

# THE IMPORTANCE OF INTERIOR DESIGN

AMERICAN  
SOCIETY OF  
INTERIOR  
DESIGNERS



## ASID, CIDQ, and IIDA believe that legal recognition of the interior design profession is achieved through the enactment of legislation that:

- **Does not limit, restrict, or prevent** the practice of any other design professional from practicing as they do today, including decorators, architects, and engineers.
- **Conforms** with administrative requirements and other norms of the individual state.
- **Does not limit, restrict, or prevent** anyone from using the title “interior design” or “interior designer.”
- Allows state-qualified interior designers to use the title “registered,” “certified,” or “licensed” interior designer.
- Allows state-qualified interior designers to perform **additional services** related to the practice of interior design as applicable governing jurisdictions deem appropriate, primarily, the voluntary independent ability to stamp & seal construction documents for permit for nonstructural interior design elements.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF INTERIOR DESIGN

Interior design is the creation and construction of an interior space that successfully meets the requirements of the end user and improves the human experience. Interior designers are responsible for providing a safe, functional, and accessible environment for their clients and meet this goal through attention, adherence, and focus on codes, standards, regulations, accessibility, health, safety, and welfare.

## WHAT IS AN INTERIOR DESIGNER?

An interior designer is a professional who has acquired the expertise, knowledge, and skills, through a combination of education, experience, and examination, to create interior environments that meet the requirements of and present solutions for their clients. They have extensive knowledge of current codes, standards, and regulations and adhere to these in their work, while paying strict attention to the importance of accessibility, functionality, health, safety, and welfare to their clients.

## WHAT SKILLS DO INTERIOR DESIGNERS POSSESS?

- Needs analysis
- Site inspection and analysis
- Preparation of schematic and design drawings
- Space planning
- Application of building codes and regulations
- Engineering coordination, including electrical, mechanical, and plumbing
- Accessibility compliance
- Construction administration
- Post-occupancy evaluation
- Pre-disaster mitigation planning

## WHAT DO INTERIOR DESIGNERS DO?



### CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

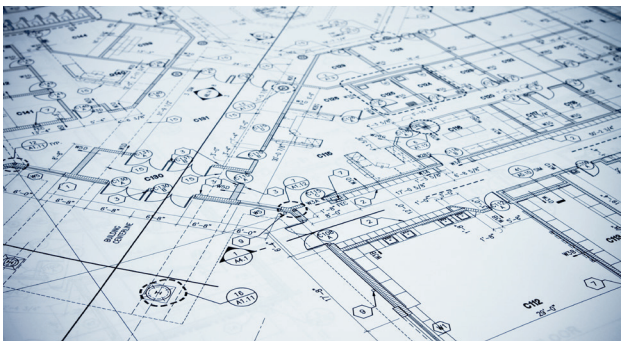
Construction management involves the coordination of all project contractors to ensure that interior spaces are built to the standards of local and national building codes, and that all project documentation and specification requirements are met. A vital and skilled part of the construction team, interior designers serve their clients by managing all project details including scheduling, payments, changes to the existing plan, potential cost increases, and more.



### CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS

In many states, interior designers independently prepare construction documents for the client that are stamped and sealed for permit by a qualified interior designer who has completed established education requirements and successfully passed the national certification exam (the NCIDQ). After approval, these documents are used to support the work of the project's general contractor.

- Partition plans
- Reflected ceiling plans
- Power and data plans
- Finish plans
- Furniture plans
- Occupancy plans
- Fully dimensioned elevations
- Construction details
- Path of egress documents
- Building code compliance
- Engineering coordination, including electrical, mechanical, and plumbing



### REGULATORY COMPLIANCE

In order to meet client expectations, goals, and public safety requirements and avoid legal fines and construction delays, interior designers develop project drawings that comply with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the International Building Code (in place in all states), and any additional codes, regulations, and federal and state laws that exist in the project location. Interior design plans often require a building permit to execute.

