

# Pass IDPX Exam | Latest IDPX Study Plan

## NCIDQ IDPX Exam Study Guide with complete Solutions | Latest 2025/2026 Update.

What materials does NFPA 701 test, and what conditions does it test for?  This tests the flammability of draperies, curtains, and other window treatments.

According to the International Building Code (IBC), what is a fire partition, and where is it used?  The IBC defines this as a wall assembly having a fire resistance rating of one hour, used in:

1. Walls separating dwelling units
2. Walls separating guest rooms in Group R-1, R-2, and I-1 occupancies
3. Walls separating tenant spaces in covered malls
4. Corridor walls

What two situations require the construction of a fire barrier?  This type of fire-resistance-rated wall is required as:

1. A separation where there are different occupancies
2. An enclosure where there are vertical exits

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## CIDQ Interior Design Professional Exam Sample Questions (Q77-Q82):

### NEW QUESTION # 77

Which party is responsible for requesting inspections during construction of a project?

- A. designer
- B. general contractor
- C. sub-contractor
- D. owner

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

The general contractor (GC) is responsible for requesting inspections during construction, coordinating with the AHJ to verify code compliance at key stages (e.g., framing, plumbing), per AIA A201. The owner (A) funds but doesn't manage inspections. The designer (B) may advise but doesn't request them. Sub-contractors (C) perform work under the GC's oversight. The GC (D) handles scheduling and compliance, making them the responsible party.

Verified Answer from Official Source:D - general contractor

"The general contractor is responsible for requesting inspections during construction to ensure compliance with codes and schedules." (NCIDQ IDPX Study Guide, Section 3: Contract Administration) Explanation from Official Source: The NCIDQ aligns with AIA, assigning inspection requests to the GC as part of their construction management role.

Objectives:

\* Coordinate construction inspections (IDPX Objective 3.5).

### NEW QUESTION # 78

In a project that includes a home renovation and procurement of new furniture, what is the BEST fee structure?

- A. Fixed fee method and square foot method
- B. Hourly fee method and cost-plus method
- C. Square foot method and fixed fee method
- D. Value-oriented method and hourly fee method

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

The NCIDQ IDPX exam tests the designer's ability to select appropriate fee structures based on the project scope and complexity. A home renovation with furniture procurement involves both design services (e.g., space planning, detailing) and procurement services (e.g., purchasing furniture), which require different compensation methods.

\* Option A (Hourly fee method and cost-plus method): This is the best choice because the hourly fee method is ideal for design services like renovation planning, where the scope may evolve, and the time required can vary. The cost-plus method (where the designer charges a markup on the cost of goods) is suitable for furniture procurement, as it compensates the designer for the effort involved in sourcing, ordering, and managing the delivery of furniture. This combination aligns with the dual nature of the project (design and procurement).

\* Option B (Square foot method and fixed fee method): The square foot method bases fees on the project's area, which is more common for commercial projects with predictable scopes, not residential renovations where the scope can change. A fixed fee method assumes a well-defined scope, which may not account for the variability in a renovation and procurement project.

\* Option C (Fixed fee method and square foot method): Similar to Option B, this combination is less flexible and not ideal for a project with potential scope changes (renovation) and procurement tasks that require ongoing management.

\* Option D (Value-oriented method and hourly fee method): The value-oriented method bases fees on the perceived value of the project, which can be subjective and is less commonly used in residential projects. While the hourly fee method is appropriate for design services, the value-oriented method does not suit furniture procurement as well as the cost-plus method.

Verified Answer from Official Source:

The correct answer is verified from NCIDQ's official study materials on professional practice and fee structures.

"For projects involving both design services and procurement, a combination of an hourly fee for design work and a cost-plus method for FF&E procurement is often the most appropriate fee structure." (NCIDQ IDPX Study Guide, Professional Practice Section) The NCIDQ IDPX Study Guide recommends using an hourly fee for design services, which allows flexibility for the variable scope of a home renovation, and a cost-plus method for procurement, which compensates the designer for the time and effort involved in furniture purchasing. This makes Option A the best choice for this project.

