



Council  
for Interior  
Design  
Accreditation

## Summary of Accreditation Decision

### **Western Carolina University**

The interior design program leading to the Bachelor of Science degree meets Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA) Professional Standards and has been awarded accreditation for a term of six years, effective April 2019. The Accreditation Commission is pleased to recognize this achievement.

The Accreditation Commission's decision was based on the interior design program's demonstrated achievement of sixteen accreditation standards, which are evaluated within the context and overarching purpose and intent of the program. CIDA accreditation standards broadly address the evolving components of graduate preparation for interior design practice, including:

- critical thinking, professional values, and processes that provide the framework of interior design practice;
- core design and technical knowledge that provide the historical, theoretical, and technical contents of interior design practice.

CIDA accreditation standards also address the institutional systems, structures, and resources that are fundamental to providing an effective higher education learning environment for interior design.

Award of CIDA accreditation attests to the quality of the interior design program and benefits the public and program in many ways. Parents, students, and employers of graduates can be assured that the program meets the rigor of peer review and develops the skills and knowledge required to practice interior design. Furthermore, the accreditation process provides the program with valuable input for continued development and assists the program in adapting to meet evolving professional requirements as CIDA updates standards.

In three years, the interior design program will be required to submit a Progress Report to CIDA addressing ongoing program development, as well as the following Standard:

Standard 2. Faculty and Administration. The interior design program has an effective administrative structure, as well as adequate and appropriate faculty and administrative staff to successfully lead and deliver the program.

The program is scheduled to be revisited in 2025 to seek re-accreditation.