

EXPERIENCED INTERIOR DESIGNER PATHWAY

Program Background

In 2020, the Alberta Association of Architects (AAA) introduced a new pathway for experienced interior designers to qualify for registration as a Licensed Interior Designer with the AAA. The pathway was created to accommodate those who had obtained a CIDA-accredited university degree and had significant experience but had not previously logged hours within the intern interior designer program.

The Experienced Interior Design pathway (EIDP) is not a substitute for internship or a fast-track to licensure. It reviews a combination of education, experience, and certification as part of the process for approval. The program will end in 2024.

I'm so grateful to the AAA for developing the EIDP pathway. I would have never been able to accomplish LID Registration otherwise. I'm extremely blessed to have signed my first agreement using Document 10, Standard Form of Agreement between Client, and Licensed Interior Designer (LID). I felt a certain amount of dignity and authority using the document. It felt like a dream fulfilled. ~ Burt Boucock, Licensed Interior Designer, AAA

Prerequisites

Those who qualify must:

- ◆ Possess a professional degree from a Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA) program or be enrolled with an expected completion date of June 30, 2024.
- ◆ Hold certification from the National Council for Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ).
- ◆ Be able to demonstrate a minimum of 18,500 hours (approximately 10 years of full-time industry experience) with 940 of those hours being completed within the last two years and in the province of Alberta.
- ◆ Prove that you have been directly supervised by a Licensed Interior Designer or Registered Architect. Specifically, you need to have completed 5,500 hours (three years) of full-time employment or three years under the direct supervision of a Registered Architect (RA) or a Licensed Interior Designer (LID).

I think now, at a year in to becoming an LID through the Experienced Designer Pathway, I've realized just how much I've gained through this designation in my day-to-day operations. Far less stress and co-ordination on projects, a huge boost of personal confidence from achieving this goal that carries over into the design process, and the incredible local resource of the team at the AAA that have supported me along the way. I would encourage any potential candidates out there to move forward and pursue this pathway in advance of it closing next year.

~ Laurie Snider, Licensed Interior Designer, AAA

Benefits

- ◆ Protection of the title Licensed Interior Designer within the *Architects Act* of Alberta.
- ◆ Specific scope of practice protected under the *Architects Act* of Alberta
- ◆ Qualify for membership with the Alberta Association of Architects.

The Pathway

Upon preliminary review of the required documents, the Experienced Interior Design Review Task Force will thoroughly review the documentation (Phase I). If approved, the candidate will be referred for Oral Interview (Phase II). Upon successful completion of both phases, the candidate will be invited to complete their application as a Licensed Interior Designer. The process can take six months. (See the roadmap on the back of this information sheet.)

Visit the AAA website for more information about the EIDP.

[www.aaa.ab.ca/Registration & Licensing/Licensed Interior Designer/Experienced Interior Designer Pathway](http://www.aaa.ab.ca/Registration%20&%20Licensing/Licensed%20Interior%20Designer/Experienced%20Interior%20Designer%20Pathway)



ROAD MAP TO REGISTRATION: Becoming a Licensed Interior Designer, AAA via the Experienced Interior Designer Pathway (EIDP)



1. CIDA Accredited Degree In place or in progress ✓
2. NCIDQ Certificate ✓
3. Minimum of 10 years experience ✓
4. Supervision by R/ALLID ✓
5. Apply to the AAA through the EIDP ✓

Complete a Professional Interior Design degree from a Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA) program or be enrolled with completion by June 30, 2024.

Hold National Council for Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ) certification.

Have at least 18,500 hours (or 10 years) of practice experience in interior design with 940 hours within the last two years in Alberta.

Minimum 5,500 hours of employment or 3 years under the direct supervision of a Registered Architect (RA) or Licensed Interior Designer (LID).

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The Assessment Task Force will review the application and contact you for next steps. This usually takes 4 weeks.

6a. Approval by the Assessment Task Force ✓

If all application documents are in order and the assessment is successful, you will be notified to schedule an oral review. If the assessment is unsuccessful, you will be contacted and feedback provided on the areas for improvement.

6b. Completion of ACT Course ✓

Candidates must have completed the ACT course prior to their oral review.

7a. Oral Review ✓

Candidates will receive information in advance to assist in preparation for the oral review. Candidates must have a strong understanding of AAA bylaws and the Building Code as questions regarding these subjects will be asked. The review includes two panelists who will ask questions on a wide array of relevant subjects to validate your competency to practice as a LID in Alberta.

7b. Oral Review Deferred ✓

Candidates who are unsuccessful in the oral review will receive feedback to assist them in preparing for a follow-up oral review.

8. Approval by Oral Review Panelists ✓

Successful candidates will be notified and can formally apply for registration as a LID.

9. 15 Day Public Notification ✓

Your name will appear on the AAA website for 15 days to allow for public notification.

10. Congrats! You are now a Licensed Interior Designer and may use the designation 'Licensed Interior Designer, AAA'.

Legend

- Prerequisites for EID application
- Application to become a Licensed Interior Designer, AAA under the EIDP
- Phase 1 of pathway - documentation assessment
- Phase 2 of pathway - oral review

Notes

Upon completion of registration requirements, a Licensed Interior Designer in Alberta can:

- own a stamp/seal,
- apply for a Firm Licence or Permit to Practice,
- vote on bylaws,
- join AAA Council, and
- volunteer for AAA Boards and Committees.