



**LA State Board of Examiners of Interior Designers  
Regulations  
Title 46  
PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS  
Part XLIII. Interior Designers**

**Chapter 1. Composition and  
Operation of the Board**

**§101. Name**

A. The name of this board shall be the Board of Examiners of Interior Designers, hereinafter called the "board," as provided for by Act 227 of the 1984 Regular Legislative Session, hereinafter called the "Act."

**§103. Membership**

A. All appointments to membership on the board shall be made by the governor of the state of Louisiana as provided for by the Act.

**§104. Elections**

A. The board shall select annually from among its members a chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary and treasurer. The election of officers will be held each year at the last meeting scheduled before the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1.

B. If an officer resigns or is unable to serve, an election to replace that officer shall be held at the next regularly scheduled meeting after the officer leaves his office.

**§105. Meetings**

A. The board shall have at least two meetings per year for the purpose of examining candidates for registration as interior designers. The board may hold such other meetings and hearings as required for the proper performance of its duties under the Act. The board may receive per diem for only eight meetings per year, pursuant to the Act. The limitation does not prohibit any board member's right to receive per diem granted by §109, except as to regularly scheduled meetings.

**§109. Expenses of the Board**

A. Members of the board shall receive no compensation for their services but shall receive the same per diem and mileage as is provided by law for the members of the legislature for each day the board conducts business. Out of the funds of the board each board member shall be compensated at the legislative per diem rate for each day in attending board meetings and hearings, attending NCIDQ meetings, issuing certificates and licenses, reviewing examinations, necessary travel, and discharging other duties, responsibilities and powers of the board. In addition, out of said funds each board member shall be reimbursed actual travel, meals, lodging, clerical and other incidental expenses incurred while performing the duties, responsibilities, and

powers of the boards, including but not limited to performing the aforesaid specific activities. Per Diem and travel expenses to attend NCIDQ meetings shall be paid to only the member appointed by the board to represent the board at the NCIDQ meeting and attend said meetings, unless otherwise specified by the board.

**§111. Financial Operation of the Board**

A. Payments out of the board's fund shall be made only upon orders of the board.

**§113. Quorum**

A. A quorum of the board as stated by the Act shall consist of four members of the board, but no action shall be taken without at least four votes in accord.

**§115. Subcommittees**

A. The chairman shall appoint members to subcommittees as needed to fulfill the duties of the board.

**§117. Staff**

A. The board may, at its discretion, employ an executive director, legal counsel, and such other assistants and clerical staff as it deems necessary.

**§118. National Council of Interior Design  
Qualification**

A. The board may maintain membership in the National Council of Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ). Up-to-date information on the examinations and policies adopted from time to time by NCIDQ shall be developed by the executive assistant and reported to the board regularly.

B. The board will cooperate with NCIDQ in furnishing transcripts of records, giving examinations and rendering other assistance calculated to aid in establishing uniform standards of professional qualification throughout the jurisdiction of NCIDQ.

**§119. Limitation of Liability**

A. A person who serves as a member of the board shall not be individually liable for any act or omission resulting in damage or injury, arising out of the exercise of his judgment in the formation and implementation of policy while acting as a member of the board, provided he was acting in good faith and within the scope of his official functions and duties, unless the damage or injury was caused by his willful or wanton misconduct.

### Chapter 3. Officers of the Board and Their Duties

**§301. Chairman**

A. The chairman shall exercise general supervision of the board's affairs, shall preside at all meetings at which he is present, shall appoint any committees within the board, shall sign vouchers, and shall perform all other duties pertaining to the office as deemed necessary and appropriate.

**§303. Vice Chairman**

A. The vice chairman shall perform the duties of the chairman in his absence or other duties assigned by the chairman.

**§305. Secretary**

A. The secretary shall be an administrative officer of the board. He shall act as its recording and corresponding secretary and may have custody of and shall:

1. safeguard and keep in good order all property and records of the board which the chairman deems necessary and appropriate;
2. cause written minutes of every meeting of the board to be kept in a book of minutes;
3. keep its seal and affix it to such instruments as require it; and
4. sign all instruments and matters that require attest and approval of the board.

**§306. Treasurer**

A. The treasurer shall act as treasurer and:

1. receive and deposit all funds to the credit of the Interior Design Fund;
2. attest all itemized vouchers approved by the chairman for payment of expenses of the board;
3. make such reports to the governor and legislature as provided for by law or as requested by same; and
4. keep the records and books of account of the board's financial affairs; and
5. any other duties as directed by the board.

