



Council  
for **Interior  
Design**  
Accreditation

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November 16, 2023

Dr. Kimberly Andrews Espy, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs  
The University of Texas at San Antonio  
One UTSA Circle  
San Antonio, TX 78249

Dear Dr. Andrews Espy:

Congratulations! Your interior design program leading to the Bachelor of Science in Interior Design degree meets Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA) Professional Standards and has been awarded accreditation for a term of six years, **effective October 2023**. The Accreditation Commission is pleased to recognize your program for this achievement.

The Accreditation Commission's decision was based on the program's 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.

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

The enclosed Accreditation Report contains the evaluation of your program's compliance with CIDA Standards. Program quality is assessed primarily through student learning evidenced in student work and interviews with students. In CIDA's Professional Standards 2022, performance criteria and expected levels of student achievement are clearly described by student learning expectations.

A narrative assessment is provided for each Standard in the report and includes valuable information on program compliance with the Standard. In some cases, the interior design program may have fallen below or exceeded the requirements of an expectation. These expectations are addressed in the narrative assessment.

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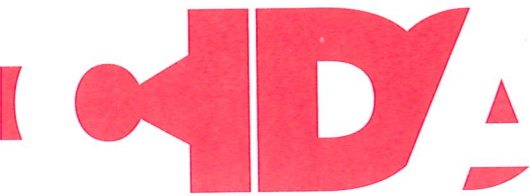
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Because weaknesses in student learning were identified in a number of Standards, an interim visit is required in fall 2026, to monitor progress toward improvement in the following Standards:

Standard 1. Program Identity and Context. The interior design program provides a professional-level education that prepares graduates for entry-level practice and advanced study. The program has a mission, educational philosophy, and goals appropriate to its context. The program engages in on-going assessment and planning ensuring the curriculum and resources are structured to achieve its goals. The public is able to access understandable and reliable information about the program.

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.

Standard 5. Collaboration. Interior designers collaborate and participate in interdisciplinary teams.

Standard 7. Human-Centered Design. Interior designers apply knowledge of human experience and behavior to designing the built environment.

Standard 13. Products and Materials. Interior designers complete design solutions that integrate furnishings, products, materials, and finishes.

Standard 14. Environmental Systems and Human Wellbeing. Interior designers use the principles of acoustics, thermal comfort, indoor air quality, plumbing systems, and waste management in relation to environmental impact and human wellbeing.

Standard 15. Construction. Interior designers understand interior construction and its interrelationship with base building construction and systems.

Standard 16. Regulations and Guidelines. Interior designers apply laws, codes, standards, and guidelines that impact human experience of interior spaces.

The program coordinator will be notified of the details of this interim visit well in advance. The program should be revisited in fall 2029 to seek re-accreditation.



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Published information regarding your accreditation status must comply with CIDA's confidentiality and disclosure policy as stated in CIDA's accreditation policy and procedure, Section VI. Accreditation, page 1 (also see Section VI. Accreditation, page 4, Program Announcement and Disclosure of Accredited Status).

Accreditation policy and procedure is available for download on CIDA's website at <https://www.accredit-id.org/policyandprocedures>. It is important that all announcements of CIDA accreditation include the name of the program and the degree awarded.

Sincerely yours,

Holly Mattson, Hon. IDC, Hon. FASID  
Chief Executive Officer

Enclosure

cc: JoAnn Browning, The University of Texas and San Antonio  
Mark A. Blizard, The University of Texas and San Antonio  
Curtis R. Fish, The University of Texas and San Antonio  
CIDA Visiting Team