



Council
for Interior
Design
Accreditation

2013-2015 CIDA Standards Development Project Overview

2013-2014 Trend Review and Analysis. In the first project phase, CIDA focuses on building a strong knowledge base about the future of interior design. A broad array of information about trends impacting the interior design profession and higher education is collected, synthesized, and culled for implications.

This rich compilation of information serves as a study guide for participants in the Board of Directors' **Future Vision session (November 6-8, 2014)**, a summit of leaders from higher education, interior design practice, and industry. Future Vision participants are charged with envisioning the future of the profession and education. These thought leaders are then asked to prioritize the future implications for professional-level interior design education.

2014-2015 Community Consultation. With solid information about future implications in hand, criteria for evaluation of interior design programs are formed through a series of surveys and other activities that engage the interior design community in a high level of discussion. The goals of this dialogue with the community are to 1) capture and build agreement about the range of interior design content that is required of interior design graduates, 2) calibrate the appropriate level of student learning required for entry-level interior design practice, and 3) develop clear and meaningful statements to communicate expectations for quality professional-level interior design education.

2015 Review and Comment. The criteria developed through community consultation in 2014 are compiled into draft standards. CIDA circulates draft standards for review and comment with the interior design community. Community responses either verify agreement with, or point out areas of disagreement with, the criteria for evaluating educational programs. Review and comment is the final step of validation and refinement of standards. At the end of 2015, the Board of Directors is presented with the final standards for adoption and sets an implementation date (2017).

The Accreditation Process

The accreditation process supports and strengthens the consistent application of standards and CIDA's evaluation of interior design programs that aspire to achieve those standards. As standards are developed, CIDA's Accreditation Commission will conduct a self-study of the accreditation process and determine strategies to implement new standards that increase both the efficiency and value of the rigorous accreditation process.