

# **CCRE 2005 © STUDY GUIDE**

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**A background document developed to assist  
candidates to prepare for the California Codes  
and Regulations Examination (CCRE)**

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**OCTOBER, 2005**

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## **I. Background**

Chapter 3.9 of the California Business and Professions Code, Section 5800, states that:

**Certified Interior Designer:** means a person who prepares and submits nonstructural or nonseismic plans consistent with Section 5805 and Section 5538 to local building departments which are of sufficient complexity so as to require the skills of a licensed contractor to implement them, and who engages in programming, planning, designing, and documenting the construction and installation of nonstructural or nonseismic elements, finishes and furnishings within the interior space of a building, and has demonstrated by means of education, experience and examination, the competency to protect and enhance the health, safety and welfare of the public.

The California Council for Interior Design Certification (CCIDC) is required by law to have an applicant for certification demonstrate by means of education, experience and examination, the competency to protect and enhance the health, safety and welfare of the public. A key component of this certification is a demonstration of competency in the knowledge of codes and regulations governing the projects frequently produced by interior designers in the State of California. CCIDC has developed the 2005 California Codes and Regulations Examination in conjunction with Castle Worldwide Inc., to test this competency.

For an application for certification in California and details on the eligibility requirements for certification, please contact:

California Council for Interior Design Certification  
1605 Grand Avenue, Suite #4  
San Marcos, CA 92078-2440  
Tel: (760) 761-4734 Fax: (760) 761-4736  
Web Site: [www.ccidc.org](http://www.ccidc.org)  
E-mail: [office@ccidc.org](mailto:office@ccidc.org)

This document is intended to provide candidates with the appropriate information and sources, which will enable them to prepare for the California Codes and Regulations 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 California Codes and Regulations Examination (CCRE 2005) is administered twice annually, in the Spring and in the Fall. The CCRE 2005 is administered at this time only by CCIDC. If you haven't already done so, you should contact CCIDC for a registration form to sit for the CCRE.

Examination center Proctors set up one-half hour prior to each examination administration. (Candidates should arrive during this time so that the examination can start on schedule.)

## III. Examination Rules

Confirmation of examination registrations will be sent to candidates approximately one month prior to the examination date. An examination center admission letter will be forwarded at that time, with the exact address of the test center. A single admission letter will be issued to candidates for the examination section for which a candidate is registered. Candidates must bring this admission letter with them to the test center, for the examination section, along with one piece of photo identification (driver's license, passport, etc.).

The examination is given only at the appointed location and only on the day and time scheduled. Testing centers are staffed by Proctors. Examination proctors may answer questions concerning the manner in which the examination is given only and may not provide advice, input or interpretation.

Candidates select the preferred test center location from the list of centers supplied with the registration form. Center locations are subject to change, based on the number of candidates registering for each center.

The time period for the examination is strictly observed. Only specified books and reference materials will be allowed during the California Codes and Regulations Examination (see following sections for a complete list of such material). No examination materials or notes of any kind may be taken from the testing room.

No equipment will be supplied at the examination center. Candidates may wish to bring the following equipment for the California Codes and Regulation Examination: calculator; number two or HB lead pencils and an eraser.

The candidate **MAY NOT** leave the test center during the administration of any examination section.

Candidates should follow precisely the instructions on the coded answer sheet. Only ONE answer per question is to be marked. The candidate should review the answer scan sheet; and if an answer is changed, make certain the first entry is entirely erased.

Candidates who wish to express concerns about examination content or administration may

do so by requesting a Candidate Comment Form from the Proctor. This sheet must be turned in at the examination center.

**WARNING:** The CCRE 2005 examination booklet and its contents are protected by the Copyright Laws of the United States. Any unauthorized reproduction of the booklet or its contents by manual transcription, photographic or electronic means or otherwise is a violation of these laws and will be prosecuted. This includes writing down questions and answers after you leave the examination room.

