

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Registered Interior Designers Act is  
5 amended by changing Sections 3, 4, 8, and 13 and by adding  
6 Sections 4.1 and 4.2 as follows:

7 (225 ILCS 310/3) (from Ch. 111, par. 8203)

8 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2027)

9 Sec. 3. Definitions. As used in this Act:

10 "Accredited institution" means an institution accredited  
11 by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation,  
12 accreditation body recognized by the United States Department  
13 of Education, or a curriculum or transcript approved by the  
14 Board per a registration applicant's application.

15 "Address of record" means the designated address recorded  
16 by the Department in the applicant's application file or the  
17 registrant's registration file as maintained by the  
18 Department's licensure maintenance unit.

19 "Board" means the Board of Registered Interior Design  
20 Professionals established under Section 6 of this Act.

21 "Department" means the Department of Financial and  
22 Professional Regulation.

23 "Email address of record" means the designated email

1 address recorded by the Department in the applicant's  
2 application file or the registrant's registration file as  
3 maintained by the Department's licensure maintenance unit.

4 "Interior technical submissions" means the designs,  
5 drawings, and specifications that establish the scope of the  
6 interior design to be constructed, the standard of quality for  
7 materials, workmanship, equipment, and construction systems,  
8 and the studies and other technical reports and calculations  
9 prepared in the course of the practice of registered interior  
10 design.

11 "Practice of registered interior design" means the design  
12 of interior spaces as a part of an interior alteration or  
13 interior construction project in conformity with public  
14 health, safety, and welfare requirements, including the  
15 preparation of documents relating to building code  
16 descriptions, project egress plans that require no increase  
17 capacity of exits in the space affected, space planning,  
18 finish materials, furnishings, fixtures, equipment, and the  
19 preparation of documents and interior technical submissions  
20 relating to interior construction. "Practice of registered  
21 interior design" does not include:

22 (1) The practice of structural engineering as defined  
23 in the Structural Engineering Practice Act of 1989, the  
24 practice of professional engineering as defined in the  
25 Professional Engineering Practice Act of 1989, or the  
26 practice of land surveying as defined in the Professional

1 Land Surveyor Act of 1989.

2 (2) Services that constitute the practice of  
3 architecture as defined in the Illinois Architecture  
4 Practice Act of 1989, except as provided in this Act.

5 (3) Altering or affecting the structural system of a  
6 building, including changing the building's live or dead  
7 load on the structural system.

8 (4) Changes to the building envelope, including  
9 exterior walls, exterior wall coverings, exterior wall  
10 openings, exterior windows and doors, architectural trim,  
11 balconies and similar projections, bay and oriel windows,  
12 roof assemblies and rooftop structures, and glass and  
13 glazing for exterior use in both vertical and sloped  
14 applications in buildings and structures.

15 (5) Altering or affecting the mechanical, plumbing,  
16 heating, air conditioning, ventilation, electrical,  
17 vertical transportation, fire sprinkler, or fire alarm  
18 systems.

19 (6) Changes beyond the exit access component of a  
20 means of egress system.

21 (7) Construction that materially affects life safety  
22 systems pertaining to fire safety or the fire protection  
23 of structural elements, or alterations to smoke evacuation  
24 and compartmentalization systems or to fire-rated vertical  
25 shafts in multistory structures.

26 (8) Changes of use to an occupancy of greater hazard

1 as determined by the International Building Code.

2 (9) Changes to the construction classification of the  
3 building or structure according to the International  
4 Building Code.

