

AIID FAQ LIST

New Semester-based Interior Design Certificate (IDC) program beginning on September 27th, 2021

*Current Information as of 12/1/21 (Spring Semester 2022)

We are very excited to announce that AIID has been approved to be a 100% online school beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year!

Q: So that means AIID will not be opening the physical classroom again?

A: Correct. Covid-19 has presented many challenges for our school over the past year, but one of the bright spots is that we have transitioned to a 100% online school. This allows us to serve more students who were previously unable to attend our classroom program in Fountain Hills, AZ during the day. Many potential students have asked us to create an online program that would allow them to attend from the safety and convenience of their own home.

Q: Is there any downside to not being in the classroom?

A: We don't really think so! The obvious first thing that comes to mind is that we will not have a physical classroom for students to attend and interact with their fellow students in person. However, we will still have live lectures and discussion boards for students to interact and network with each other as they complete the program. AIID has always been a community of designers, and this will not change. Students will still be able to meet and network with fellow students, instructors, guest lecturers, and employers as they prepare for a career in Interior Design.

Q: What other coursework has changed in order to deliver a 100% online program?

A: The biggest change has been our Drafting & Space Planning course. It used to be hand drafting using pencil and paper, and now is computer-based using SketchUp. Our new SketchUp class has gotten amazing reviews and is truly the way forward for the modern career in Interior Design anyway. CAD skills are very important to employers, and customers will love that our students are able to draw and share amazing designs in CAD. The other main change is that our students build digital presentations for mood and color boards, instead of assembling a physical board. Again, we view this as the modern way to practice design and is definitely easier to share with your clients and other project stakeholders!

Q: In the past your program at AIID was only a full-time option...can I take classes part-time instead?

A: Yes! You can take up to 5 courses per semester, but as few as 2 courses per semester if you like. This allows flexibility for students who would like to work while attending school.

Q: What is the structure of the new Interior Design Certificate (IDC) program?

A: We have 10 courses that are 3 semester credits each (30 semester credits total). Our courses will be offered in 15-week semesters beginning on September 27th, 2021, and you can take as few as 2 courses (6 semester credits) and up to 5 courses (15 semester credits) per semester. The entire 30 semester credit program can be completed in as few as 30 academic weeks (2 semesters).

Q: For the new semester-based IDC program, will I need to attend classes live from 8:30AM-2:30PM as in the past?

A: No. We have built an Asynchronous program, which is a fancy way to say that our new program will be flexible so that students can complete their schoolwork when it is convenient for them. We will still have some live guest lectures and discussions, but they will be recorded so that students can watch them when convenient for them. Students will even be able to work during the day and still attend our

online program. Our instructors will be available regularly to answer questions and review lessons. Students are expected to maintain significant and ongoing contact with instructors during their studies.

Q: What is the cost?

A: IDC program cost for 2021-2022 academic year:

- Tuition per credit: \$430 (billed each semester for registered courses)
- Additional Course fees:
 - ID100 eTextbook License = \$100
 - ID105 Textiles Kit = \$100
 - ID120 SketchUp License = \$60
- The Total Program Cost is \$13,160 for completion of all 30 semester credits, but the entire cost is NOT due in advance. You only pay for the classes you take each semester.

Q: What are the payment options?

A: You are only charged for the courses you take each semester. Payment options include:

1. Federal Student Aid (Pell Grants / Direct Loans)
2. Interest Free Payment Plan: Any balance not covered with option 1 is eligible for interest free (0%) monthly payments due in 3 equal installments coinciding with the semester start date. Payments can be made by check, money order, bank transfer, or credit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover).

Q: When can I apply for the upcoming semester?

A: December 1st, 2021. The application can be found on our website at:

<https://www.aiid.edu/admissions-application/>. We recommend completing the application no later than 2/1/2022 to allow enough processing time before the semester start date on 2/14/2022.

Q: How “Tech Savvy” do I need to be to participate?

A: You definitely need to be comfortable using a computer, building digital documents, uploading/downloading, organizing computer files, navigating websites, etc. We will be providing an Orientation course prior to starting classes that will review some of the key things to know, as well as a technology assessment tool called “SmarterMeasure” to let you know your tech aptitude during the admissions process.

Q: Will I be able to take the new online program on my phone or tablet?

A: No! You will need a laptop computer (Windows or iOS) with an external monitor and mouse with scroll wheel for using SketchUp.

Q: I heard AIID is working on developing an Associate’s Degree program in Interior Design. Will credits from the certificate program transfer into the upcoming AA degree program?

A: Yes!

Q: Is AIID accredited by CIDA (Council for Interior Design Accreditation)?

A: No. CIDA only provides accreditation for Bachelor’s and Master’s degree programs in interior design and architecture. AIID is institutionally accredited by ACCSC (Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges).

Q: Am I able to join American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) as a student?

A: Yes. Current AIID students can apply for Student membership to ASID, and there is even a path to Allied membership after graduation.

Q: Will I be eligible to take the National Council for Interior Design Qualification (NCIDQ) exam as a graduate of the IDC program?

A: No, not with our IDC certificate alone. Our IDC program is not designed to provide training to pass the NCIDQ by itself. The NCIDQ is a professional level certification that requires a minimum completion of an Associate's degree in Interior Design from an accredited institution IN ADDITION to several thousand hours of *qualified* work experience in Interior Design. However, we are planning to address NCIDQ eligibility when we release our upcoming Associate's degree in the future. Stay tuned!