



IDEX®

California

STUDY GUIDE

IDEX® California EXAMINATION CANDIDATE
PREPARATION ASSISTANCE BACKGROUND DOCUMENT



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS	2
I. Background.....	4
II. Examination Schedule	4
III. Examination Rules.....	5
IV. Release of Results	9
V. Examination Format	9
Reference Materials	10
VI. Examination Content.....	10
VII. Performance Objectives.....	11
A. Administration	11
B. Occupancy	12
C. Construction Types.....	12
D. Fire Resistive Requirements	12
E. Interior Finish	13
F. Means of Egress.....	14
G. Accessibility	14
H. Building Systems.....	16
I. Miscellaneous.....	17
J. Professional Ethics	17
K. Legal Issues in California	18
L. Contractual Issues between Client and Design Professional	18
M. Business Procedures	18
N. Design Theory	19
O. Human Factors	19
P. Design Phase	19
Q. Contract Documents	19

R. Contract Administration Process	20
S. Finishes, Furnishings, Fixtures, and Equipment.....	20
T. Environmental	20
VIII. Sample Questions For Practice not Study	21
IX. Frequently Asked Questions	25
X. Comprehensive IDEX® Exam Resource List	27
<i>BUILDING CODES</i>	27
<i>REGULATIONS / STATUTES</i>	27
<i>NON-REGULATORY DOCUMENTS</i>	27
<i>BOOKS</i>	27
XI. IDEX® California Classification System.....	28

THE ORIGINAL CODE MANUALS USED TO CREATE THE IDEX® CALIFORNIA EXAM WAS THE 2007 CBC. SINCE THAT TIME THE IDEX® EXAM IS REVIEWED AFTER EACH CODE CYCLE CHANGE TO MAKE NECESSARY CHANGES.

THE IDEX® EXAM WILL BE REVIEWED AND ANY NECESSARY UPDATES WILL BE MADE BY NO LATER THAN THE FALL EXAM OF THE CODE-CHANGE YEAR.

I. Background

Under California Business and Professions Code, Chapter 3.9, Section 5800, a Certified Interior Designer (CID) is defined as a professional who:

- Prepares and submits nonstructural or nonseismic plans to local building departments
- Designs interior spaces requiring the skills of a licensed contractor to implement
- Performs programming, planning, design, and construction documentation for interior elements, finishes, and furnishings
- Demonstrates through education, experience, and examination, the competence to protect and enhance public health, safety, and welfare

The California Council for Interior Design Certification (CCIDC) is required by law to ensure that all applicants meet these standards of competency.

A key part of this process is demonstrating knowledge of the codes and regulations that govern interior design practice in California. To assess this, CCIDC developed the IDEX® California examination in partnership with Meazure Learning/ProctorU.

This study guide is designed to help you prepare for the exam by outlining:

- The key knowledge areas covered on the exam
- The performance criteria within each area
- The objectives used to develop exam questions

Not every topic listed will appear on the exam. However, candidates are expected to be familiar with all content areas, as exam questions are selected at random from this material.

For information about eligibility or applying, contact:
California Council for Interior Design Certification (CCIDC)
365 W. Second Avenue, Suite 221
Escondido, CA 92025
(760) 294-1936 | www.ccidc.org | idx@ccidc.org

This document is intended to provide candidates with the appropriate information and sources, which will enable them to prepare for the IDEX® California examination.

To effectively use this document, review the contents (knowledge areas) of the examination and their respective performance criteria. In addition, details of each knowledge area are provided, along with the objectives used in developing test questions.

Not all areas of each performance criteria will be tested on the examination. However, candidates are responsible for the knowledge of such. The specific content of the examination will be drawn at random from this information.

II. Examination Schedule

The IDEX® California examination is offered **twice per year**, during the following testing windows:

- **Spring:** May 1 to May 31
- **Fall:** October 1 to October 31

CCIDC is the only organization authorized to administer the IDEX® California examination.

To sit for the exam, you must:

- Submit a certification application
- Register for the IDEX® California examination

Applications and registration forms are available on the CCIDC website at www.ccidc.org.

Once your application is approved and you receive your Notice to Schedule (NTS), you will be able to select a specific exam date within the 31-day testing window.

III. Examination Rules

Once you have registered for the examination, CCIDC has approved your application and registration, and the document submission deadline has passed, your name will be submitted to the test administrator, Meazure Learning/ProctorU Assessment Solutions. They in turn will contact you via E-mail, with a “Notice to Schedule” (NTS), sometimes referred to as the “CCIDC Eligibility Notice”. Please note the NTS will come via E-mail from Meazure Learning/ProctorU. The NTS will contain your exclusive username and password and will require you to submit your scheduling request at least seven (7) days prior to the date you wish to take your examination. You will be required to go to a specific web site contained on the NTS, enter your username and password and log in.

The test window will run for 31 days in the Spring and 31 days in the Fall. You must complete all the information required on the scheduling pages. You will receive confirmation of your examination date and site by E-mail.

Please note: It is recommended that you submit your scheduling request 30 days prior to the examination date on which you want to schedule. Because more dates are added between 45 to 21 days before the examination date, you will have more testing options from which to choose.

RESCHEDULING POLICY: Rescheduling within the same test window: You may reschedule a test appointment within the same test window up to five (5) business days in advance of your original test appointment. The reschedule request can be submitted through Meazure Learning/ProctorU’s online scheduling system through the same link provided on the original NTS. A \$50.00 fee will apply, and the fee must be paid online at the time of the request.

Rescheduling to a different testing window: If you wish to reschedule (transfer) to another test window, you must cancel your current test appointment by accessing the link provided in the original NTS. The cancellation fee of \$150.00 must be received by at least five (5) business days in advance of your appointment. You must contact CCIDC at (760) 294-1936 to inform them you are transferring to the next test window after you have submitted payment.

YOU HAVE 1 YEAR FROM YOUR APPLICATION APPROVAL TO SIT FOR THE IDEX® EXAM. If you do not take the IDEX® Exam or if you reschedule/transfer more than 1 time to another Exam window you will be required to pay additional registration fees.

NO SHOWS: All no-shows, those who fail to show up for a test appointment at a test site, will be required to pay an additional \$500.00 fee before they can reschedule. Note: A no-show will not be allowed to reschedule within the same test window they failed to show up for. They will be required to reschedule for another test window. The fee must be paid to CCIDC prior to obtaining a rescheduled test date.

Once you have scheduled your examination date and site you will receive a scheduling confirmation notice, your admission ticket to the examination. This notice will confirm your: examination is the “IDEX® California”, examination date, assigned test site/Live Remote Proctoring (LRP), candidate password, and the time you need to report to the test site.

There will also be a map for informational purposes to the assigned test site and a link to Google Maps if you need directions.

You will also be given a link to view a free demonstration of the online delivery system using a sample examination. Please note: the content of the sample examination will not include content from the IDEX® California examination.