5 ~~"The profession of interior design", within the meaning~~  
6 ~~and intent of this Act, refers to persons qualified by~~  
7 ~~education, experience, and examination, who administer~~  
8 ~~contracts for fabrication, procurement, or installation in the~~  
9 ~~implementation of designs, drawings, and specifications for~~  
10 ~~any interior design project and offer or furnish professional~~  
11 ~~services, such as consultations, studies, drawings, and~~  
12 ~~specifications in connection with the location of lighting~~  
13 ~~fixtures, lamps and specifications of ceiling finishes as~~  
14 ~~shown in reflected ceiling plans, space planning, furnishings,~~  
15 ~~or the fabrication of non-loadbearing structural elements~~  
16 ~~within and surrounding interior spaces of buildings but~~  
17 ~~specifically excluding mechanical and electrical systems,~~  
18 ~~except for specifications of fixtures and their location~~  
19 ~~within interior spaces.~~

20 "Public member" means a person who is not a registered an  
21 interior designer, educator in the field, architect,  
22 structural engineer, or professional engineer. For purposes of  
23 board membership, any person with a significant financial  
24 interest in the design or construction service or profession  
25 is not a public member.

26 "Registered interior designer" means a person who has

1 received registration under Section 8 of this Act. A person  
2 represents himself or herself to be a "registered interior  
3 designer" within the meaning of this Act if he or she holds  
4 himself or herself out to the public by any title  
5 incorporating the words "registered interior designer" or any  
6 title that includes the words "registered interior design".

7 "Responsible control" means the amount of control over  
8 detailed professional knowledge of the content of interior  
9 technical submissions during the preparation as is ordinarily  
10 exercised by registered interior designers applying the  
11 required professional standard of care. Merely reviewing or  
12 reviewing and correcting an interior technical submission or  
13 any portion thereof prepared by those not in the regular  
14 employment of the office where the registered interior  
15 designer is a resident without control over the content of  
16 such work throughout its preparation does not constitute  
17 responsible control.

18 "Secretary" means the Secretary of Financial and  
19 Professional Regulation.

20 (Source: P.A. 102-20, eff. 1-1-22.)

21 (225 ILCS 310/4) (from Ch. 111, par. 8204)

22 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2027)

23 Sec. 4. Title; application of Act.

24 (a) No individual shall, without a valid registration as a  
25 registered ~~an~~ interior designer issued by the Department, in

1 any manner hold himself or herself out to the public as a  
2 registered interior designer or attach the title "registered  
3 interior designer" or any other name or designation which  
4 would in any way imply that he or she is able to use the title  
5 "registered interior designer" as defined in this Act.

6 (a-5) Nothing in this Act shall be construed as preventing  
7 or restricting the services offered or advertised by an  
8 interior designer who is registered under this Act.

9 (b) Nothing in this Act shall prevent the employment, by a  
10 registered interior designer association, partnership, or a  
11 corporation furnishing interior design services for  
12 remuneration, of persons not registered as interior designers  
13 to perform services in various capacities as needed, provided  
14 that the persons do not represent themselves as, or use the  
15 title of, "registered interior designer".

16 (c) Nothing in this Act shall be construed to limit the  
17 activities and use of the title "interior designer" on the  
18 part of a person not registered under this Act who is a  
19 graduate of an interior design program and a full-time  
20 employee of a duly chartered institution of higher education  
21 insofar as such person engages in public speaking, with or  
22 without remuneration, provided that such person does not  
23 represent himself or herself to be a registered interior  
24 designer or use the title "registered interior designer".

25 (d) Nothing contained in this Act shall restrict any  
26 person not registered under this Act from carrying out any of

1 the activities listed in the definition of "the profession of  
2 interior design" in Section 3 if such person does not  
3 represent himself or herself or his or her services in any  
4 manner prohibited by this Act.

5 (e) Nothing in this Act shall be construed as preventing  
6 or restricting the practice, services, or activities of any  
7 person licensed in this State under any other law from  
8 engaging in the profession or occupation for which he or she is  
9 licensed.

10 (f) Nothing in this Act shall be construed as preventing  
11 or restricting the practice, services, or activities of  
12 engineers licensed under the Professional Engineering Practice  
13 Act of 1989 or the Structural Engineering Practice Act of  
14 1989; architects licensed pursuant to the Illinois  
15 Architectural Practice Act of 1989; any interior decorator or  
16 individual offering interior decorating services including,  
17 but not limited to, the selection of surface materials, window  
18 treatments, wall coverings, furniture, accessories, paint,  
19 floor coverings, and lighting fixtures; or builders, home  
20 furnishings salespersons, and similar purveyors of goods and  
21 services relating to homemaking.