If any candidate violates the CCRE 2005 Copyright or reveals, by any means whatsoever, the questions or answers contained in the examination booklet, the candidate will be deemed to have forfeited his or her eligibility for the examination; the candidate will be disqualified; his or her examination results will become null and void; and the CCRE 2005 Certificate, if issued, will be rescinded.

## **IV. Release of Results**

Results are mailed directly to the candidate within ten (10) to twelve (12) weeks of the examination administration. A score report (indicating pass or fail) for the CCRE 2005 is forwarded to the California Council for Interior Design Certification (CCIDC) by the testing agency, Castle Worldwide, Inc, a division of Columbia Assessment Services.

## **V. Examination Format**

The format and content areas of California Codes and Regulations Examination have been developed by the California Council for Interior Design Certification (CCIDC) in cooperation with Castle Worldwide Inc.

Part of the examination is an “open-book”, multiple-choice examination with approximately 25 questions; the balance will be a “closed book”, multiple-choice examination with approximately 50 questions, for a total of 75 questions. Candidates have suitable time to complete the entire exam. The first portion, the “closed book” section, will commence at 9:40 a.m. with examination instructions, and the actual test start at 10:00 a.m. sharp and finish at 11:00 a.m. (1 hour). There will be a 15-minute break, and then the “open-book” portion will commence at 11:15 a.m. with examination instructions, and the actual test start at 11:30 a.m. concluding at 1:30 p.m. (2 hours). Those who finish early may leave after they have turned in all examination materials to the Proctor. For some questions in both the “open-book” and “closed book” sections, reference drawings and plans will be provided.

Candidates are permitted to bring a calculator (without programmable memory) and #2 pencils. No other material will be allowed.

## Reference Materials

The following reference materials are permitted in the examination center for the “open book” portion of the examination only. No other reference materials, without prior permission from CCIDC, will be permitted:

- ❑ 2001 California Building Code, Title 24, Part 2 (based on the 1997 UBC).
- ❑ 2001 California Electrical Code, Title 24, Part 3 (based on the 1996 NEC).
- ❑ 2001 California Mechanical Code, Title 24, Part 4 (based on the 1997 UMC).
- ❑ 2001 California Plumbing Code, Title 24, Part 5 (based on the 1997 UPC).
- ❑ California Fire Code, Title 24, Part 9 (based on the 1997 UFC).
- ❑ California Energy Code, Title 24, Part 6, 2001.
- ❑ Technical Bulletins #'s 116, 117, 121, 133, Bureau of Home Furnishings. \*
- ❑ ADA, Title III.
- ❑ California Access Regulations, Title 24, Part 2, Section 11A, 11B, & 11 Figures.
- ❑ Human Dimension and Interior Space by Julius Panero and Martin Zelnik, Watson-Guptill Publications, 1989.
- ❑ California Civil Code, Section 1689. \*
- ❑ State of California, Business and Professions Code, Sec. 5800. \*
- ❑ Interior Design Management by Christine M. Piotrowski, John Wiley & Sons, 1992 Edition.
- ❑ ASID Document ID100. \*
- ❑ California Health and Safety Code.
- ❑ CCIDC Code of Ethics. \*
- ❑ Specifications for Commercial Interiors by Sivon C. Reznikoff, Whitney Library of Design, 1989 Edition
- ❑ Specifying Interiors by McGowan, Cruse, John Wiley & Sons, 1996 Edition
- ❑ State Board of Equalization Bulletin for Interior Designers and Decorators. \*
- ❑ “California Codes & Regulations for Interior Designers Resource Manual” (Third Edition, February 2000) [www.clcid.org](http://www.clcid.org) or call 1(800) 79-CLCID.

\*Denotes that copies of these documents will be automatically provided to all CCRE 2005 registrants by CCIDC. **You must register for the examination first in order to receive these materials.** In addition to the materials with an asterisk above you will also receive a 154-page distillation of Title 24 California State Accessibility Standards and other codes such as the UBC, CBC, UPC, and other useful code documents.