If you have any questions regarding your registration “prior” to the document submission deadline, please contact CCIDC at +17602941936.

If you have any questions regarding your registration “after” the document submission deadline, please contact Meazure Learning/ProctorU at +19195726880.

IV. Admission and Testing Center Guidelines

Admission Requirements

To be admitted to the examination, you must:

- Arrive on time for your scheduled appointment
- Present your **Confirmation Notice** to the proctor
- Provide a **current government-issued photo ID with signature** (such as a driver’s license, passport, or state ID)

You will **not** be admitted to the exam without proper identification.

General Testing Center Guidelines

To ensure a secure and fair testing environment, the following rules apply:

- **No smoking** is permitted at the test site
- **Food and beverages are not allowed** in the testing area
- **Personal belongings are not permitted** in the exam room

This includes:

- Books, notes, and papers
- Electronic devices (cell phones, cameras, tablets, etc.)
- Bags, purses, coats, and similar items

All personal items must be left outside the testing room **at your own risk**.

- Friends, family members, and children are **not allowed** in the testing area

Testing centers may administer exams for multiple organizations at the same time. As a result, other candidates in the room may be taking different exams with different rules.

Computer-Based Testing

The IDEX® California is administered via a secure, internet-based testing system.

In rare cases, there may be a temporary loss of internet connection. If this occurs:

- Notify the proctor immediately
- The proctor will assist you in reconnecting
- Your remaining exam time will **not be affected**

Prohibited Items

You may **not** bring the following items into the testing area:

- Cell phones, cameras, or any device capable of recording or copying
- Notes, books, dictionaries, or reference materials
- Bags, purses, or luggage
- Tablets, headphones, pagers, or similar devices
- Calculators or watches
- Computers or other electronic equipment
- Personal writing tools (pens, pencils, highlighters)
- Food or beverages
- Hats, hoods, or head coverings
- Coats or jackets

Note: Sweaters or sweatshirts without pockets or hoods are permitted.

Live Remote Proctoring

Live remote proctoring allows you to take the exam online while being monitored in real time by a proctor via webcam. The proctor will observe you and your testing environment throughout the entire exam session to ensure compliance with all testing rules.

Proctoring, Security, and Testing Policies

Who Proctors the Exam?

Your exam is monitored by trained proctors from Measure Learning/ProctorU.

Proctors are responsible for:

- Verifying candidate identity and admission
- Monitoring the testing environment
- Enforcing exam rules and security procedures
- Assisting with technical issues

Proctors are trained in exam security, candidate support, and the administration of computer-based testing. During your exam, they will continuously monitor your session to ensure a secure and fair testing experience.

Exam Security and Integrity

To protect the integrity of the IDEX® California exam:

- Multiple layers of security are used before, during, and after testing
- Monitoring is continuous throughout your exam session
- Any behavior that may indicate misconduct will be reviewed

If prohibited items are brought to the test site, proctors may:

- Require the items to be surrendered
- Inspect electronic devices if necessary
- Remove or retain any materials related to exam content

Unauthorized copying, sharing, or reproduction of exam content is strictly prohibited and may result in:

- Disqualification from the exam
- Invalidated exam results
- Loss of eligibility for certification

Personal Belongings and Liability

Candidates should not bring prohibited items to the testing site.

- Any items brought are at your own risk

- Testing staff and facilities are not responsible for lost or damaged items

Candidates are not permitted to leave the testing site during the exam.

Accessibility and Reasonable Accommodations

CCIDC and Measure Learning/ProctorU comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and provide reasonable accommodations for qualified candidates.

What Are Reasonable Accommodations?

Accommodations are designed to provide equal access to the exam without altering its purpose. Examples may include:

- Extended testing time
- A reader or writer
- A separate testing room

All accommodations are determined based on:

- The candidate's documented needs
- The nature of the request
- The requirements of the exam

Who Qualifies?

A qualified candidate with a disability is someone who:

- Has physical or mental impairment that substantially limits major life activities
- Meets the eligibility requirements for certification
- Can perform the essential functions of the exam, with or without accommodations

Documentation Requirements

To request accommodations, candidates must submit:

- Documentation from a licensed professional or certified specialist
- A clear diagnosis and supporting evaluation
- Recommended accommodations

Documentation must be on official letterhead. Additional supporting materials (such as an IEP) may also be submitted. All documentation is kept confidential.

How to Request Accommodations

Requests must be submitted to CCIDC at the time of application.

- Approved candidates will be contacted by Measure Learning/ProctorU to schedule
- If a request is not approved, CCIDC will notify the candidate

Testing Environment and Technical Notes

- Testing room temperatures may vary. Dress in layers (e.g., a sweatshirt without a hood or pockets).
- Earplugs are recommended if you are sensitive to noise.

For computer-based testing:

- Responses are saved automatically
- If a technical issue occurs, notify the proctor immediately
- Exam time will be paused during connection interruptions

Role of the Proctor During the Exam

Proctors can:

- Answer questions about the testing process

Proctors cannot:

- Interpret exam questions
- Provide guidance or assistance with answers

Copyright and Exam Confidentiality

The IDEX® California examination is protected by U.S. copyright law.

You may not:

- Copy, photograph, or record exam content
- Share or reproduce questions or answers in any form

Violations may result in:

- Disqualification
- Invalidated scores
- Revocation of certification (if already granted)

IV. Release of Results

Exam results are typically sent to candidates within 10 to 12 weeks after the test date. The testing agency, Meazure Learning/ProctorU, provides CCIDC with official score reports indicating a pass or fail result. Once CCIDC receives the results, candidates will be notified as soon as possible.

Beginning with the Fall 2026 exam window, candidates will receive their results immediately upon submitting their exam.

V. Examination Format

The IDEX® California examination is developed by **CCIDC** in collaboration with **Meazure Learning/ProctorU Assessment Solutions, Inc. and the International Code Council (ICC)**

Exam Overview

- **Format:** Multiple-choice
- **Number of Questions:** 150
- **Time Allowed:** 3 hours
- **Delivery:** Computer-based (online)

The exam is administered at testing centers throughout California, as well as additional locations for candidates outside the state. Available locations will be provided when you receive your **Notice to Schedule (NTS)**.

What to Expect During the Exam

- You will complete the exam on a computer in a secure testing environment
- Some questions may include **reference drawings or tables**, which will be provided on screen

You may finish early and leave once you have checked out with the proctor

Reference Materials

The following reference materials are used in the development of the IDEX® California examination:

California Building Code, Title 24, Part 2, Volume 1 & 2

California Electrical Code, Title 24, Part 3

California Mechanical Code, Title 24, Part 4

California Plumbing Code, Title 24, Part 5

California Fire Code, Title 24, Part 9

California Energy Code, Title 24, Part 6

California Access Compliance Reference Manual (DSA)

State of California, Business & Professions Code, Sec 5800

California Civil Code, Section 1689

California Contractors License Law & Reference Book, CSLB, Michie

CCIDC Code of Ethics & Conduct

Bulletin for Interior Designers and Decorators, CDTFA.