### Chapter 5. Fees and Charges

**§501. Fees and Charges**

A. All fees and charges except for the annual renewal fee must be made by cashier's check or money order. The annual renewal fee may be paid by business or personal check, unless required otherwise by the board. The following fees and charges have been established.

Licensing	\$150
Annual Renewal Fee	\$150
Restoration of Expired License or Reactivation of Expired License	\$150
Replacing Lost Certificate	\$ 25
Restoration of Revoked or Suspended License	\$150
Failure to Renew License within the Time Limit Set by the Board	\$ 50

B. The fees and charges may be amended by the board in accordance with the Act and rules of the board.

C. The board has the right to waive any fees or other requirements upon written petition of the board by the applicant.

**§503. NCIDQ Examination**

A. Persons who wish to take the NCIDQ examination must purchase the examination directly from NCIDQ. The board does not provide the examination as part of the licensing fee of \$150. The applicant for a license must provide evidence that the applicant has taken and successfully passed the examination.

### Chapter 7. Issuance and Reinstatement of Licenses of Registration

**§701. Issuance**

A. Licenses of registration issued by the board shall run to and include December 31 of the calendar year following their issue. The initial registration fee payable by cashier's check or money order of \$150 should be submitted with the application to the board. Licenses must be renewed annually for the following calendar year, by the payment of a fee of \$150, provided that any approved applicant who has paid the initial registration fee within the past 6 months year shall not be required to pay the renewal fee until December 31 of the next succeeding calendar year. Licenses not renewed by December 31 shall become invalid, except as otherwise provided.

**§703. Restoration of an Expired License**

A. A license expires on December 31 of each year. If renewing within 12 months of expiration, the licensee must pay the renewal fee plus the late fee.

B. If a licensee seeks to renew their license from 13–24 months past expiration, the licensee must pay the renewal fee plus the restoration fee.

C. If a licensee is a NCIDQ certificate holder and their license has expired for more than 24 months, the licensee must pay the restoration fee plus the renewal fee for each year lapsed.

D. If a licensee is not a NCIDQ certificate holder and their license has expired for more than 24 months, the person must apply for a new license meeting the current requirements.

E. A licensee may reinstate his or her license only with proof that he or she has completed the continuing education units equal to that number required for each year in which his or her license was invalid.

#### **§705. Lost or Destroyed Certificates/ID Cards**

A. Lost or destroyed certificates or ID cards may be replaced on presentation of a sworn statement giving the circumstances surrounding the loss or destruction thereof, together with a fee of \$25. Such replaced certificates shall be marked "duplicate."

## **Chapter 8. Continuing Education**

### **§801. Continuing Education Policy**

A. R.S. 37:3179 mandates that the board promulgate regulations governing the participation by licensees in a continuing education program approved by the board. These regulations are in compliance with that mandate.

### **§802. Continuing Education Units**

A. The definition of a continuing education unit will be the same definition used by the Interior Design Continuing Education Council (IDCEC) or a direct replacement entity, which has ruled that one "contact hour" will equal 0.1 continuing education unit, or "CEU."

B. The board will only approve continuing education units which build upon the basic knowledge of Interior Design and which also include topics which concentrate on the subjects of health, safety and welfare as defined by the Interior Design Continuing Education Council (IDCEC) or a direct replacement entity.

C. A licensee must submit evidence on a yearly basis that he or she has participated in an approved continuing education program. The licensee must show that he or she has earned five or more contact hours of continuing education, or 0.5 CEUs.

### **§803. Verified Credit**

A. The term "verified credit" applies to continuing education units which are approved by the board and at which attendance by the licensee is verified in some fashion. Verification of attendance occurs where the sponsor of the program verifies participation or a transcript from the CEU registry is submitted.

B. The board will hold at least one program every year that fulfills the requirements promulgated herein. Attendance at this program will automatically be recognized by the board as verified credit toward the requirements set forth herein.

C. The board shall approve those programs submitted for board approval based upon the following factors:

1. the program must comply with The Interior Design Continuing Education Council (IDCEC) criteria;
2. the program must build upon the basic knowledge of interior design and must concentrate on or address the

subjects of health, safety, and welfare of both licensees and their clients and customers;

3. the length of the actual instruction time;

4. the program must be open to all licensees or applicants for licensing.

D. The board will allow any program approved by the board prior to the program's date to contain in its brochures or literature the statement:

"This program in whole or in part counts toward fulfilling requirements promulgated by the state of Louisiana for interior design continuing education units."

