

NCIDQ Interior Design Professional Exam (IDPX) Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

Copyright © 2025 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain from reliable sources accurate, complete, and timely information about this product.

SAMPLE

Questions

- 1. During project estimation, what essential information helps a designer adjust location costs?**
 - A. City indices**
 - B. Client preferences**
 - C. Market demand**
 - D. Local regulations**
- 2. In spaces where the occupancy load exceeds 49, how many exit access doorways are required for Assembly, Business, and Mercantile occupancy groups?**
 - A. 74**
 - B. 75**
 - C. 49**
 - D. 50**
- 3. Who is responsible for submitting the Certificate of Occupancy (CO) to the owner after project completion?**
 - A. Building department from the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)**
 - B. Building inspector involved in final permit inspections**
 - C. Interior designer**
 - D. Contractor**
- 4. How is the rentable area calculated for an office space that requires 8,000 square feet of usable area with a rentable-usable ratio of 1.25?**
 - A. Rentable area is 10,000 sqft**
 - B. Rentable area is 12,000 sqft**
 - C. Rentable area is 16,000 sqft**
 - D. Rentable area is 8,500 sqft**
- 5. What is the minimum distance required for two exits in an unsprinklered space designed for a training room?**
 - A. 14'-4"**
 - B. 16'-0"**
 - C. 20'-0"**
 - D. 25'-0"**

- 6. In terms of liability protection, what is a key advantage of an LLC compared to a partnership?**
- A. Limited exposure to lawsuits**
 - B. Lower annual fees**
 - C. More control over decision making**
 - D. Limited liability to personal investment**
- 7. Prior to formally submitting drawings for permit, can the interior designer consult the building official for feedback on the proposed design?**
- A. True**
 - B. False**
 - C. Depends on the project**
 - D. Only for minor designs**
- 8. What is the maximum length allowed for dead end corridors in unsprinklered buildings?**
- A. 22 feet**
 - B. 25 feet**
 - C. 27 feet**
 - D. 20 feet**
- 9. Which code exception allows for a minimum toe clearance under toilet stalls?**
- A. 3 inches**
 - B. 4 inches**
 - C. 6 inches**
 - D. 9 inches**
- 10. In kitchen design, what does the term "lipped overlay" refer to?**
- A. A flush fit of the door**
 - B. A cabinet door that overlaps the frame partially**
 - C. Doors fitted with no frame visibility**
 - D. A style using a continuous handle**

Answers

SAMPLE

1. A
2. C
3. D
4. A
5. A
6. D
7. A
8. D
9. C
10. B

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. During project estimation, what essential information helps a designer adjust location costs?

- A. City indices**
- B. Client preferences**
- C. Market demand**
- D. Local regulations**

The essential information that helps a designer adjust location costs during project estimation is city indices. City indices provide valuable data about the cost of living, labor rates, materials, and other economic factors specific to a particular city or region. They are crucial for understanding how various factors—such as inflation, supply chain fluctuations, and regional economic conditions—impact costs in different locations. By using city indices, designers can make informed adjustments to their cost estimates, ensuring that the budget aligns with the specific circumstances of the location in which the project will take place. This kind of localized financial data is fundamental to providing accurate and competitive project estimates. While client preferences, market demand, and local regulations are important considerations in the design process, they do not directly provide the quantitative information needed to adjust location-specific costs in the same way that city indices do.

2. In spaces where the occupancy load exceeds 49, how many exit access doorways are required for Assembly, Business, and Mercantile occupancy groups?

- A. 74**
- B. 75**
- C. 49**
- D. 50**

In interior design and building codes, the occupancy load determines the number of exit access doorways required for safety and compliance. For Assembly, Business, and Mercantile occupancy groups, when the occupancy load exceeds 49, the requirement is to have a minimum of two exit access doorways. This is critical for ensuring adequate egress during an emergency situation. The threshold of 49 is significant because it serves as a dividing line for code requirements. Once the occupancy exceeds that number, the risk in an emergency scenario increases, highlighting the need for additional routes to safely evacuate the space. Therefore, the requirement of having a minimum number of exit access doorways aligns with life safety strategies and building codes that prioritize occupant safety in public spaces. Knowing the specific number is essential for interior designers to ensure the spaces they design adhere to safety regulations, especially as they relate to occupancy classifications. This structured approach is integral to maintaining safety standards across various building types.