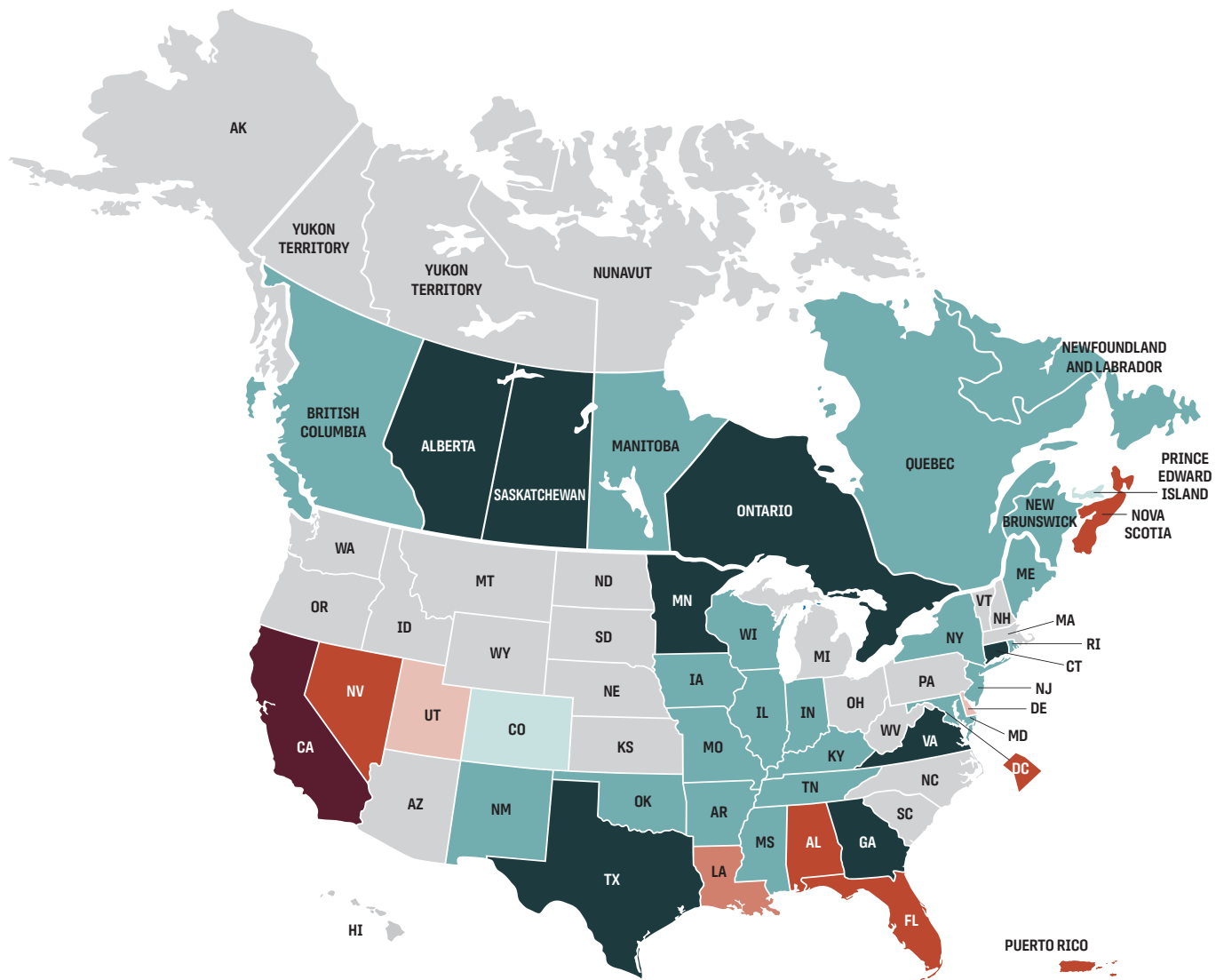










### PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Interior designers further protect their government and private clients' financial and project interests by coordinating and managing additional project details.

- Budgeting and scheduling including construction, equipment, furniture, and fixtures.
- Preparation and review of bid documents with consultants and contractors.

## INTERIOR DESIGN LAWS



- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  Practice Act<br>with permitting privileges               |  Title Act<br>with no permitting privileges      |
|  Practice Act<br>with no permitting privileges            |  Private<br>Certification                        |
|  Commercial Interior Design<br>Certification Practice Act |  Legal Exemption<br>with Permitting              |
|  Title Act<br>with permitting privileges                  |  No Legislation<br>with no permitting privileges |