

MEMORANDUM

TO: El Centro Interior Design Students

FROM: Mary Helmcamp Director
of Registration

RE: Program Accreditation Status changes by CIDA

DATE: November 25, 2009

Thank you for returning the information form regarding your education at El Centro College. Recently TBAE staff met with El Centro administration and faculty of the Interior Design Third Year Technical Certificate Program at El Centro to discuss the imminent change in the accreditation status by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA). This El Centro program will no longer be accredited by CIDA as of January 1, 2010.

However, TBAE finds it in the public interest to allow students who complete this certificate program by July 2014 to receive equivalent educational credit as if they had completed a CIDA-accredited program. This offer would be for the purpose of registration in Texas only, and would not transfer to any other state. If, by July 2014, El Centro's interior design program does not culminate in a bachelor's degree, and the CIDA accreditation has not been restored, TBAE will no longer give equivalent educational credit for completing a CIDA-accredited program to El Centro graduates.

It is extremely important that you understand that this educational credit would only be used for evaluation by TBAE, and would not be valid in any other state.

Any student who began his/her education after September 1, 2006 must complete the Third Year Technical Certificate in interior design from El Centro College no later than July 2014, or must complete a CIDA accredited bachelor's degree in interior design from another school.

For El Centro students, these are the paths to registration in Texas:

- Third Year Technical Certificate (completed prior to July 2014), and
2 years experience under the direct supervision of a registered interior designer or architect
- Bachelor's degree in any subject plus Associate's Degree in interior design, and
3 years experience under the direct supervision of a registered interior designer or architect

If you have any questions, please contact Jackie Blackmore, Exam Coordinator, 512/305-8527 or Mary Helmcamp, Director of Registration, 512/305-8539.