- 3. Who is responsible for submitting the Certificate of Occupancy (CO) to the owner after project completion?**
- A. Building department from the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ)**
 - B. Building inspector involved in final permit inspections**
 - C. Interior designer**
 - D. Contractor**

The contractor is responsible for submitting the Certificate of Occupancy (CO) to the owner after project completion. This document is crucial as it indicates that the building has been inspected and meets all safety codes and standards set by the local building authority. The contractor typically manages the final stages of the construction process and ensures that all necessary inspections have been conducted. After these inspections are successfully completed, the contractor will submit the CO to the relevant authorities before handing it over to the owner. It's important to note that while the building department (the Authority Having Jurisdiction) issues the CO, their role is not to submit it to the owner but rather to evaluate the project and its compliance with local codes. Although the building inspector conducts the final inspections, they typically do not have the responsibility of submitting the CO. The interior designer may be involved in various aspects of the design and layout but does not handle the submission of the CO, making the contractor's role pivotal in this process.

- 4. How is the rentable area calculated for an office space that requires 8,000 square feet of usable area with a rentable-usable ratio of 1.25?**
- A. Rentable area is 10,000 sqft**
 - B. Rentable area is 12,000 sqft**
 - C. Rentable area is 16,000 sqft**
 - D. Rentable area is 8,500 sqft**

To determine the rentable area for the office space, you start with the usable area, which is provided as 8,000 square feet, and then apply the rentable-usable ratio of 1.25. The rentable area is computed by multiplying the usable area by the rentable-usable ratio. In this case, the calculation would be as follows: $\text{Rentable Area} = \text{Usable Area} \times \text{Rentable-Usable Ratio}$. So, $\text{Rentable Area} = 8,000 \text{ sqft} \times 1.25 = 10,000 \text{ sqft}$. This calculation reflects the additional space that is typically included in the rentable area, such as common areas and building services that tenants share, which are accounted for in the rentable-usable ratio. By understanding how these areas are calculated, one can precisely determine how much space is required for rental agreements and budgeting in office leasing scenarios.

5. What is the minimum distance required for two exits in an unsprinklered space designed for a training room?

- A. 14'-4"**
- B. 16'-0"**
- C. 20'-0"**
- D. 25'-0"**

In designing an unsprinklered space such as a training room, the minimum distance required between two exits is essential for ensuring safety and effective egress during emergencies. Given the context of your question, the correct choice indicates a minimum separation distance of 14 feet 4 inches. This distance is based on codes and standards typically applied in interior design and building safety regulations, which aim to facilitate quick and unobstructed movement away from the space in the event of a fire, natural disaster, or other emergencies. The rationale for this minimum distance takes into account factors such as the size of the room, the occupancy load, and the potential for crowding. A distance of 14 feet 4 inches provides practical separation, helping to mitigate risk and maintain safety standards, as it allows for better dispersal of individuals towards exits without congestion. In contrast, the other options represent greater distances that are not standard for the minimum requirements in most interior design codes for spaces like training rooms. The increase in distance might apply to larger rooms or spaces with higher occupancy loads, but for the specified scenario, 14 feet 4 inches meets the needs for adequate egress under typical conditions.

6. In terms of liability protection, what is a key advantage of an LLC compared to a partnership?

- A. Limited exposure to lawsuits**
- B. Lower annual fees**
- C. More control over decision making**
- D. Limited liability to personal investment**

Limited liability to personal investment is a key advantage of forming a limited liability company (LLC) compared to a partnership. In an LLC, the owners, known as members, enjoy protection from personal liability for business debts and obligations. This means that if the LLC faces lawsuits or debts, the personal assets of the members are generally safeguarded, and they can only lose the amount they have invested in the business. In a partnership, particularly a general partnership, partners can be held personally responsible for the obligations of the business and any debts incurred. This unlimited liability can expose partners' personal assets to risk in case of business-related lawsuits or debts. Thus, the structure of an LLC offers a significant protective barrier, allowing individuals to engage in business without risking their personal savings, homes, or other personal assets, making it a strategically advantageous choice for many entrepreneurs.