ASID Commercial Contract Form Agreements

ASID Residential Contract Form

Specifying Interiors by McGowan, Cruse, John Wiley & Sons

Professional Practice for Interior Designers by Christine M Piotrowski, John Wiley & Sons

Beginnings of Interior Environments by Lynn M Jones & Phyllis S Allen, Pearson Prentice Hall

Construction Drawings & Details for Interiors by Otie & Rosemary Kilmer John Wiley & Sons

CalDAG Interpretive Manual and Checklist, by Gibbens, Michael P.

Residential Interior Design, A Guide to Planning Spaces by Maureen Mitton & Courtney Nystuen, John Wiley & Sons

Residential Lighting Design Guide by the UC Davis, California Lighting Technology Center.

Note: Unless you have access to these books in your regular business office, you may consider purchasing them, only to find the costs to be quite prohibitive. Please check with your local library, or with contractors, other designers, or architects that you may know in order to borrow them. Some of the information is available free on the Internet, which you can link to from the CCIDC web site by connecting to third-party vendors offering IDEX® California resources. Most reference books are available from online bookstores.

VI. Examination Content

The IDEX® California examination measures the following knowledge areas:

- The Administrative Process, Permit Process & the Construction Document Process.
- General Building Regulation.
- Accessibility/Universal Design
 - California Access Compliance (DSA)
 - California Access Regulations (Title 24, Part 2)
- Exiting/Life Safety (Title 24, Part 2 and Part 9)
 - Means of egress, exit way, exit passageway and exit discharge.
- Fire Codes and Regulations (Title 24, Part 2 and Title 24, Part 9)
 - Interior finish and flammability.
- Plumbing Code (Title 24, Part 5)
- Energy/Environmental (Title 24, Part 4 and Part 6)
- Electrical (Title 24, Part 3)
- Ergonomics/Anthropometrics/Universal Design
- Professional Ethics

- Legal issues specific to Interior Designers in California
- Contractual issues
- Business Procedures
- Business and Professions Code specific to:
 - B & P Code 5800 Certified Interior Designers
 - Licensed Contractors
 - Architects
- Design Standards and Theory
- Human Factors
- Design Phases and Terminology
- Finishes, Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment
- Environmental

VII. Performance Objectives

The performance criteria used to develop the examination questions; with a complete description of the objective of each criterion and reference material utilized to document the questions is provided in the following sections for each of the twenty knowledge areas.

A. Administration

Objective

To test the candidates knowledge of how codes are adopted, requirements for permit process and necessary information to submit for a permit, building and fire department responsibilities, other agencies responsibilities, when inspections are required, power and duties of building officials, right of appeal process, steps to obtain field inspections, the use of special inspectors, zoning and planning department issues, and Certificates of Occupancy.

To determine the candidate's ability to use the California Building Code (CBC), Title 24, Parts 1 through 6, and 9, and necessary information for the practice of interior design.

1. Identify necessary steps to obtain a building permit, plan review and approval, requirements of the permit process, necessary drawings and information which must be included, expiration of plan review and permit and requirements for a certificate of occupancy.
2. Recognize the powers and duties of building officials, steps in the appeal process, steps to obtain field inspections and the use of special inspectors.
3. Recognize how uniform codes are adopted in California and enacted into law.
4. Recognize that special design requirements apply to essential service buildings in California.
5. Given an example of field changes after plan check and approval, identify necessary steps and processes before implementing changes.
6. Demonstrate ability to find the definitions of various terms in the CBC.
7. Demonstrate ability to find and interpret important information relating to classification of buildings and occupancy requirements.
8. Demonstrate knowledge of the organization of codes, terms and regulations in California Building Codes, Title 24, Parts 2, Volume 1 and 2.
9. Recognize both on drawings and in the field when structural components are involved and who to consult before proceeding.
 - a. Residential

b. Commercial

10. Demonstrate knowledge of the fixture requirements, dimensional requirements, and space needs within public restrooms.
11. Identify correct and incorrect designs to meet requirements for light and ventilation.
12. Identify the location, size, type and labeling requirements for glazing to meet code requirements.

Reference Material

California Building Code, Title 24, Part 2, [Volume 1](#) and [Volume 2](#)
California Electrical Code, Title 24, [Part 3](#)
California Mechanical Code, Title 24, [Part 4](#)
California Plumbing Code, Title 24, [Part 5](#)
California Fire Code, Title 24, [Part 9](#)
California Energy Code, Title 24, [Part 6](#)
[California Access Compliance Advisory Reference Manual](#), by DSA

B. Occupancy**Objective**

To test the candidate's knowledge on the different kinds of occupancy classifications and how they are used in the application of space planning and interior design.

1. Means and methods of determining types of occupancy.
2. Identify different types of area separation between occupancies.
3. Identify and understand different types of occupancies.

Reference Material

California Building Code, Title 24, Part 2, [Volume 1](#) and [Volume 2](#).

C. Construction Types**Objective**

To determine the candidate's ability to know and understand the differences between types of construction and how they affect interior design and the use of space.

1. Using provided tables from the CBC calculate various allowable heights and usable areas for both residential and commercial applications.
2. Using allowable materials based upon construction type.
3. Determining different types of construction by use.

Reference Material

California Building Code, Title 24, Part 2, [Volume 1](#) and [Volume 2](#).

D. Fire Resistive Requirements**Objective**

The candidate will be able to apply Fire Codes and Regulations to residential and commercial interior design, and process of submittal for approval, and when the California Building and Fire Codes apply.

1. Specify materials and construction that meet flammability requirements for various occupancies.
2. Recognize that there are requirements for storage of combustible and hazardous materials and be aware of the possible effect on construction, materials, and occupancy classification.
3. Recognize violation of fire life safety during design, construction alteration and demolition.
4. Recognize correctly designed reflected ceiling plans must be coordinated with a sprinkler consultant, fire protection engineer and, in some cases, structural or civil engineer.
5. Identify requirements for the design of interior fireplaces and barbecues including mantels, hearths, and surface finishes.
6. Identify correct and incorrect fire resistance standard design and applications for walls, partitions, floors, ceilings, doors, windows and other penetrations for various construction types, fire resistivity, occupancies and locations utilizing standard designs such as sections prescribed within the CBC.
7. Identify various flammability tests for materials, textiles, wall coverings, upholstery, and drapery.
 - a. Identify requirements relating to draperies and wall hangings.
 - b. Identify testing requirements, testing agencies and standards for various materials and textiles used in interior specifications.
 - c. Identify the chapter dedicated to fire resistive material in the CBC and the applicable standards.
8. Demonstrate knowledge of when applications of flame-resistant finishes are required for interior materials and textiles.
9. Identify correct procedures for submittal and approval of materials, products, and specifications to meet fire safety regulations and how to obtain a flame spread certificate.