22 (g) Nothing in this Act or any other Act shall prevent a  
23 licensed architect from practicing interior design services.  
24 Nothing in this Act shall be construed as requiring the  
25 services of a registered interior designer for the interior  
26 designing of a single family residence.

1           (h) Nothing in this Act shall authorize registered  
2 interior designers to perform services, including life safety  
3 services that they are prohibited from performing, or any  
4 practice: (i) that is restricted in the Professional  
5 Engineering Practice Act of 1989, the Professional Land  
6 Surveyor Act of 1989, of the Structural Engineering Practice  
7 Act of 1989; (ii) that is restricted in the Illinois  
8 Architecture Practice Act of 1989, except as provided in this  
9 Act; or (iii) that they are not authorized to perform under the  
10 Environmental Barriers Act, except as provided in this Act.

11 ~~Nothing in this Act shall authorize registered interior~~  
12 ~~designers to perform services, including life safety services~~  
13 ~~that they are prohibited from performing, or any practice (i)~~  
14 ~~that is restricted in the Illinois Architecture Practice Act~~  
15 ~~of 1989, the Professional Engineering Practice Act of 1989, or~~  
16 ~~the Structural Engineering Practice Act of 1989, or (ii) that~~  
17 ~~they are not authorized to perform under the Environmental~~  
18 ~~Barriers Act.~~

19           (i) Nothing in this Act shall authorize registered  
20 interior designers to advertise services that they are  
21 prohibited to perform, including architecture or engineering  
22 services, nor to use the title "architect" in any form.

23           (j) Nothing in this Act shall be construed as preventing  
24 or restricting persons from engaging in professional services  
25 limited to the design of kitchen and bath spaces or the  
26 specification of products for kitchen and bath areas in



1 noncommercial settings.

2 (Source: P.A. 102-20, eff. 1-1-22.)

3 (225 ILCS 310/4.1 new)

4 Sec. 4.1. Seal. Every registered interior designer shall  
5 have a reproducible seal, or facsimile, the impression of  
6 which shall contain the name of the registered interior  
7 designer, the registrations number, and the words "Registered  
8 Interior Designer, State of Illinois". The registered interior  
9 designer shall affix the signature, current date, date of  
10 registration expiration, and seal to the first sheet of any  
11 bound set or loose sheets of interior technical submissions  
12 used as contract documents between parties to the contract or  
13 prepared for the review and approval of any governmental or  
14 public authority having jurisdiction by that registered  
15 interior designer or under that registered interior designer's  
16 responsible control. The sheet of interior technical  
17 submissions in which the seal is affixed shall indicate those  
18 documents or parts thereof for which the seal shall apply. The  
19 seal and dates may be electronically affixed. The registrant  
20 may provide, at the registrant's sole discretion, an original  
21 signature in the registrant's handwriting, a scanned copy of  
22 the document bearing an original signature, or a signature  
23 generated by a computer. All interior technical submissions  
24 issued by any corporation, partnership, or professional  
25 service corporation shall contain the corporate or assumed

1 business name in addition to any other seal requirements set  
2 forth in this Act.

3 A registered interior designer under this Act shall not  
4 sign and seal interior technical submissions that were not  
5 prepared by or under the responsible control of the registered  
6 interior designer, except that:

7 (1) the registered interior designer may sign and seal  
8 those portions of the interior technical submission that  
9 were prepared by or under the responsible control of a  
10 person who holds a registration under this Act, and who  
11 has signed and sealed the documents, if the registered  
12 interior designer has reviewed in whole or in part such  
13 portions and has either coordinated their preparation or  
14 integrated them into the work;