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 through ICBO, which you can link to from the CCIDC web site. There are also free booklets on universal design (Title 24 Handicap Codes) available from the Department of Rehabilitation in Sacramento. All code books are available for purchase from the ICBO at (800) 284-4406. Most other reference books are available from Amazon.com.

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## VI. Examination Content

The California Codes and Regulations Examination measures the following knowledge areas:

- ❑ The Administrative Process, Permit Process & the Construction Document Process.
- ❑ General Building Regulation.
- ❑ Accessibility/Universal Design
  - ADA Title III and ADAG (Federal Regulations)
  - 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 6)
- ❑ Electrical (Title 24, Part 3)
- ❑ Ergonomics
- ❑ Professional Ethics
- ❑ Legal issues specific to Interior Designers in California
- ❑ Contractual issues
- ❑ Business Procedures
- ❑ Business and Professions Code
  - B & P Code 5800 and B & P Code 6737.1

## VII. Performance Objectives

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

### A. Permit Process

#### Objective

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

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. Identify the necessary approval from the local Health Department when designing food service facilities.
5. Recognize that special design requirements apply to essential service buildings in California.
6. Given an example of field changes after plan check and approval, identify necessary steps and processes before implementing changes.

#### **Reference Material**

2001 California Building Code, Title 24, Part 2, (based on the 1997 UBC).

## **B. General Building Regulation**

### **Objective**

To determine the candidates ability to use California Code of Regulations, California Building Code (CBC), Title 24, Parts 1 through 12, and the UBC, UMC, UPC, NEC and necessary information for the practice of interior design.

1. Demonstrate ability to find the definitions of various terms in the CBC.
2. Demonstrate ability to find and interpret important information relating to classification of buildings and occupancy requirements.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of the organization of codes, terms and regulations in California Codes and Regulations, Title 24, Part I.
4. Recognize both on drawings and in the field when structural components are involved and who to consult before proceeding.
  - a. Residential
  - b. Commercial
5. Demonstrate knowledge of the fixture requirements, dimensional requirements and space needs within public restrooms.
6. Given a drawing of a residence, identify correct and incorrect designs to

meet requirements for light and ventilation.

7. Identify the location, size, type and labeling requirements for glazing to meet code requirements.

### **Reference Material**

2001 California Building Code, Title 24, Part 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 12 (based on the 1997 model codes and California Health and Safety Requirements.)

## **C. Accessibility**

### **Objective**

To test the candidates 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 phone, 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.
  - h. 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 work place).
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**

2001 California Building Code, Title 24, Part 2, UBC and other sub-codes, ADA, Title III.  
Specifications for Commercial Interiors by Sivon C. Reznikoff, Whitney Library of Design, 1989 Edition.  
Human Dimensions and Interior Space by Julius Panero and Martin Zelnik, Watson-Guptill Publications, 1989.

**D. Means of Egress (Exiting)**

**Objective**

To test the candidates 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 halls, means of egress, exit access, exit path ways, 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**

2001 California Building Code, Title 24, Part 2, UBC and model sub-codes, California Fire Code, Title 24, Part 9 and ADA, Title III California Access Regulations.

## **E. Fire Resistive Materials, Storage of Combustibles and Related Codes and Regulations**

### **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 which 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 affect on construction, materials and occupancy classification.
3. Recognize violation of fire life safety during design, construction alteration and demolition.
4. Recognize that correctly designed reflected ceiling plans must be coordinated with a sprinkler consultant, fire protection engineer and in some cases a 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 the Dry Wall Association hand book and sections prescribed within the 2001 CBC (based on the 1997 UBC).
7. Identify various flammability tests for materials, textiles, wall coverings, upholstery and drapery.
  - a. Identify the requirements for California Technical Bulletins 116, 117, 121 and 133 as they apply to upholstered furniture and vertical surfaces and how to verify compliance.
  - b. Identify requirements relating to draperies and wall hangings (Title 19).