Reference Material

California Building Code, Title 24, Part 2, Volume 1 and Volume 2.
California Fire Code, Title 24, Part 9

E. Interior Finish**Objective**

To test the candidate's knowledge of interior finishes for floors, walls, and ceilings, as they relate to the various California codes and Title 24.

Demonstrate knowledge of the code as it governs the use of interior finishes, trim and decorative materials.

Demonstrate knowledge of interior wall and ceiling finish requirements by occupancy. Understanding of provisions limiting allowable flame spread and smoke development.

Reference Material

California Building Code, Title 24, Part 2, Volume 1 of 2.

F. Means of Egress

Objective

To test the candidate's knowledge of exiting requirements.

1. Demonstrate ability to recognize correct and incorrect applications of code requirements in exiting for all occupancies including the new terminology of hallways, means of egress, exit access, exit pathways, exit discharge.
2. Demonstrate knowledge and ability to calculate occupant load.
3. Demonstrate the ability to calculate location of exits, door widths, length and width of corridors, stairs, ramps, landings, and the number of exits according to occupant load.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of requirements for placement of exit signage, sign illumination, exit illumination and power source.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of exit requirements for sprinkled and non-sprinkled buildings.
6. Recognize what constitutes a legal fire exit on a drawing and what a dead-end corridor is.

Reference Material

California Building Code, Title 24, Part 2.

California Fire Code, Title 24, Part 9.

California Access Compliance Advisory Reference Manual, by DSA

G. Accessibility

Objective

To test the candidate's knowledge and ability to apply accessibility requirements and regulations in California.

1. Demonstrate ability to recognize correct and incorrect applications for accessibility regulations in buildings used by the public:
 - a. Restrooms, fixtures, hardware, and accessory items.
 - b. Doors, thresholds, and hardware.
 - c. Path of travel.
 - d. Public facilities including water fountains, mailboxes, elevator controls, counters, and ATM's.
 - e. Slip resistant requirements for walking surfaces.
 - f. Handrails.
 - g. Corridors, vestibules, and ramps.
 - h. Signage.
 - i. Protruding objects in accessible routes.
 - j. Unreasonable hardships.
 - k. Site access requirements.
 - l. Clearances and dimensions dealing with all of the above.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of differences in accessibility requirements for new construction, renovation, and demolition in commercial buildings.
3. Identify requirements for accessibility in multiple-family and residential care facilities.

4. Demonstrate knowledge of and under what conditions ADA requirements (ADA Title I & III) and California Access Regulations, Title 24, Part 2, must be met.
 - a. Public accommodation.
 - b. Commercial facilities.
 - c. Work environment (ADA Title I, The workplace).
5. Demonstrate understanding of definition of service establishments as defined by ADA and recognizes when requirements for accessibility will apply.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of the enforcement, liability and appeals process of ADA (Title III Sub Part E).

Reference Material

California Building Code, Title 24, Part 2.

California Access Compliance Advisory Reference Manual, by DSA

CalDAG Interpretive Manual and Checklist, by Gibbens, Michael P.

California Disabled Accessibility Guidebook by Builders Book, Inc., Mary Jorgensen, Kevin Choi

H. Building Systems

Objective

To test the candidate's knowledge of plumbing code requirements which influence interior design space planning. To test the candidate's knowledge of typical interior design requirements as related to electrical and telecommunications systems, location requirements, and situations when a consultant is necessary. To test the candidate's knowledge of energy conservation as required by Title 24, California Energy Code.

1. Demonstrate knowledge of requirements for number of fixtures according to occupancy load and type.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of minimum standards and clearances for plumbing fixtures in residential design.
3. Demonstrate awareness of venting location and plumbing requirements in residential and commercial design.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of water conservation requirements in the specification of plumbing fixtures.
 - a. Shower heads.
 - b. Low-flow toilets.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of various types of plumbing fixtures and associated hardware.
4. Demonstrate your knowledge of mechanical systems, vents, and registers.
5. Identify the location of electrical outlets, ground fault interrupters, switching devices, and fixtures as required by code in residential and commercial buildings.
6. Understand restrictions on the use of high voltage (neon) lighting in residential and commercial applications.
7. Specify single-use or dedicated circuits and other special equipment required by code or client function.
8. Identify when to engage a consultant for electrical specifications, or when the electrical contractor of record may perform this function.
9. Demonstrate knowledge of location and spacing of outlet and switching devices.
10. Demonstrate knowledge of the need for an emergency power source in special

- applications.
11. Demonstrate the knowledge of the use of energy efficient lamps, switching and control devices by identifying correct and incorrect applications.
 - a. Lighting requirements for appropriate lighting levels, switching and control devices for residential and commercial interiors.
 - b. Specify fixtures and lamp requirements for residential and commercial interiors.
 12. Demonstrate awareness of the specific forms required to meet the energy code, where to acquire them and who prepares them.
 13. Demonstrate knowledge of mandatory measures and requirements of the energy code including insulation, building envelope requirements, weather-stripping, and the use of glazing.
 14. Demonstrate knowledge of alternate methods of compliance and recognize the need to consult.

Reference Material

California Energy Code, Title 24, Part 6.
California Plumbing Code, Title 24, Part 5.
California Electrical Code, Title 24, Part 3.
California Mechanical Code, Title 24, Part 4.
Residential Lighting Design Guide by the UC Davis, California Lighting Technology Center.

I. Miscellaneous

Objective

To test the candidate's knowledge on miscellaneous parts of the code that affect interior designers and their work, not covered by complete sections, such as emergency egress windows, glazing, interior environmental requirements (ventilation, sound transmission), interior spatial dimensions (coordination with systems, lighting, structural elements), and smoke detectors.

1. Demonstrate knowledge of exiting requirements from residential facilities.
2. Demonstrate knowledge of different types of glazing and their applications.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of interior environmental requirements such as those required for special ventilation and sound transmission issues, as well as how to coordinate interiors with various ancillary systems and structural elements.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of smoke detector requirements relative to residential facilities.

Reference Material

California Building Code, Title 24, Part 2, Volume 1 and 2.

J. Professional Ethics

Objective

To test the candidate's knowledge of the professional code of ethics required by CCIDC of all Certified Interior Designers in California, as well as those of various professional interior design associations throughout the United States.

1. Given a description of the CCIDC code of ethics, identify different responsibilities and behavior of the practitioner towards consumers, colleagues, and others.
2. Identify the scope of Certified Interior Designers practice as it relates to the various codes of ethics.

3. Understand the Code of Ethics for a Certified Interior Designer.

Reference Material

CCIDC Code of Ethics

K. Legal Issues in California**Objective**

To test the candidate's knowledge of the professional practice rules and regulations for various professions in the building industry in California.

1. Given a description of the legal responsibilities as defined by law:
 - A. Identify the scope of work responsibilities of the professions, including engineers, architects, Certified Interior Designers, and contractors.
 - B. Identify the scope of Certified Interior Designers practice according to California law.
 - C. Identify the liability a designer assumes when changing design specifications on drawings with a building permit.