E. The approval of a submitted program shall be given by the board in writing to the program's sponsor.

F. Courses with current IDCEC (Interior Design Continuing Education Council) approvals must be submitted no less than 30 days in advance of the presentation. Courses not currently IDCEC approved must be submitted at least 75 days in advance of the presentation. Programs submitted for approval after they have been given will be reviewed by the board, but approval is not guaranteed. Further, programs which are not approved prior to the date scheduled for the program cannot publish that they have been approved by the state of Louisiana as interior design continuing education units.

G. The board shall not have the authority to disapprove earned CEUs of a pre-approved program.

### **§804. Approved Programs**

A. Any HS (health, safety) program approved by the Interior Design Continuing Education Council (IDCEC) or any direct replacement entity will be pre-approved for credit by the board. W (welfare) programs approved by the Interior Design Continuing Education Council (IDCEC) are subject to review for approval. The board by majority vote shall appoint a Continuing Education Advisory Committee which shall solicit, examine, review and recommend for approval by the board all continuing education courses which may be used by registrants and licensees to meet the requirements of this Chapter and Section 3179 of Title 37 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

B. The membership of the Continuing Education Advisory Committee shall be appointed by the chair.

C. The Continuing Education Advisory Committee shall approve only continuing education that builds upon the basic knowledge of interior design and which also concentrates on or addresses the subjects of health, safety, and welfare of both licensees and their clients and customers and shall recommend guidelines for continuing education.

D. Any application for approval of any program must contain the following information:

1. information on the course sponsor, including name, address and telephone number;
2. description of the course, including a detailed description of subject matter and course offering. The

following information is required: Length of instructional period, instruction format, lecture, seminar conference, workshop, or home study; presentation method, such as electronic, visuals, or printed materials. The description should also state how the course relates to public health, safety and welfare;

3. course instructors, leaders and/or participants. Names, addresses and telephone numbers of instructors or leaders or participants in the program must be given. Participants will include any member of any panel, those who make a presentation by electronic means, or any other person who leads or contributes to the course content. Information on these should include education and professional credentials for each person. Professional references will be requested;

4. time, place and cost. The information must include the date, time and location of course offerings, as well as attendance fees and cost of course materials;

5. verification of course completion. The information must include the sponsor's method for verifying attendance, participation and achievement of program learning objectives; Online courses, magazine articles, and any other home study programs not already IDCEC approved will be required to have testing in place in order to qualify for the review/approval process.

6. course information dissemination. The information must include the method of informing those interested of program offering.

E. Application Fees

1. All applicants for approval of a program for continuing education credit by the board must pay the following costs, which represent the direct cost to the board for committee review and expenses.

a. Programs already approved by professional organizations including ASID, IIDA, IDEC, IFMA, BOMA, NFPA, SBC AIA, code councils or the IDCEC—\$10

b. Programs not already approved by an organization listed in this section requested for approval by individual licensee—\$25

c. Programs not already approved by an organization listed in this section requested for approval by the provider or sponsor—\$100.

2. Review fees are payable to the board and are non-refundable.

3. The board may waive fees for programs solicited by the board.

F. Committee Meetings

a. The CEU Advisory Committee may meet by telephone conference calls or by other electronic means.

b. Corresponding members will receive information regarding applications for CEU approval by electronic transfer and may respond via the same.

c. All matters considered by the CEU Advisory Committee are subject to final approval by the board at its regularly scheduled meetings.

**§805. Recording and Submission of Credits**

A. Those programs sponsored by the board will verify attendance of licensee and maintain records of attendees on a yearly basis, and that information will be retained by the board for five years.

B. It is incumbent on the licensee attending a pre-approved program to provide verification of attendance satisfactory to the board, such as a transcript or certificate of attendance.

C. Licensees attending a pre-approved program must submit attendance verification with license renewal on a yearly basis no later than January 31 of the year after the year in which the program was attended.

D. CEU courses may not be repeated within a 3-year period of time for credit.

**§806. Notification of Approved Programs**

A. The board will publish information on approved CEU courses being offered.

B. Information on board-sponsored seminars will be sent directly to all applicants by mail to the address listed in applicants' records.