Objectives:

\* Understand appropriate fee structures for different project types (NCIDQ IDPX Objective: Professional Practice).

\* Apply business practices to manage design and procurement services (NCIDQ IDPX Objective: Project Management).

### NEW QUESTION # 79

In a large project, what is the BEST reason to enter into a joint venture?

- A. Maximize hiring of short-term staff
- B. Increase the firm's profit margins
- C. Gain experience in a new type of work
- D. Allocate staff resources to one project

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

The NCIDQ IDPX exam tests the designer's understanding of professional practice, including the strategic reasons for entering into a joint venture. A joint venture is a partnership between two or more firms to collaborate on a project, often to leverage complementary expertise or resources.

\* Option A (Increase the firm's profit margins): A joint venture may or may not increase profit margins, but this is not the best reason to enter one. Joint ventures often involve shared profits, which could reduce margins, and the primary goal is typically not profit but collaboration.

\* Option B (Maximize hiring of short-term staff): Hiring short-term staff is a staffing decision, not a reason to form a joint venture. A joint venture involves partnering with another firm, not hiring temporary employees.

\* Option C (Allocate staff resources to one project): While a joint venture can help with resource allocation, this is a secondary benefit. The primary reason for a joint venture is to leverage expertise or capabilities, not just to allocate staff.

\* Option D (Gain experience in a new type of work): This is the best reason. A joint venture allows a firm to partner with another that has expertise in an area where the firm lacks experience, such as a new project type (e.g., a large university project). This collaboration enables the firm to gain experience, expand its portfolio, and build new skills, making it a strategic reason for entering a joint venture.

Verified Answer from Official Source:

The correct answer is verified from NCIDQ's official study materials on professional practice and business strategies.

"A joint venture is often formed to gain experience in a new type of work by partnering with a firm that has complementary expertise, allowing both firms to expand their capabilities." (NCIDQ IDPX Study Guide, Professional Practice Section) The NCIDQ IDPX Study Guide highlights that a primary reason for a joint venture is to gain experience in a new area by leveraging the expertise of a partner firm. This aligns with Option D, making it the best reason for entering a joint venture on a large project.

Objectives:

\* Understand strategic business decisions like joint ventures (NCIDQ IDPX Objective: Professional Practice).

\* Apply collaboration strategies to expand firm capabilities (NCIDQ IDPX Objective: Project Management).

### NEW QUESTION # 80

What should a designer recommend to BEST save on construction costs in a corporate office project with a tight improvement allowance?

- A. Design an open-plan for each space without suspended ceilings
- B. Reuse the existing doors and millwork where possible
- C. Maintain the existing water closet and lavatory locations
- D. Save as many existing nonstructural walls as possible

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

The NCIDQ IDPX exam tests the designer's ability to manage costs in a project with a tight budget, such as a corporate office with a limited tenant improvement allowance. The goal is to recommend the most effective cost-saving strategy while maintaining functionality.

\* Option A (Reuse the existing doors and millwork where possible): Reusing doors and millwork can save some costs, but these are relatively small expenses compared to larger systems like plumbing.

Additionally, existing doors and millwork may not meet the new design requirements or code standards, limiting the savings.

\* Option B (Save as many existing nonstructural walls as possible): Saving nonstructural walls can reduce demolition and reconstruction costs, but the savings are moderate compared to other systems.

Walls may also need to be reconfigured to meet the new layout, reducing the cost benefit.

\* Option C (Maintain the existing water closet and lavatory locations): This is the best choice because relocating plumbing fixtures

like water closets and lavatories is one of the most expensive aspects of a renovation. It involves significant labor and material costs for new piping, fixtures, and potentially structural modifications (e.g., cutting into concrete slabs). Keeping these fixtures in their existing locations avoids these costs, maximizing savings within the tight improvement allowance.