Reference Material

State of California, Business and Professions Code, Chapter 3.9, Sec. 5800.
Bulletin for Interior Designers and Decorators, CDTFA.
California Civil Code, Section 1689.
California Contractors License Law & Reference Book, CSLB, Michie.

L. Contractual Issues between Client and Design Professional**Objective**

To test the candidate's knowledge on the aspects of a design services agreement with their client and how to deal with issues such as breach of contract, arbitration, payments, scope of services, etc.

Reference Material

ASID Commercial Contract Form Agreements
ASID Residential Contract Form

M. Business Procedures**Objective**

To test the candidate's knowledge of common laws and regulations in conducting business in California, especially with regard to those laws that specifically impact interior designers including sales and use taxes, contractors licensing law requirements, interior design scope of services contracts/agreements, and civil code rescission clauses.

1. Given a description of the legal responsibilities as defined by law, identify the scope of work responsibilities of the professions, including engineers, architects, Certified Interior Designers, and contractors.
 - A. Identify the scope of Certified Interior Designers practice according to California law.
 - B. Understand the Code of Ethics for a Certified Interior Designer.
 - C. Identify the scope of liability when changing architectural specifications on drawings with a building permit.

- D. Write a contract/letter of agreement to meet California codes and regulations.
- E. Apply codes and regulations to standard business practice.
- F. Understand California Civil Code for providing professional services to homeowners in their home.
- G. Utilize commonly accepted business procedures and practices.

Reference Material

State of California, Business and Professions Code, Chapter 3.9, Sec. 5800

State of California, Civil Code, Section 1689.

Bulletin for Interior Designers and Decorators, CDTFA,

CCIDC Code of Ethics

N. Design Theory

Objective

To test a candidate's knowledge on the elements and principles of design and theory relative to the study of space, line, shape, mass, light, scale and proportion.

Reference Material

Beginnings of Interior Environments by Jones, L. M. & Allen, P. S., Published by Pearson Prentice Hall 9780132786003 – ISBN-10: 0132786001

O. Human Factors

Objective

To test the candidate's knowledge of ergonomic principles, anthropometrics, non-code based universal design, terminology, and common attributes.

1. Demonstrate general knowledge and principles of ergonomics as it relates to the interior built and furnished environment.

Reference Material

Beginnings of Interior Environments by Jones, L. M. & Allen, P. S., Published by Pearson Prentice Hall 9780132786003 – ISBN-10: 0132786001

Residential Interior Design, A Guide to Planning Spaces by Maureen Mitton and Courtney Nystuen, John Wiley & Sons ISBN: 1119312523 – ISBN-13: 9781119312529

P. Design Phase

Objective

To test a candidate's knowledge on the different phases of a typical design project in the early design phase.

Reference Material

Beginnings of Interior Environments by Jones, L. M. & Allen, P. S., Published by Pearson Prentice Hall 9780132786003 – ISBN-10: 0132786001

Residential Interior Design, A Guide to Planning Spaces by Maureen Mitton and Courtney Nystuen, John Wiley & Sons ISBN: 1119312523 – ISBN-13: 9781119312529

Q. Contract Documents

Objective

To test a candidate's knowledge on the development and technical aspects of preparing construction documents for a design project including their application to specifications and bidding.

Reference Material

Professional Practice for Interior Designers by Christine M. Piotrowski, John Wiley & Sons, ISBN13: 978-1119554516 – ISBN-10: 1119554519

Construction Drawings and Details for Interiors by Otie & Rosemary Kilmer, John Wiley & Sons ISBN-13: 978-1118944356 – ISBN-10: 1118944356

Specifying Interiors by McGowan, Cruse, John Wiley & Sons, ISBN: 9780471692614

R. Contract Administration Process**Objective**

To test a candidate's knowledge on the construction phase and process of a design project including change orders, post occupancy evaluation, project observation, preparing punch lists, dealing with requests for information, reviewing and approving shop drawings and dealing with submittals for review.

Reference Material

Professional Practice for Interior Designers by Christine M. Piotrowski, John Wiley & Sons, ISBN13: 978-1119554516 – ISBN-10: 1119554519

S. Finishes, Furnishings, Fixtures, and Equipment**Objective**

To test a candidate's knowledge on finishes relative to fire codes and flammability standards (ASTM, NFPA, UL) such as flooring, walls coverings, ceilings and fabrics. The standards will be relative to both residential and commercial standards and will cover furnishings, fixtures and equipment as well.

Reference Material

Specifying Interiors by McGowan, Cruse, John Wiley & Sons, ISBN: 9780471692614

T. Environmental**Objective**

To test a candidate's knowledge on various interior environmental subjects such as acoustics, indigenous species, indoor air quality and sustainable materials.

Reference Material

Specifying Interiors by McGowan, Cruse, John Wiley & Sons, ISBN: 9780471692614

Beginnings of Interior Environments by Jones, L. M. & Allen, P. S., Published by Pearson Prentice Hall 9780132786003 – ISBN-10: 0132786001.

VIII. Sample Questions | For Practice not Study

1. What MINIMUM conservation features and devices are to be included for compliance with residential energy efficiency standards?
 - a. Mandatory Measures Checklist.
 - b. Shading Coefficient Worksheet.
 - c. Energy Budget Point System.
 - d. CEC system grid.
2. What of the following would be considered an H-occupancy?
 - a. A factory with large quantities of flammable liquids.
 - b. A theater with seating for more than 5,000.
 - c. A maximum-security prison.
 - d. A convalescent home.
3. What is the MAXIMUM finish sill height of any residential escape window?
 - a. 36"
 - b. 40"
 - c. 42"
 - d. 44"
4. If work does not commence, or if the project becomes abandoned, what period of time can elapse before the permit becomes null and void?
 - a. 90 days.
 - b. 180 days.
 - c. One year.
 - d. 120 days.
5. What must the exit doors for an accessible commercial establishment include?
 - a. A 5-inch plate on the door.
 - b. An automatic self-locking assembly.
 - c. A bottom 10-inch smooth, uninterrupted surface.
 - d. Alarm-activity mechanism.
6. For a nursery with full-time care of ten toddlers, what class (excluding exceptions) must wall coverings be in corridors and exit ways?
 - a. Class I.
 - b. Class II.
 - c. Class III.
 - d. Class IV.
7. In a type I or II commercial office building, what construction is allowed for non-load bearing interior partitions that do not establish a fire-rated corridor?
 - a. Untreated wood framing and 5/8" gypsum board.
 - b. Steel framing and 5/8" gypsum board.
 - c. Combustible framing with non-combustible materials applied to the framing.
 - d. Steel framing with 1/2" gypsum board.