**Chapter 9. Examination and Registration**

**§901. Qualifications for Registration**

A. A person desiring to be licensed as an interior designer shall apply to the board for licensure. Each applicant shall apply to the board on a form and in the manner prescribed by the board. To be eligible for the examination, an applicant shall submit satisfactory evidence of having successfully completed at least four years of study at the high school level, and in addition meets at least one of the following requirements:

1. is a graduate from an interior design program of five years or more and has completed one year of interior design experience;

2. is a graduate from an interior design program of four years or more and has completed two years of interior design experience;

3. has completed at least three years in an interior design curriculum and has completed three years of interior design experience;

4. is a graduate from an interior design program of at least two years and has completed four years of interior design experience.

B. All such education shall have been obtained in a program, school, or college of interior design accredited by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA) or any direct replacement entity or in an unaccredited program,

school or college of interior design approved by the board. The unaccredited program, school or college of interior design will be evaluated on a case by case basis. The board shall review and approve interior design experience on a case by case basis.

### §903. Application Procedure

A. Application must be made to the board on application forms obtained from the state Board of Examiners of Interior Designers and required fees filed. Application forms may be obtained by contacting the board office.

B. The application must request the following information:

1. name;
2. business address and telephone;
3. residential address and telephone;
4. affiliations, if any;
5. educational background;
6. employment background;
7. specialties, if recognized;
8. e-mail address;
9. volunteer status for board committees.

### §905. Reciprocal Registration

A. Persons providing evidence of registration or licensing in another state, whose requirements for registration are equivalent to Louisiana's requirements and who extend the same privilege to those registered in Louisiana, may become registered by the board upon payment by such person of the initial registration fee.

### §907. Examination

A. The examination for purposes of the Act shall be the National Council for Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ) examination, which shall be held at least twice a year in the state of Louisiana. Application forms for said examinations may be obtained by contacting NCIDQ directly. The applicant must pass all portions of the examination and submit proof of passage to the board.

### §909. Seal and Display of License Number

A. An applicant for licensing who complies with all requirements established therefor, including the successful completion of an examination where applicable, shall be issued a certificate by the board to evidence such licensing. Each holder of a license shall secure a seal of such design as is prescribed in the rules of the board. All drawings, renderings, or specifications prepared by the holder or under his supervision shall be imprinted with his seal.

B. The seal to be used is identified in the following illustration.



C. Any licensed or registered interior designer who advertises his services through any medium, including but not limited to advertising in newspapers, magazines or on television, websites and emails, and to stationery and business cards, shall indicate in such advertisement his name, business address and registration number.

### §911. Inactive Status

A. A license which has become inactive may be reactivated pursuant to this Section upon application to the board and payment of an application fee.

B. An applicant who wishes to have his license reactivated must provide proof to the board that he has completed board-approved continuing education units of not less than five hours approved by the board for each year the license was inactive, to be cumulated at the time the applicant applies to have his license reactivated.

C. Any license which has been inactive for more than four years shall automatically expire if the licensee has not made application for reactivation. Once a license expires, it becomes null and void without any further action by the board. At least one year prior to expiration of the inactive license, the board shall give notice to the licensee at the licensee's last address of record that, unless reactivated, the license will expire.

### §913. Application for Inactive Status

A. An applicant who wishes to apply for inactive status must file an application provided by the board which requires all information asked of new and renewal applications. Further, the applicant must provide a good and supportable reason for inactive status. Inactive status is to be considered a status of last resort, and will only be available to a limited number of applicants. Some reasons for obtaining inactive status will be that the applicant is seriously ill; that the applicant is a full-time student; or that the applicant will be out of the country for longer than 12 months at one time. These reasons are for explanation only; other reasons may be considered.

B. Applications for inactive status will be considered on a case by case basis. Applicants may be required to produce evidence supporting their claim for inactive status.

C. During inactive status, the designer will not be able to use the term "interior design" or "interior designer" when

describing his occupation or the services provided, as prohibited by statute.

**§915. Emeritus Status**

A. A registrant retired from practice who has either practiced interior design for 25 years or more or who is 65 years of age or older may request emeritus status. Only a registrant who is fully and completely retired from the practice of interior design may request emeritus status. Any registrant who is presently receiving or who anticipates receiving in the future any salary, income, fees, or other compensation (other than retirement income) from an interior design client, interior design or architecture firm, architect, design professional, or any other person for the practice of interior design is ineligible for emeritus status. The annual renewal fee for an approved emeritus registrant is \$5. Revocation and reinstatement rules apply to an emeritus registrant, just as they do to any other registrant.

B. Emeritus status is not available to those on inactive status.

C. Those who have been granted emeritus status pursuant to Subsection A may call themselves registered interior designer emeritus only.

D. Should the registrant decide to come out of emeritus status, the registrant would have to go through the same process as a new licensee, including license fees and testing requirements as those who are seeking initial licensure.