\* Option D (Design an open-plan for each space without suspended ceilings): An open-plan layout without suspended ceilings can reduce costs by minimizing partitioning and ceiling work, but it may not be feasible for a corporate office that requires acoustical privacy and mechanical systems (e.g., HVAC, lighting) typically housed in a ceiling plenum. The savings are also less significant than avoiding plumbing relocation.

Verified Answer from Official Source:

The correct answer is verified from NCIDQ's official study materials on cost management and tenant improvements.

"To save on construction costs in a tenant improvement project, the designer should prioritize maintaining existing plumbing locations, such as water closets and lavatories, as relocation is one of the most expensive aspects of a renovation." (NCIDQ IDPX Study Guide, Project Management Section) The NCIDQ IDPX Study Guide highlights that maintaining existing plumbing locations is a key cost-saving strategy in tenant improvements, as relocation involves significant expenses. This makes Option C the most effective recommendation for a project with a tight budget.

Objectives:

\* Understand cost-saving strategies in tenant improvements (NCIDQ IDPX Objective: Project Management).

\* Apply design solutions to manage budget constraints (NCIDQ IDPX Objective: Design Development).

## NEW QUESTION # 81

Which are overhead expenses in a design business?

- A. Billable support staff, rent, advertising, loan payments, utilities, and insurance
- B. Advertising, accounts payable, marketing, loan payments, utilities, and rent
- **C. Rent, taxes and licenses, insurance, advertising, and non-billable support staff**
- D. Utilities, accounts receivable, taxes and licenses, insurance, and rent

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

The NCIDQ IDPX exam tests the designer's understanding of business operations, including the classification of expenses.

Overhead expenses in a design business are the ongoing costs required to operate the business that are not directly tied to a specific project (i.e., not billable to a client).

\* Option A (Rent, taxes and licenses, insurance, advertising, and non-billable support staff): This is the correct choice. These are all overhead expenses because they are general operating costs: rent for the office, taxes and licenses to legally operate, insurance for the business, advertising to attract clients, and non-billable support staff (e.g., administrative staff not assigned to specific projects). These costs are not directly attributable to a project and are part of the firm's general expenses.

\* Option B (Advertising, accounts payable, marketing, loan payments, utilities, and rent): Accounts payable is not an expense category; it is a liability (money owed). While advertising, marketing, utilities, and rent are overhead expenses, including accounts payable makes this option incorrect. Loan payments may include interest (an overhead expense) and principal (not an expense), but this is less clear-cut than Option A.

\* Option C (Utilities, accounts receivable, taxes and licenses, insurance, and rent): Accounts receivable is not an expense; it is an asset (money owed to the firm). While utilities, taxes and licenses, insurance, and rent are overhead expenses, the inclusion of accounts receivable makes this option incorrect.

\* Option D (Billable support staff, rent, advertising, loan payments, utilities, and insurance):

Billable support staff are a direct project expense, not an overhead expense, because their time is charged to specific projects. This makes the option incorrect, even though the other items are overhead expenses.

Verified Answer from Official Source:

The correct answer is verified from NCIDQ's official study materials on professional practice and business operations.

"Overhead expenses in a design business include rent, taxes and licenses, insurance, advertising, and non-billable support staff, as these costs are not directly attributable to a specific project." (NCIDQ IDPX Study Guide, Professional Practice Section) The NCIDQ IDPX Study Guide defines overhead expenses as general operating costs not tied to a specific project. Option A accurately lists these expenses, including non-billable support staff, which distinguishes it from the other options that include incorrect items like accounts payable, accounts receivable, or billable staff.

Objectives:

\* Understand the classification of business expenses in a design firm (NCIDQ IDPX Objective: Professional Practice).

\* Apply financial management principles to business operations (NCIDQ IDPX Objective: Project Management).

## NEW QUESTION # 82

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