-
8. Your client has seen the work of another professional designer in a trade magazine and has asked you to duplicate it as closely as possible. You should:
 - a. Inform your client that you will need to find a local workroom that will duplicate the furniture pieces from photos supplied to you from the furniture manufacturer.
 - b. Add an addendum to your contract stating you will not be held liable for any copyright infringements.
 - c. Inform your client that it is against the professional designer's code of ethics to plagiarize another designer's work.
 - d. Ask the vendors if they provide special discounts.
 9. Which of the following are associated with the principles of rhythm?
 - a. Gradation, repetition, transition, and progression.
 - b. Gradation, progression, repetition, and subordination.
 - c. Domination, gradation, transition, and progression.
 - d. Domination, subordination, repetition, and transition.
 10. In lighting design, where are light reflectance and glare issues MOST important?
 - a. Offices.
 - b. Restaurants.
 - c. Bedrooms.
 - d. Living rooms.
 11. Which form of light has the MOST positive effect on people's health and well-being?
 - a. Natural.
 - b. Discharge.
 - c. Full spectrum.
 - d. Warm deluxe.
 12. Which of the following should a designer do during the concept/ schematic design phase?
 - a. Create preliminary design decisions for client review.
 - b. Prepare set of CD's and FF&E package.
 - c. Locate contractors that can complete the work.
 - d. Finalize all schedules and specifications.
 13. Which of the following are the FIRST considerations when developing a space plan?
 - a. Scale and proportion.
 - b. Codes and adjacencies.
 - c. Furnishings and arrangements.
 - d. Relationships and design.
 14. Which of the following would require construction documents to be prepared by a registered professional?
 - a. Residential remodel.
 - b. Non-sprinklered building.
 - c. Artist-in-residence loft.
 - d. High-rise building project.
 15. Designers should allow a change order to be issued only upon the written approval by which of the following?
 - a. Building Official.
 - b. Client/Owner.
 - c. Subcontractor.
-

- d. Contractor.
16. Which of the following is the purpose of the shop drawings in the administration of the compliance with the contract?
- a. Offer the designer the opportunity to reconsider the design intent.
 - b. Allow the contractor to make substitutions.
 - c. Illustrate specific situations or details of the project.
 - d. Respond to plan check corrections.
17. Who prepares and submits shop drawings and samples for approval?
- a. City inspector.
 - b. Designer.
 - c. Contractor.
 - d. Client.
18. Which of the following is a common property of vinyl coated wall coverings manufactured for hospitality design?
- a. Mildew resistance.
 - b. Toxic binders.
 - c. Transparent finishes.
 - d. Textural surfaces.
19. Which of the following determines and rates the mildew resistance of wallpaper?
- a. IBC
 - b. ASTM
 - c. NTMA
 - d. ANSI
20. Which test is used to measure flame spread in rated corridors?
- a. Flame rating system.
 - b. Chamber test.
 - c. Steiner tunnel test.
 - d. Flooring radiant panel test.
21. Which of the following should designers AVOID when specifying paint, because of toxicity?
- a. Volatile organic compounds.
 - b. Water-based resins.
 - c. Water-based thinners.
 - d. Water-based sealers.
22. Which of the following should a designer attempt to specify on every "LEED" design project?
- a. Sustainable materials.
 - b. Materials for cost.
 - c. Materials for style.
 - d. Materials for safety.

Correct Answers:

1. A.
2. A.
3. D.
4. B.
5. C.
6. B.
7. B.
8. C.
9. A.
10. A.
11. A.
12. A.
13. B.
14. D.
15. B.
16. C.
17. C.
18. A.
19. B.
20. D.
21. A.
22. A.

IX. Frequently Asked Questions

I'm already a Certified Interior Designer (CID) in California. Do I still need to take the IDEX® California?

No. If you are already a Certified Interior Designer (CID) in California, you do not need to take the IDEX® California. This exam is only for new applicants.

Do I need to take both the IDEX® California and a national exam?

It depends on your professional goals. If you plan to join a professional association such as ASID, IIDA, NKBA, or IDS, you may also need to take a national exam.

If your goal is to become Certified in California and practice in California, the IDEX® California is the only exam required. California uses its own building codes and regulations, which is why the IDEX® California focuses specifically on California practice.

Requirements can vary by state. Some states regulate interior design and may have additional requirements, while others do not.

How many questions are on the exam?

The IDEX® California exam includes 150 multiple-choice questions.

How long is the exam?

You will have 3 hours to complete the exam.

Are there prep courses or study groups available?

Yes. There are third-party providers that offer prep courses, study materials, and opportunities to join study groups specifically for the IDEX® California.

How much should I study?

That depends on your experience. If you regularly work with the California Building Code and Title 24, you may need less preparation. If not, you should plan for more study time and may benefit from a prep course.

Reviewing the exam content outline is a good way to assess your current knowledge and identify areas to focus on.

The reference materials seem expensive. Are there lower-cost options?

Yes. Many design firms already have the required code books available. In addition, California Codes can be accessed online for free. CCIDC provides this free study guide to help you prepare for the IDEX® California.

Can I reschedule my exam appointment?

Yes. You can reschedule up to 5 business days before your appointment. A \$50 fee will be charged by Meazure Learning/ProctorU at the time of your request. Use the scheduling link provided in your Notice to Schedule (NTS).

CCIDC allows a one-time courtesy transfer before the applicable deadlines without an additional CCIDC fee. Additional transfers may result in extra fees.

How do I transfer to a different testing window?

Please contact the CCIDC office at +17602941936 before the document submission deadline. Requests made after the deadline may incur additional fees.

What happens if I miss my exam appointment?

If you do not attend your scheduled exam, you will be considered a no-show. To reschedule for a future testing window, you will need to pay the \$500 exam fee again.

How do I know where to go for my exam?

After you receive your Notice to Schedule (NTS) from Meazure Learning/ProctorU, you will select your testing location and appointment time. Your confirmation will include the testing center address and a link to Google Maps.

When will I receive my results?

Exam results are typically sent within 10 to 12 weeks of the test date. Beginning with the Fall 2026 exam window, candidates will receive their results immediately upon completion of the exam.

Can I bring food or drinks into the testing center?

No. Food and drinks are not allowed in the testing center. If you have a medical condition or disability, you may request special accommodations. Instructions for requesting accommodations are provided earlier in this study guide.

How is the exam scored?

Each question is worth one point, and your total score is based on the number of correct answers. There is no penalty for incorrect answers, so it is to your advantage to answer every question.

The passing score is not a fixed percentage. It is established in advance using a modified Angoff method, through a formal standard-setting process conducted by subject matter experts in collaboration with professional psychometricians.

This process determines the level of performance expected of a minimally qualified candidate and ensures the exam is scored fairly and consistently. This approach is widely used in professional testing and helps ensure the validity, reliability, and fairness of exam results.