**Chapter 10. Use of Term**

**§1001. Limitation of Use of Term**

A. Only those who are a *registered interior designer* licensed by the board may use the appellation registered interior designer or the plural thereof in advertising or in business usage when referring to themselves or services to be rendered.

B. Definitions. The purpose of this Section is to clarify the definition of a *registered interior designer* and to restate the definition of the practice of *interior design*. The primary purpose of a *registered interior designer* is to protect the public and to adhere to the Life Safety Codes, requirements of the Americans with Disability Act, and other building codes, statutes and ordinances which may apply to the interior spaces of a structure.

*Board*—the Louisiana State Board of Examiners of Interior Designers.

*Interior Design*—includes a scope of services performed by a professional design practitioner, qualified by means of education, experience, and examination as required by statute, to protect and enhance the health, life safety and welfare of the public. These services may include any or all of the following tasks.

a. *Interior design* includes but is not limited to space planning, finishes, furnishings, and the design for fabrication of nonstructural elements within and surrounding interior spaces of buildings.

b. *Interior design* specifically excludes the design of or the responsibility for architectural and engineering work, as defined by those occupations' organic statutes.

c. In all other matters interior designers are entitled to do all those things itemized in the practice of *interior design* stated below.

*Interior Design Document*—detailed drawings and specifications sealed and signed by a registered interior designer in accordance with applicable current building codes, ordinances, laws and regulations that define the work to be constructed in such form as is required for approval of a construction permit by a building official or fire marshal. Such document may be combined with documents prepared under the responsible control, seal and signature of other registered or licensed professionals.

*Non-Structural or Non-Seismic*—interior elements or components that are not load-bearing or do not assist in the seismic design and do not require design computations for a building's structure. It excludes the structural frame supporting a building. Common *non-structural* elements or components include, but are not limited to, ceiling and *partition* systems. These elements employ normal and typical bracing conventions and are not part of the structural integrity of the building.

*Partition*—a wall which does not support a vertical load of a structure other than its own weight, but may support loads attached to it such as cabinetry, shelving or grab bars, and does not extend further than from the floor of an interior area of a structure designed for human habitation or occupancy, to the underside of the deck of that structure.

*Practice of Interior Design*—

a. the rendering of services to enhance the quality and function of an interior area of a structure designed for human habitation or occupancy. The term includes:

i. an analysis of a client's needs and goals for an interior area of a structure designed for human habitation or occupancy and the requirements for safety relating to that area;

ii. the formulation of preliminary designs for an interior area designed for human habitation or occupancy that are appropriate, functional, and code compliant;

iii. the confirmation that preliminary space plans and design concepts are safe, functional, aesthetically appropriate, and meet all public health, safety and welfare requirements, including code, accessibility, environmental, and sustainability guidelines;

iv. the selection of colors, materials and finishes to appropriately convey the design concept and to meet socio-psychological, functional, maintenance, lifecycle performance, environmental, and safety requirements;

v. the development and presentation of final design documents that are appropriate for the alteration or construction of an interior area of a structure designed for human habitation or occupancy;

vi. the collaboration with licensed professionals in preparation of interior design contract documents for the alteration or construction of an interior area of a structure designed for human habitation or occupancy, including specifications for partitions, materials, finishes, furniture, fixtures, and equipment;

vii. the collaboration with licensed professionals in the completion of a project for the alteration or construction of an interior area of a structure designed for human habitation or occupancy;

viii. the preparation and administration of bids or contracts as the agent of a client;

ix. the review and evaluation of problems relating to the design of a project for the alteration or construction of an area designed for human habitation or occupancy during the alteration or construction and upon completion of the alteration or construction;

x. preparing *interior design documents* reflecting space planning, finishes, furnishings, and the design for fabrication of nonstructural interior construction within interior spaces of buildings; reflected ceiling plan and location of teledata and electrical outlets;

xi. preparing *interior design documents* in accordance with life safety of proposed or modification of existing nonstructural and non-engineered elements of construction such as partitions, doors, stairways, and paths of egress connecting to exits or exit ways; and

xii. modification of existing building construction so as to alter the number of persons for which the egress systems of the building are designed;

b. encompasses the ability to submit documents required for the issuance of building permits or other construction documents, either by the registered interior designer alone or in collaboration with other licensed design professionals responsible for structural, mechanical, electrical, or life safety systems. This includes those systems, such as sprinklers, fire alarms, special locking, or cooking hood suppression, that require a review by the professional of record prior to submittal.