15 (2) the registered interior designer may sign and seal  
16 portions of the professional work that are not required by  
17 this Act to be prepared by or under the responsible  
18 control of a registered interior designer if the  
19 registered interior designer has reviewed and adopted in  
20 whole or in part such portions and has integrated them  
21 into the work. The work associated with the combination of  
22 services in connection with the design and construction of  
23 buildings shall be provided by a licensed architect. If  
24 engineering, structural engineering, or licensed land  
25 surveying services are required in association with an  
26 interior nonstructural project being performed by a

1 registered interior designer, the documents that have  
2 already been properly sealed by a licensed professional  
3 engineer, licensed structural engineer, or licensed land  
4 surveyor may be compiled by a registered interior  
5 designer. Each design professional shall seal the  
6 respective documents and shall not seal a document that  
7 was not prepared under the design professional's  
8 responsible charge. For all other projects, engineering,  
9 structural engineering, or land surveying services shall  
10 be procured separate from the registered interior  
11 designer;

12 (3) a partner or corporate officer of a professional  
13 design firm registered in this State who has professional  
14 knowledge of the content of the interior technical  
15 submissions and intends to be responsible for the adequacy  
16 of the interior technical submissions may sign and seal  
17 interior technical submissions that are prepared by or  
18 under the responsible control of a registered interior  
19 designer who is registered in this State and who is in the  
20 regular employment of the professional design firm.

21 The registered interior designer exercising responsible  
22 control under which the interior technical submissions or  
23 portions of the interior technical submission were prepared  
24 shall be identified on the interior technical submissions or  
25 portions of the interior technical submissions by name and  
26 Illinois registration number.

1       Any registered interior designer who signs and seals  
2       interior technical submissions not prepared by that registered  
3       interior designer but prepared under that registered interior  
4       designer's responsible control by persons not regularly  
5       employed in the office where the registered interior designer  
6       is a resident shall maintain and make available to the Board  
7       upon request for at least 5 years following such signing and  
8       sealing, adequate and complete records demonstrating the  
9       nature and extent of the registered interior designer's  
10       control over, and detailed professional knowledge of the  
11       interior technical submissions throughout their preparation.

12           (225 ILCS 310/4.2 new)

13       Sec. 4.2. Interior technical submissions.

14       (a) All interior technical submissions intended for use in  
15       this State shall be prepared and administered in accordance  
16       with standards of reasonable professional skill and diligence.  
17       Care shall be taken to reflect the requirements of State law  
18       and, where applicable, county and municipal ordinances in the  
19       submissions. In recognition that registered interior designers  
20       are registered for the protection of the public health,  
21       safety, and welfare, submissions shall be of such quality and  
22       scope, and be so administered, as to conform to professional  
23       standards.

24       (b) No officer, board, commission, or other public entity  
25       who receives interior technical submissions shall accept for

1 filing or approval any interior technical submissions related  
2 to services requiring the involvement of a registered interior  
3 designer that do not bear the seal and signature of a  
4 registered interior designer.

5 (c) It is unlawful to affix a seal to interior technical  
6 submissions if it masks the true identify of the person who  
7 actually exercised responsible control of the preparation of  
8 such work. A registered interior designer who seals and signs  
9 interior technical submissions is not responsible for damage  
10 caused by subsequent changes to, or uses of, those interior  
11 technical submissions where the subsequent changes or uses,  
12 including changes to uses made by State or local agencies, are  
13 not authorized or approved in writing by the registered  
14 interior designer who originally sealed and signed the  
15 interior technical submissions.

16 (225 ILCS 310/8) (from Ch. 111, par. 8208)

17 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2027)

18 Sec. 8. Requirements for registration.

19 (a) Each applicant for registration shall apply to the  
20 Department in writing on a form provided by the Department.  
21 Except as otherwise provided in this Act, each applicant shall  
22 take and pass the examination approved by the Department.  
23 Prior to registration, the applicant shall provide substantial  
24 evidence to the Board that the applicant has completed the  
25 education and work experience requirements to sit for the

1 NCIDQ examination administered by the Council for Interior  
2 Design Qualification, has successfully passed the NCIDQ exam,  
3 has maintained an active NCIDQ certification, and:

4 (1) is a graduate of a 5-year interior design or  
5 architecture program from an accredited institution and  
6 has completed at least 2 years of full-time diversified  
7 interior design experience;

8 (2) is a graduate of a 4-year interior design or  
9 architecture program from an accredited institution and  
10 has completed at least 2 years of full-time diversified  
11 interior design experience;

12 (3) has completed at least 3 years of interior design  
13 or architecture curriculum from an accredited institution  
14 and has completed 3 years of full-time diversified  
15 interior design experience; or

16 (4) is a graduate of a 2-year interior design or  
17 architecture program from an accredited institution and  
18 has completed 4 years of full-time diversified interior  
19 design experience.

20 (b) In addition to providing evidence of meeting the  
21 requirements of subsection (a), each applicant for  
22 registration as a registered interior designer shall provide  
23 substantial evidence that he or she has successfully completed  
24 the examination administered by the ~~National~~ Council for  
25 Interior Design Qualification ~~Qualifications~~.

26 ~~Examinations for applicants under this Act may be held at~~

1 ~~the direction of the Department from time to time but not less~~  
2 ~~than once each year. The scope and form of the examination~~  
3 ~~shall conform to the National Council for Interior Design~~  
4 ~~Qualification examination for interior designers.~~

5 (b-5) Each applicant for registration shall pay to the  
6 Department the required registration fee, which is not  
7 refundable, at the time of filing his or her application.

8 (b-10) Each applicant for renewal or reinstatement of  
9 registration under this Act shall have completed continuing  
10 education as set forth by the Department by rule. The  
11 Department shall consider the recommendations of the Board in  
12 establishing requirements for continuing education  
13 requirements but shall be no less than 10 hours of continuing  
14 education in the areas of health, safety, and welfare every 2  
15 years.

16 (c) An individual may apply for original registration  
17 prior to passing the examination. He or she shall have 2 years  
18 after the date of filing an application to pass the  
19 examination. If evidence and documentation of passing the  
20 examination are received by the Department later than 2 years  
21 after the individual's filing, the application shall be denied  
22 and the fee forfeited. The applicant may reapply at any time,  
23 but shall meet the requirements in effect at the time of  
24 reapplication.

25 (d) Upon payment of the required fee, which shall be  
26 determined by rule, an applicant who is an architect licensed

1 under the laws of this State may, without examination, be  
2 granted registration as a registered interior designer by the  
3 Department provided the applicant submits proof of an active  
4 architectural license in Illinois.

5 (Source: P.A. 100-920, eff. 8-17-18; 101-81, eff. 7-12-19.)

6 (225 ILCS 310/13) (from Ch. 111, par. 8213)

7 (Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2027)

8 Sec. 13. Refusal, revocation or suspension of  
9 registration. The Department may refuse to issue, renew, or  
10 restore or may revoke, suspend, place on probation, reprimand  
11 or take other disciplinary action as the Department may deem  
12 proper, including fines not to exceed \$10,000 ~~\$5,000~~ for each  
13 violation, with regard to any registration for any one or  
14 combination of the following causes:

15 (a) Fraud in procuring the certificate of  
16 registration.

17 (b) (Blank). ~~Habitual intoxication or addiction to the~~  
18 ~~use of drugs.~~

19 (c) Making any misrepresentations or false promises,  
20 directly or indirectly, to influence, persuade, or induce  
21 patronage.

22 (d) Professional connection or association with, or  
23 lending his or her name, to another for illegal use of the  
24 title "registered interior designer", or professional  
25 connection or association with any person, firm, or



1 corporation holding itself out in any manner contrary to  
2 this Act.

3 (e) Obtaining or seeking to obtain checks, money, or  
4 any other items of value by false or fraudulent  
5 representations.

6 (f) Use of the title under a name other than his or her  
7 own.

8 (g) Improper, unprofessional, or dishonorable conduct  
9 of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or harm the  
10 public.

11 (h) Conviction in this or another state, or federal  
12 court, of any crime which is a felony, if the Department  
13 determines, after investigation, that such person has not  
14 been sufficiently rehabilitated to warrant the public  
15 trust.

