensed in	You are exempt for the license year	And should begin obtaining CE on
2021	2022-2023	January 1, 2022 to renew for 2023-2024
2022	2023-2024	January 1, 2023 to renew for 2024-2025
2023	2024-2025	January 1, 2024 to renew for 2025-2026