*Programming*—the scope of work which includes, but is not limited to:

- a. conducting research;
  - b. identifying and analyzing the needs and goals of the client and/or occupant(s) of the space;
  - c. evaluating existing documentation and conditions;
  - d. assessing project resources and limitations;
  - e. identifying life, safety and code requirements;
- and
- f. developing project schedules and budgets.

*Reflected Ceiling Plan*—a ceiling design that illustrates a ceiling as if it was projected downward and may include lighting and other code compliant elements.

*Registered Interior Designer*—a person who has received a certificate of registration pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter.

*Space Planning*—the analysis, programming, or preparation of design to meet special requirements, including preliminary space layouts, placement of partitions, furniture and equipment, and final planning in accordance with life safety codes.

*Specifications*—the detailed written description of construction, workmanship and materials of the work to be undertaken.

*Sustainability*—the use of resources in such a way that they are not depleted; a method of practice or use of materials that is capable of being continued with minimal long-term effect on the environment.

### §1003. Firm Practice

A. Nothing shall prevent a licensed or registered interior designer licensed pursuant to the statute or regulations from associating with one or more interior designers, architects, professional engineers, landscape architects, surveyors, or other persons in a partnership, joint venture, or corporation.

B. License numbers for interior designers in the State of Louisiana are assigned to individuals, not businesses. Only those to whom the number is issued may use that number on business cards or any printed materials, advertising, or signage of a firm. If someone in a firm is not yet licensed, that individual is never allowed to use the number of a licensed interior designer. Using someone else's number would be in violation of the law and would imply the number belongs to the person on the card. Doing so could be grounds for disciplinary action or fines by the state board. No number should appear on the business card of the person who is not yet licensed. If this person were questioned, he/she would provide the information of the licensee who is supervising their work.

### §1005. Use of Term by Business

A. A firm shall be permitted to use in its title the term registered interior designer and to be so identified on any sign, card, stationery, device, or other means of identification if at least one partner, director, officer, or other supervisory agent of such firm is licensed as an interior designer in this state, subject to the requirements of Subsection B of this Section.

B. The board requires a firm, partnership, corporation, or association that engages in the practice of interior design to register with the board under the title: Louisiana Registered Interior Design Firm. The Registered Interior Design Firm must have at least one Louisiana Registered Interior Designer in their employment at all times. The board requires that a firm that no longer employs a Louisiana Registered Interior Designer must notify the board and cease using the title Louisiana Registered Interior Design Firm.

## Chapter 11. Revocation or Suspension of Licenses of Registration

### §1101. Authority of Board to Suspend or Revoke

A. The board may suspend for a definite period or revoke any license of registration on those grounds mentioned in the Act, which include:

1. that the license or any renewal thereof was obtained by fraud, misstatement, or misrepresentation of fact;

2. that the holder of the license or any applicant therefor has committed any act of fraud or deceit in his professional conduct or has been convicted of a felony;

3. that an applicant for a license has represented himself to be a licensed interior designer or a registered interior designer prior to the time of issuance of a license to him except as authorized by the Act;

4. that the holder of a license or an applicant therefor has been found by the board to have aided and abetted any person not licensed in violating any provisions of the Act;

5. that the holder of a license has failed to comply with the requirements of this Act or with any rule, regulation, or order of the board pursuant to authority granted by the Act;

6. that the holder of the license has been guilty of gross incompetence, dishonesty, or gross negligence in the practice of interior design;

7. that the holder of the license has been guilty of affixing his seal or stamp or name to any specification, drawing, or other related document which was not prepared by him or under his responsible supervision and control, or permitting his seal, stamp, or name to be affixed to any such document;

8. that the holder of a license has been guilty of affixing his seal or stamp or name to any plan, specification, drawing or other document which depicts work which he is not competent or licensed to perform;

9. that the holder of the license has been convicted of a felony, in which case the record of conviction is conclusive evidence of such conviction;

10. that the holder of the license has been guilty of willfully misleading or defrauding any person employing him as an interior designer;

11. that the holder of the license has been guilty of willfully violating the provisions of the Act or any lawful rule or regulation adopted by the board pursuant to law;

12. that the holder of the license has been guilty of attempting to obtain, obtaining, or renewing, by bribery, by fraudulent misrepresentation, or through an error of the board, a license to use the title licensed interior designer;

13. that the holder of the license has been guilty of having a license to practice interior design, or a license to use the title licensed interior designer or registered interior

designer, revoked, suspended, or otherwise acted against, including the denial of licensure, by the licensing authority of another jurisdiction for any act which would constitute a violation of this part of this Chapter;