- c. Identify testing requirements, testing agencies and standards for various materials and textiles used in interior specifications.
  - d. Identify the chapter dedicated to fire resistive material in the CBC and the applicable standards.
8. Demonstrate knowledge of when applications of flame resistance finishes are required for interior materials and textiles.
9. Identify correct procedures for the submittal and approval of materials, products and specifications to meet fire safety regulations and how to obtain a flame spread certificate.

### **Reference Material**

2001 California Building Code and related sub-codes.

California Fire Code.

2001 California Building Code & Fire Code Standards.

Technical Bulletins #'s 116, 117, 121, 133

California Codes and Regulations, Title 19

Specifications for Commercial Interiors by Sivon C. Reznikoff, Whitney Library of Design, 1989 Edition.

Specifying Interiors by McGowan, Cruse, John Wiley & Sons, 1996 Edition.

## **F. Plumbing and Mechanical Components of Design**

### **Objective**

To test the candidates knowledge of plumbing code requirements which influence interior design space planning.

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.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of water conservation requirements in the specification of plumbing fixtures.
  - a. Shower heads.
  - b. Low-flow toilets.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of various types of plumbing fixtures and associated hardware.

6. Demonstrate your knowledge of mechanical systems, vents and registers.

**Reference Material**

California Plumbing Code, Title 24, Part 4 and 5, (based upon the 1997 Uniform Plumbing and Mechanical Code).

**G. Electrical Systems in Design**

**Objective**

To test the candidates knowledge of typical interior design requirements as related to electrical and telecommunications systems, location requirements, and situations when a consultant is necessary.

1. Identify the location of electrical outlets, ground fault interrupters, switching devices, and fixtures as required by code in residential and commercial buildings.
2. Understand restrictions on the use of high voltage (neon) lighting in residential and commercial applications.
3. Specify single-use or dedicated circuits and other special equipment required by code or client function.
4. Identify when to engage a consultant for electrical specifications, or when the electrical contractor of record may perform this function.
5. Demonstrate knowledge of location and spacing of outlet and switching devices.
6. Demonstrate knowledge of the need for an emergency power source in special applications.

**Reference Material**

2001 California Electrical Code, Title 24, Part 3 (based upon the 1996 NEC).

## H. Energy Conservation

### Objective

To test the candidates knowledge of energy conservation as required by Title 24, Part 6, California Energy Code, 2001.

1. 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.
2. Demonstrate awareness of the specific forms required to meet the energy code, where to acquire them and who prepares them.
3. Demonstrate knowledge of mandatory measures and requirements of the energy code including insulation, building envelope requirements, weather-stripping, and the use of glazing.
4. Demonstrate knowledge of alternate methods of compliance and recognize the need to consult.

### Reference Material

Title 24, Part 6, California Energy Code, 2001.

## I. Business and Professions Code

### Objective

To test the candidates 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, identify the scope of work responsibilities of the professions, including engineers, architects, Certified Interior Designers and contractors.
2. Identify the scope of Certified Interior Designers practice according to California law.
3. Understand the Code of Ethics for a Certified Interior Designer.

4. 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.  
State Board of Equalization Bulletin for Interior Designers and Decorators.  
Interior Design Management by Christine Piotrowski, John Wiley & Sons, 1997  
Edition.  
California Civil Code, Section 1689.

**J. Professional Ethics**

**Objective**

To test the candidates 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. Ergonomics**

**Objective**

To test the candidates knowledge of ergonomic principles, terminology and common attributes.

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

**Reference Material**

Human Dimension and Interior Space by Julius Panero and Martin Zelnik.

## L. Business Procedures

### Objective

To test the candidates 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.
2. Identify the scope of Certified Interior Designers practice according to California law.
3. Understand the code of ethics for a Certified Interior Designer.
4. Identify the scope of liability when changing architectural specifications on drawings with a building permit.
5. Write a contract/letter of agreement to meet California codes and regulations.
6. Apply codes and regulations to standard business practice.
7. Understand California Civil Code for providing professional services to homeowners in their home.
8. Utilize commonly accepted business procedures and practices.