X. Comprehensive IDEX® Exam Resource List

BUILDING CODES

1. California Building Code, Title 24, Part 2, Volume 1 and Volume 2
2. California Electrical Code, Title 24, Part 3
3. California Mechanical Code, Title 24, Part 4
4. California Plumbing Code, Title 24, Part 5
5. California Fire Code, Title 24, Part 9
6. California Energy Code, Title 24, Part 6
7. California Access Compliance Reference Manual (DSA)

REGULATIONS / STATUTES

8. State of California, Business and Professions Code, Section 5800-5812.
9. California Civil Code, Section 1689.
10. California Contractors License Law & Reference Book, CSLB, LexisNexis.

NON-REGULATORY DOCUMENTS

11. CCIDC Code of Ethics.
12. Bulletin for Interior Designers and Decorators, CDTFA.
13. ASID Commercial Contract Form Agreements
14. ASID Residential Contract Form

BOOKS

15. Specifying Interiors by McGowan, Cruse, John Wiley & Sons
16. Professional Practice for Interior Designers by Christine M. Piotrowski, John Wiley & Sons,
17. Beginnings of Interior Environments by Lynn M. Jones and Phyllis S. Allen, Pearson Prentice Hall
18. Construction Drawings and Details for Interiors by Otie & Rosemary Kilmer, JohnWiley & Sons.
19. CalDAG Interpretive Manual and Checklist, by Gibbens, Michael P.
20. Residential Interior Design, A Guide to Planning Spaces by Maureen Mitton and Courtney Nystuen, John Wiley & Sons
21. Residential Lighting Design Guide by the UC Davis, California Lighting Technology Center.

XI. IDEX® California Classification System

Description	Classification
Domain 1 Legal Requirements and Responsibilities	
Task: Understand the options for legal disputes and resolutions.	
Knowledge of: Arbitration	010101
Knowledge of: Mediation	010102
Knowledge of: Litigation	010103
Task: Understands legal responsibilities and contractual obligations of a designer and related trades.	
Knowledge of: California Business and Professions Code, 5807, 5537, 5538	010201
Knowledge of: CCIDC Code of Ethics	010202
Knowledge of: Civil code	010203
Knowledge of: Contractor licensing law	010204
Knowledge of: Mechanic's lien law	010205
Knowledge of: Three-day Right of Rescission	010206
Knowledge of: Sales Tax	010207
Knowledge of: Limits of practice and authority	010208
Task: Implement contractual elements between client and design professional.	
Knowledge of: Arbitration	010301
Knowledge of: Breach of contract	010302
Knowledge of: Drawing reference construction documents	010303
Knowledge of: Litigation	010304
Knowledge of: Payments to design professional	010305
Knowledge of: Scope of services components of the contract	010306
Knowledge of: Specifications scope of work	010307
Knowledge of: Timeline	010308
Knowledge of: State of California business and professions code (e.g., 5800-5812)	010309
Task: Basic understanding of business administration procedures.	
Knowledge of: Accounting	010401
Knowledge of: Attorneys	010402
Knowledge of: Insurance	010403
Knowledge of: Business formations	010404
Knowledge of: Liability	010405
Knowledge of: Technical and business consultants	010406
Domain 2 Professional Practice and Ethics	
Task: Professional Practice and Ethics Abides by the CCIDC Code of Ethics and practices ethical operating principles.	
Knowledge of: Copyright laws	020101
Knowledge of: Conflicts of interest	020102
Knowledge of: Plagiarism and/or intellectual property	020103
Knowledge of: Proprietary information	020104

Task: Understands what professional conduct is required with regards to clients, public, colleagues, and trades.	
Knowledge of: Behaviors	020201
Knowledge of: Responsibility	020202
Task: Act as the contract administrator when included in the contract.	
Knowledge of: Other	020301

Task: Prepare and/or oversee nonstructural or nonseismic submittal documents.	
Knowledge of: California business and professions code (e.g., section 5800)	020401
Task: Understand the role of a designer as it relates to allied professionals (e.g., contractors, architects).	
Knowledge of: California business and professions code (e.g., section 5537, 5538)	020501
Task: Technology and computer software.	
Knowledge of: Digital design, presentation and communication tools	020601
Task: Perform research through valid and reliable resources.	
Knowledge of: Hardcopy publications	020701
Knowledge of: Online and/or digital sources	020702
Knowledge of: Reference standards	020703
Knowledge of: Interviews (e.g., agencies, representatives)	020704
Domain 3 Design Standards	
Task: Understand design and theory relative to the study of space, line, shape, mass, light, scale and proportion.	
Knowledge of: Elements and principles	030101
Task: Demonstrate principles of ergonomics as it relates to the interior built and furnished environment.	
Knowledge of: Anthropomorphic	030201
Knowledge of: Ergonomics	030202
Knowledge of: Lighting	030203
Knowledge of: Universal design	030204
Task: Work through the different phases of a typical design project.	
Knowledge of: Conceptual and schematic	030301
Knowledge of: Cost estimating	030302
Knowledge of: Programing	030303
Knowledge of: Space planning	030304
Task: Develop technical aspects and prepare construction documents.	
Knowledge of: Bidding procedures	030401
Knowledge of: Construction drawings	030402
Knowledge of: Construction specifications and finishes	030403
Task: Review, revise, and approve elements of the contract administration.	
Knowledge of: Change order	030501
Knowledge of: Post Occupancy Evaluation	030502
Knowledge of: Project Observation	030503
Knowledge of: Punch List	030504
Knowledge of: Request for Information	030505

Knowledge of: Shop Drawings	030506
Task: Design and communicate the importance of environmental elements.	
Knowledge of: Acoustics	030601
Knowledge of: Indigenous species	030602
Knowledge of: Indoor air quality	030603
Knowledge of: Sustainable materials	030604
Domain 4 Administration	
Task: Communicate with customers, clients, and others on how codes are organized and adopted, locate applicable code sections, and research local amendments.	
Knowledge of: Building Code Adoption and Use	040101
Task: Submit an application for a permit with accompanying plans and drawings.	
Knowledge of: Building Permits	040201
Task: Communicate with code officials during the project from obtaining field inspections including special inspections where needed to the appeal process.	
Knowledge of: Inspections	040301
Task: Apply special design requirements where needed for essential service buildings.	
Knowledge of: Special Design Requirements	040401
Task: Prepare field change documents for submittal and review and approval.	
Knowledge of: Field Change Documents	040501
Task: Apply proper code definitions and terminology in reports, documents, and communications.	
Knowledge of: Code Definitions	040601
Task: Determine both on drawings and in the field when structural components are involved and who to consult before proceeding both in commercial and residential construction.	
Knowledge of: Structural Components	040701
Domain 5 Occupancy Classifications	
Task: Determine the use and occupancy classification of the building, room, and space and apply the correct building code provisions for the classification.	
Knowledge of: Building Use and Occupancy	050101
Task: Identify whether the area will be treated as a separated or nonseparated occupancy; if separated, identify required fire-rated protection.	
Knowledge of: Area Separations	050201
Domain 6 Types of Construction	
Task: Identify different Types of construction and apply correct code provisions for the type of construction of the project.	
Knowledge of: Types of Construction	060101
Task: Calculate building allowable heights and areas for both residential and commercial applications using the California Building Code.	
Knowledge of: Building Heights and Areas	060201
Task: Determine allowable building materials and finishes based upon construction type.	
Knowledge of: Building Materials	060301
Domain 7 Fire Protection Requirements	