14. that the holder of the license has been convicted or found guilty of a crime in any jurisdiction which directly relates to the provision of interior design services or to the ability to provide interior design services. A plea of nolo contendere shall create a rebuttable presumption of guilt to the underlying criminal charge. However, the board shall allow the person being disciplined to present any evidence relevant to the underlying charge and the circumstances surrounding such plea;

15. that the holder of the license has been guilty of false, deceptive, or misleading advertising;

16. that the holder of the license has been guilty of aiding, assisting, procuring, or advising any unlicensed person to use the title licensed interior designer or registered interior designer contrary to this Act or to a rule of the board;

17. that the holder of the license has been guilty of failing to perform any statutory or legal obligation placed upon an interior designer;

18.a. that the holder of the license has been guilty of:

i. making or filing a report which the licensee knows to be false;

ii. intentionally or negligently failing to file a report or record required by state or federal law; or

iii. willfully impeding or obstructing such filing or inducing another person to do so;

b. such reports or records shall include only those which are signed in the capacity as an interior designer.

19. that the holder of the license has been guilty of making deceptive, untrue, or fraudulent representations in the provision of interior design services;

20. that the holder of the license has been guilty of accepting and performing professional responsibilities which the licensee knows or has reason to know that he is not competent or licensed to perform;

21. that the holder of the license has been guilty of rendering or offering to render architectural services.

### §1103. Procedure for Suspension or Revocation

A. Upon receipt of notice of any alleged violations of this Part, or any rule or regulation adopted by the board, the board shall institute a preliminary investigation. If warranted by the investigation, the board shall duly notify the alleged violator and schedule a timely hearing for the resolution of the alleged violation. If following such hearing, the board reasonably finds that a violation of the rule or the rules or regulations promulgated by the board has occurred, the board shall take such disciplinary action that it may in its discretion choose to exercise in keeping with its delegated authority.



B. If a formal complaint is filed with the board, that complaint shall be referred to the Disciplinary Committee, whose job shall be to investigate the complaint. If warranted by the investigation, the Disciplinary Committee shall duly notify the alleged violator in writing of the complaint and ask the alleged violator for a response to the complaint.

C. If the Disciplinary Committee by a majority vote determines that there has been no violation of the statutes and regulations regulating registered or licensed interior designers, then a report of that shall be made to the board.

D. If the Disciplinary Committee determines that the registrant has corrected the alleged violation, and the complainant has accepted the correction without further hearing, it shall make a report of that to the entire board.

E. If the Disciplinary Committee determines that there is a violation alleged, and that the registrant has not corrected the alleged violation, then it shall make a referral to the board of this fact and ask that the matter be referred for a hearing.

#### **§1104. Hearings**

A. If, after following the procedure in §1103, the board determine that a hearing is warranted, the following procedure should be followed.

B. Proceedings to revoke, rescind or suspend the license of registration of an interior designer shall commence by any person filing a sworn affidavit with the board against the interior designer. A time and place for the hearing of the charges shall be fixed by the board. The board, upon its own motion, may investigate the actions of any interior designer and file a complaint against him.

C. A copy of the complaint shall be sent by the board to the interior designer against whom a complaint has been filed at his last known address by registered or certified mail at least 20 days prior to the hearing together with a notice of the time and place of the meeting of the board at which the complaint shall be heard.

D. At the hearing the interior designer against whom a complaint has been filed shall have the right to cross-examine witnesses against him, to produce witnesses in his defense, and to appear personally or by counsel.

E. No action shall be taken to rescind, revoke, or suspend the license of registration of any interior designer unless a quorum of the board is present at the hearing and then only by an affirmative vote of at least four of the members of the board present.

F. If the board determines upon the suspension of the license of registration of any interior designer, it shall fix the duration of the period of the suspension.

G. If the board revokes, rescinds, or suspends the license of registration of any interior designer, the secretary of the board shall give written notice of its action by registered or certified mail to the person against whom the complaint was filed at the last known address.

H. The board may require the production of books, papers, or other documents and may issue subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses to testify and to produce any relevant books, papers, or other documents in their possession before the board in any proceeding concerning any violations of the laws regulating registered interior designers or the practice of interior design. The subpoenas shall be served by the sheriff for the parish where the witness resides or may be found. If any person refuses to obey any subpoena so issued or refuses to testify or to produce any books, papers, or other documents required to be produced, the board may present its petition to the district court of the parish in which that person was served with the subpoena setting forth the facts. The court shall then issue a rule to that person requiring him to obey the subpoena or to show cause why he fails to obey it. Unless that person shall show sufficient cause for failing to obey the subpoena, the court shall direct him to obey the subpoena and, upon his refusal to comply, he shall be adjudged in contempt of court and punished therefor, as the court may direct.