16 (i) A violation of any provision of this Act or its  
17 rules.

18 (j) Revocation by another state, the District of  
19 Columbia, territory, or foreign nation of an interior  
20 design or residential interior design license,  
21 certification, or registration if at least one of the  
22 grounds for that revocation is the same as or the  
23 equivalent of one of the grounds for revocation set forth  
24 in this Act.

25 (k) Mental incompetence as declared by a court of  
26 competent jurisdiction.

1           (l) Being named as a perpetrator in an indicated  
2 report by the Department of Children and Family Services  
3 pursuant to the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act,  
4 and upon proof by clear and convincing evidence that the  
5 registrant has caused a child to be an abused child or  
6 neglected child as defined in the Abused and Neglected  
7 Child Reporting Act.

8           (m) Aiding or assisting another person in violating  
9 any provision of this Act or its rules.

10          (n) Failure to provide information in response to a  
11 written request made by the Department within 30 days  
12 after receipt of the written request.

13          (o) Physical illness, including, but not limited to,  
14 deterioration through the aging process or loss of motor  
15 skill that results in the inability to practice interior  
16 design with reasonable judgment, skill, or safety.

17          (p) Using or attempting to use an expired, inactive,  
18 suspended, or revoked registration or the certificate or  
19 seal of another registrant or impersonating another  
20 registrant.

21          (q) Signing, affixing, or allowing the registered  
22 interior designer's seal to be affixed to any interior  
23 technical submission not prepared by the registered  
24 interior designer or under the registered interior  
25 designer's responsible control.

26          (r) Negligence, incompetence, or misconduct in the

1 practice of interior design.

2 (s) Habitual or excessive use or abuse of drugs  
3 defined in law as controlled substances, alcohol,  
4 narcotics, stimulants, or any other substances that  
5 results in the inability to practice with reasonable  
6 judgment, skill, or safety.

7 (t) Inability to practice the profession with  
8 reasonable judgment, skill, or safety as a result of  
9 physical illness, including, but not limited to,  
10 deterioration through the aging process, loss of motor  
11 skill, mental illness, or disability.

12 (u) The determination by a circuit court that a  
13 licensee is subject to involuntary admission or judicial  
14 admission, as provided in the Mental Health and  
15 Developmental Disabilities Code, operates as an automatic  
16 suspension. Such suspension will end only upon a finding  
17 by a court that the licensee is no longer subject to  
18 involuntary admission or judicial admission, the issuance  
19 of an order so finding and discharging the patient, and  
20 the recommendation of the Board to the Secretary that the  
21 licensee be allowed to resume practice.

22 (v) Knowingly undertaking any activity or having any  
23 financial or other interest, or accepting any compensation  
24 or reward except from the registrant's clients, for  
25 registered interior design services by the result of those  
26 same services, any of which would reasonably appear to

1       compromise the registrant's professional judgment in  
2       servicing the best interest of clients or the public.

3       The Department may refuse to issue or may suspend the  
4 registration of any person who fails to file a return, or to  
5 pay the tax, penalty, or interest showing in a filed return, or  
6 to pay any final assessment of tax, penalty, or interest, as  
7 required by any tax Act administered by the Illinois  
8 Department of Revenue, until such time as the requirements of  
9 any such tax Act are satisfied.

10       The entry of a decree by any circuit court establishing  
11 that any person holding a certificate of registration under  
12 this Act is a person subject to involuntary admission under  
13 the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Code shall  
14 operate as a suspension of that registration. That person may  
15 resume using the title "registered interior designer" only  
16 upon a finding by the Board that he or she has been determined  
17 to be no longer subject to involuntary admission by the court  
18 and upon the Board's recommendation to the Director that he or  
19 she be permitted to resume using the title "registered  
20 interior designer".

21       (Source: P.A. 100-872, eff. 8-14-18; 100-920, eff. 8-17-18;  
22       101-81, eff. 7-12-19.)