### Reference Material

State of California, Business and Professions Code, Chapter 3.9, Sec. 5800  
Interior Design Management by Christine C. Piotrowski, John Wiley & Sons, 1997  
Edition.

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## VIII. Sample Questions

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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

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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

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3. What is the MAXIMUM finish sill height of any residential escape window?
  - A. 36"
  - B. 40"
  - C. 42"
  - D. 44"

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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

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6. 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

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7. Which approved textiles test methods is included in the Fire Codes?
- A. Surface burning characteristics of building materials
  - B. Evaluating fire growth contribution of textile wall covering
  - C. Evaluating fuel contribution of upholstery fill materials
  - D. Coefficient of ignition for woven carpet
- 
8. For a nursery with full-time care of ten toddlers, what class (excluding exceptions) must wallcoverings be in corridors and exit ways?
- A. Class I
  - B. Class II
  - C. Class III
  - D. Class IV
- 
9. 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
- 
10. 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. In addition, your client has a limited budget and will not be able to afford the chairs and sofa that would need to be purchased from a well-known furniture manufacturer. 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.
-

## IX. Frequently Asked Questions

**Question:** What happens if I fail to show up for the examination on the test day without notifying anybody beforehand?

**Answer:** You forfeit your entire examination fee of \$100.00 and will have to re-register and pay another \$100.00 to sit the examination again.

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**Question:** Can I cancel or transfer before the test date but after the examination registration deadline?

**Answer:** Yes you can, however canceling or transferring to another examination date will cost you \$25.00 of your original registration fee because the test booklets have been ordered and CCIDC has to pay for them. If you cancel or transfer before the examination deadline there is no additional fee.

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**Question:** How do I transfer to another examination date?

**Answer:** Go to CCIDC's web site and fill out a new CCRE registration form online and note in the comment box that you are transferring from a previous registration and put in the \$25.00 fee.

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**Question:** Are there classes or study groups in order to prepare for the examination?

**Answer:** There aren't any preparatory classes that CCIDC is aware of, however we do encourage candidates to form study groups. We will provide a list of candidates by area to any CCRE registrant who requests one, so they can contact them and form a study group.

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**Question:** Where do I get the other reference material that is not provided by CCIDC?

**Answer:** Firstly, note that included in the reference package that CCIDC sends you when you register for the examination is a compilation of UBC and Title 24 documents that pertain to the interior design portions of the codes. It is possible that you do not need much more than this on the codes and Title 24. If you do need a complete set of building codes then contact the ICBO/ICC organization for code books, and local libraries or Amazon.com for the others. If you work in an office that does commercial design work they should already have the various code books. If this is not the case then purchasing them will be very expensive. If you can form, or get into a study group, there may be others who have the books you need and so you can share.

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**Question:** How will I know exactly where to go to take the examination?

**Answer:** About 2-3 weeks prior to the examination date you will receive a personal letter from CCIDC telling you the exact location of your testing center based upon your initial selection when you registered for the examination, and the time that you need to be there. If for some reason you do not receive a letter with about a week to go before the examination, then contact the CCIDC right away.

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**Question:** What percentage of candidates pass the CCRE?

**Answer:** The average for the past three tests (April 2004 to April 2005) is 64%.

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**Question:** The study guide references the 1997 UBC and the 1998 CBC, are there any updates to the examination with regard to the 2001 UBC?

**Answer:** No, the changes made to the 1997 UBC to form the 2001 UBC do not necessarily affect interior designers so no changes have been made to the examination. The State of California has accepted the ICC codes but these will not be adopted formally into the California Building Code (CBC) until late 2007 or even 2008. When this happens CCIDC will revise this examination to reflect the changes enacted by the new building codes.

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**Question:** How long after the test are the results made available?

**Answer:** It normally takes about 10 to 12 weeks to finalize the results.

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**Question:** How is the examination scored?

**Answer:** The examination is graded on a curve based upon the individual answers of each candidate to each question. This process ensures that each question is valid and that every candidate gets a fair result.

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