I. Any licensed or registered interior designer who has been found guilty by the board of the charges filed against him and whose license of registration has been revoked, rescinded, or suspended, shall have the right to appeal to the district court of the parish in which the hearing was held. The appeal shall be governed by the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq.

J. The board shall have the power to issue a new license of registration, change a revocation to a suspension, or shorten the period of suspension, upon satisfactory evidence that proper reasons for such action exist, presented by any person whose license of registration as an interior designer has been revoked, rescinded or suspended. Any person whose license of registration has been suspended shall have his license of registration automatically reinstated by the board at the end of his period of suspension upon payment of the renewal fee. No delinquent fee shall be charged for reinstatement of license of registration under the provisions of this Chapter.

#### **§1105. Appeal Process**

A. Any person aggrieved by any disciplinary action of the board shall have the right to a rehearing by the board if written application for a rehearing is made to the board within 15 days after the adverse disciplinary action. If such person is aggrieved further by a decision or action by the board on rehearing, such person may appeal the decision or action of the board to the district court in the parish in which he is domiciled. The written petition for a rehearing in district court shall be made within 30 days after written notice sent to the person of the action or decision of the board on rehearing.

#### **§1106. Fine for Restoration of Revoked or Suspended License**

A. The board may require a licensee who has had his license revoked or suspended pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter to pay a fine of up to \$500 in addition to those

charges contained in §703 to have his license restored to him.

**§1107. Enforcement of Board's Decisions**

A. The board may apply to any court which has jurisdiction for an order enjoining or restraining the continuance of the alleged unlawful act.

**§1108. Disciplinary Committee**

A. There is hereby created a disciplinary committee to review all complaints filed with the board.

B. The chairman of the board shall appoint the members of the disciplinary committee.

C. All complaints filed with the board shall be reviewed by the disciplinary committee before submission to the board.

**§1109. Cease and Desist Orders and Injunctive Relief**

A. In addition to or in lieu of the administrative sanctions provided in this Chapter the board is empowered to issue an order to any person or firm engaged in any activity, conduct, or practice constituting a violation of any provision of this chapter directing such person or firm to cease and desist from such activity, conduct, or practice. Such order shall be issued in the name of the state of Louisiana under the official seal of the board.

B. The board shall issue a cease and desist order against anyone who is not registered and who is found to be practicing interior design or using the term "interior designer," "registered interior designer," or "licensed interior designer."

C. The alleged violator shall be served with the cease and desist order by certified mail. If within 10 days the alleged violator is continuing the offending activity, the board may file a complaint with the appropriate district court requesting that the court enjoin the offending activity.

D. Upon a proper showing by the board that such person or firm has engaged in any activity, conduct, or other activity proscribed by this Chapter, the court shall issue a temporary restraining order restraining the person or firm from engaging in unlawful activity, conduct, or practices pending the hearing on a preliminary injunction, and in due course a permanent injunction shall issue after hearing commanding

the cessation of the unlawful activity, conduct, or practices complained of, all without the necessity of the board having to give bond as usually required in such cases. A temporary restraining order, preliminary injunction, or permanent injunction issued hereunder shall not be subject to being released upon bond.

**§1110. Prohibited Acts and Penalties**

A. Unless otherwise exempted, any person who knowingly engages in the practice of interior design without a valid license of registration violates this Chapter.

B. Any person who violates any provision of this Chapter or any rules and regulations adopted under its authority shall be fined not more than \$500 for each such violation.

**Chapter 12. Miscellaneous**

**§1202. Roster**

A. The roster of licensed interior designers will be provided upon payment of the cost of copying at the rate of copying charges as set by the regulations established by the Division of Administration.

**§1203. Committee on Education**

A. There is hereby created a committee on education, the purpose of which is to provide a liaison with the Louisiana universities providing courses in interior design and their students in interior design.

B. The chairman shall appoint the members of the committee on education.

C. The chairman shall designate the mission of the committee on education.

**Chapter 13. Severability**

**§1301. Severability**

A. If any provision or item of the rules of the board or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications of the rules of the board which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of the rules of the board are hereby declared severable.