7. Prior to formally submitting drawings for permit, can the interior designer consult the building official for feedback on the proposed design?

A. True

B. False

C. Depends on the project

D. Only for minor designs

Consulting the building official before formally submitting drawings for a permit is a prudent step for an interior designer. Engaging in this dialogue can provide valuable insights and context regarding the local building codes, zoning regulations, and other compliance issues that may affect the proposed design. This proactive approach can help to identify potential concerns early on, allowing the designer to adjust the plans accordingly and streamline the permitting process. Such consultations can lead to a better understanding of what is acceptable within the jurisdiction and foster a collaborative relationship between the designer and the building officials. It is generally encouraged as part of the professional practice to ensure that the design adheres to legal requirements and to mitigate the risk of delays or rejections later in the process.

8. What is the maximum length allowed for dead end corridors in unsprinklered buildings?

A. 22 feet

B. 25 feet

C. 27 feet

D. 20 feet

The maximum length allowed for dead end corridors in unsprinklered buildings is set to ensure the safety of occupants by minimizing the potential for trapped individuals in the event of a fire. According to building codes, unsprinklered buildings typically have a limit of 20 feet for dead end corridors. This is established to ensure that occupants can reach an exit in a reasonable amount of time and have an increased chance of survival if a fire occurs. Longer dead end corridors could hinder evacuations, as they extend the distance that occupants must travel to reach a safety exit, increasing the risk of smoke inhalation or fire exposure. This regulation is particularly crucial in unsprinklered buildings, where the lack of a fire suppression system makes the risk of fire spreading more significant. Thus, maintaining a maximum corridor length of 20 feet serves as an important safety measure.

9. Which code exception allows for a minimum toe clearance under toilet stalls?

- A. 3 inches**
- B. 4 inches**
- C. 6 inches**
- D. 9 inches**

The correct answer, which identifies the minimum toe clearance under toilet stalls as six inches, is grounded in accessibility standards and building codes designed to promote user comfort and accessibility for individuals with disabilities. Specifically, this requirement is primarily derived from the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Guidelines, which establish criteria for accessible design. The six inches of toe clearance is essential as it allows individuals using mobility aids, such as wheelchairs, to position themselves appropriately without obstruction and facilitates easier access to the toilet. This clearance helps ensure that there is adequate space beneath the toilet partition for foot placement, making it more convenient for users as they navigate their needs. The other options, which propose clearances of three, four, and nine inches, do not align with the established codes and guidelines. A clearance of three or four inches may not provide adequate space for all users, particularly those with larger mobility aids or who require additional room for maneuvering. A nine-inch clearance, on the other hand, might be excessive and undermine the privacy and design integrity of the stalls. Hence, six inches is the widely accepted standard to ensure both function and compliance with accessibility requirements.

10. In kitchen design, what does the term "lipped overlay" refer to?

- A. A flush fit of the door**
- B. A cabinet door that overlaps the frame partially**
- C. Doors fitted with no frame visibility**
- D. A style using a continuous handle**

The term "lipped overlay" in kitchen design specifically refers to a cabinet door style where the door overlaps the cabinet frame partially. This design choice creates a visually appealing look while allowing for a bit of the cabinet frame to be exposed, contributing to the overall aesthetic of the cabinetry. Lipped overlay doors typically have a slight lip around the edges, which enhances their appearance and often helps in sealing the cabinet more effectively compared to other styles. Understanding this term is essential for interior designers, as it influences both the functionality and style of kitchen cabinetry. It allows designers to select the right type of door that fits the desired look and operates correctly in the overall kitchen layout. Furthermore, lipped overlay doors can be contrasted with other door styles, such as flush fit or full overlay, helping designers to communicate more effectively about their choices and intentions for a space.