Task: Specify materials and construction that meet flammability requirements for various occupancies.	
Knowledge of: Material Specification	070101
Task: Apply proper code requirements for storage of combustible and hazardous materials according to the type of construction and occupancy classification.	
Knowledge of: Storage of Materials	070201
Task: Identify potential fire and life safety code violations during design, construction, alteration, and/or demolition.	
Knowledge of: Fire and Life Safety	070301
Task: Identify the required fire resistive design and applications in the CBC and CRC for walls, partitions, floors, ceilings, doors, windows, and other penetrations for various construction types, fire resistivity, occupancies, and locations.	
Knowledge of: Fire Resistance Design	070401
Task: Identify various requirements for various flammability tests for materials, textiles, wall coverings, upholstery, draperies, and, wall hangings according to California Technical Bulletins and the provisions of the California Codes and referenced standards.	
Knowledge of: Flammability Tests	070501
Task: Determine when applications of flame resistant finishes are required for interior materials and textiles.	
Knowledge of: Flame Resistant Finishes	070601
Task: Determine the correct application of code provisions limiting allowable flame spread and smoke development.	
Knowledge of: Flame Spread	070701
Task: Identify correct procedures for submittal and approval of materials, products, and specifications to meet fire safety regulations, and how to obtain a flame spread certificate.	
Knowledge of: Flame Spread and Smoke Development	070801
Task: Coordinate the reflected ceiling plans with a sprinkler consultant, fire protection engineer, and structural or civil engineer where needed.	
Knowledge of: Ceilings	070901
Task: Identify requirements and considerations for the design and construction of interior fireplaces and heat producing appliances including mantels, hearths, and surface finishes.	
Knowledge of: Fireplaces	071001
Domain 8 Interior Finish	
Task: Determine the correct interior wall and ceiling finishes by occupancy and/or use for interior finishes, trim, and decorative materials for the project.	
Knowledge of: Wall and Ceiling Finishes	080101
Domain 9 Means of Egress	
Task: Apply correct means of egress code requirements for all occupied areas including correct terminology of corridors, hallways, means of egress, exit access, exit, exit discharge, and nonconforming exiting conditions.	
Knowledge of: Means of Egress Terminology	090101
Task: Calculate the occupant load of rooms and areas.	
Knowledge of: Occupant Load	090201

Task: Determine the location of exits, door widths, length and width of corridors, stairs, ramps, landings, and the number of exits required according to occupant load.	
Knowledge of: Location of Exit Components	090301
Task: Identify requirements for placement of exit signage, sign illumination, exit illumination, and power source.	
Knowledge of: Exit Signage and Illumination	090401
Task: Apply code provisions for sprinklered and nonsprinklered buildings as they apply to means of egress.	
Knowledge of: Sprinklered and Nonsprinklered Exit Requirements	090501
Task: Apply code provisions for emergency escape and rescue openings.	
Knowledge of: Egress Windows and Doors	090601
Domain 10 Accessibility	
Task: Apply appropriate accessibility scoping requirements on a project to identify applicable standards and technical provisions for the project.	
Knowledge of: Accessibility Scoping	100101
Task: Apply accessibility provisions for building elements such as restrooms, fixtures, water fountains, counters, handrails, corridors, vestibules, ramps, and accessory items.	
Knowledge of: Building and Plumbing Elements	100201
Task: Apply accessibility provisions for exterior and interior walking surfaces, thresholds, doors, hardware, protruding objects in accessible routes, including correct clearances and dimensions.	
Knowledge of: Accessible Routes, Site Access, and Path of Travel	100301
Task: Apply accessibility code provisions for disproportionality and unreasonable hardships.	
Disproportionality and Unreasonable Hardships	100401
Task: Identify differences in accessibility requirements for new construction, renovation, and demolition in residential and commercial buildings.	
Knowledge of: New Construction, Renovation, Alterations, and Demolition	100501
Task: Classify residential projects as either a covered multifamily dwelling project, public housing project, or a combination of both and apply accessibility requirements for the project.	
Knowledge of: Residential Accessibility	100601
Task: Determine under what conditions the requirements in ADA Title I & III and the accessibility regulations in the California Building Code must be met in public accommodations, commercial facilities, and work environments.	
Knowledge of: Reasonable Accommodations	100701
Task: Identify issues that may require the appeals process of ADA (Title III Subpart E).	
Knowledge of: ADA Appeals	100801
Task: Apply accessibility requirements for such building elements such as dressing rooms, fitting rooms, residential common use areas, self storage units, and other special use areas.	
Knowledge of: Special Building Elements and Areas	100901
Domain 11 Building Systems	
Task: Determine the number of fixtures required according to occupancy load and use, clearances, venting requirements, and hardware.	
Knowledge of: Plumbing Systems	110101

Task: Determine correct provisions for water conservation for plumbing fixtures such as shower heads and toilets.	
Knowledge of: Water Conservation	110201
Task: Apply correct code provisions for HVAC systems such as vents and registers.	
Knowledge of: Mechanical Systems	110301
Task: Identify location of electrical outlets, ground fault and arc fault circuit interrupters, switching devices, and circuits such as dedicated circuits, special equipment circuits, and emergency power supply.	
Knowledge of: Electrical Systems	110401
Task: Determine the correct use of lighting fixtures as required by code and apply the code requirements for the use of energy efficient lamps, switching, control devices, and lighting levels for residential and commercial interiors.	
Knowledge of: Lighting Systems	110501
Task: Determine the use of specific forms required to meet the energy code provisions and comply with mandatory measures and requirements of the energy code including insulation, building envelope and lighting requirements.	
Knowledge of: Energy Code Forms and Requirements	110601
Task: Identify when to engage a consultant for electrical, mechanical, or plumbing drawings and specifications.	
Knowledge of: Electrical, Mechanical, and Plumbing Specifications	110701
Domain 12 Miscellaneous Code Provisions	
Task: Identify mandatory design requirements for natural light and ventilation.	
Knowledge of: Natural Light and Ventilation	120101
Task: Identify the location, size, type and labeling requirements for glazing to meet code requirements including for safety glazing and hazardous locations.	
Knowledge of: Glazing	120201
Task: Demonstrate knowledge of interior environmental requirements such as those required for sound transmission between commercial and residential units as well as how to coordinate interiors.	
Knowledge of: Sound Transmission	120301
Task: Demonstrate knowledge of smoke detector, carbon monoxide and CO alarm requirements relative to residential facilities.	
Knowledge of: Smoke Detectors, Carbon Monoxide, and CO2 Alarms	120401