

State of Connecticut
Regulation of
Department of Consumer Protection
concerning
Registered Interior Designers

Section 1. Section 20-377t-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 20-377t-1. Application for certificate of registration as interior designer

Any person seeking a certificate of registration as [an] a Registered Interior Designer shall apply to the Commissioner of Consumer Protection on an application form provided by said Commissioner. Such application form shall include:

- (a) Applicant's name;
- (b) [Applicant's social security number;
- (c)] Applicant's date and place of birth;
- [(d)] (c) Applicant's firm or business name;
- [(e)] (d) Applicant's business address;
- [(f)] (e) Applicant's residence address;

[(g)] (f) Information about Applicant's credential history [of licensure or registration] as an interior designer from any state or territory of the United States. Such information is to include an explanation of any refusal, revocation, suspension or lapse of a related credential [certificate or license]; and

[(h)] (g) The Applicant [must] shall submit satisfactory proof that [he/she] he or she has fulfilled one of the following:

(1) (A) has passed the Uniform National Examination established by the National Council for Interior Design Qualifications;

(B) has passed any other examination with standards or requirements equal to or greater than those established by such council;

(2) has passed, prior to October 1, 1988, the Uniform National Examination established by the Interior Design Society;

(3) is an architect licensed in the State of Connecticut;

(4) is currently credentialed [registered] in another state having credentialing [registration or licensing] standards or requirements equal to or greater than the standards or requirements of [Public Act 87-519] Connecticut General Statutes Section 20-377n(b); or

(5) has used or was identified by the title of "interior designer" for one year or more immediately [preceeding] preceding October 1, 1983;

[(i)] (h) such other information as the [commissioner] Commissioner may require; and

[(j) Applicant's signature, date of said signature and said Applicant's signature verified under oath; and]

[(k) (i) If the Applicant is claiming comparability under [Subsection (h)(1)(B)] subdivision (g)(1)(B), he [must] or she shall provide documents and materials necessary for the Commissioner to determine equivalency.

Section 2. The Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies are amended by adding sections 20-377t-2 to 20-377t-4, inclusive, as follows:

(NEW) Sec. 20-377t-2. Continuing education

An interior designer registrant shall complete four hours of continuing education courses every three years. Registrants shall maintain an auditable list of continuing education courses taken to satisfy the requirements of section 20-377s of the Connecticut General Statutes for a period of no less than five years. The department may request evidence of the applicant's proof of continuing education completion, which evidence shall be produced in an electronic format upon request. A registrant shall not be required to comply with the continuing education requirements of this section until after the registrant's first registration renewal.

(NEW) Sec. 20-377t-3. Exemptions from continuing education requirements

- (a) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may consider an exemption to the continuing education requirements required by Section 20-377s of the Connecticut General Statutes. For reason of health, military service, or other individual hardship, the commissioner may, in his or her discretion, exempt an interior designer from continuing education requirements if the interior designer otherwise meets all renewal requirements. In such case that an exemption of an interior designer from continuing education requirements is granted, the commissioner's hardship exemption decision shall be final and not appealable to the department.
- (b) In order for requests for exemption to be considered by the commissioner, each request shall be submitted in writing, in a form and manner prescribed by the department, not less than ninety days prior to the date of registration renewal and shall include an explanation and verification of the hardship.

(NEW) Sec. 20-377t-4. Reciprocity

The Commissioner may issue an interior designer registration to an applicant without examination provided such applicant:

- (a) Meets the requirements of Section 20-377n of the Connecticut General Statutes and Section 20-377t-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies;
- (b) Submits a certified statement from the credentialing authority from the state in which the applicant is currently credentialed, attesting to the date, method and type of examination by which said credential was issued and the fact that the applicant's credential is not currently under suspension, revocation, probation or other disciplinary action; and
- (c) Complies with all other applicable statutes and regulations.

Statement of Purpose

These regulations provide clarity on initial and continuing education requirements for interior designers. Section 20-377s of the Connecticut General Statutes sets forth requirements for completion of continuing education, but did not specify which courses qualify for reciprocity, when hardship exemptions may be granted and other requirements for completing continuing education. This proposed regulation addresses the above concerns and makes technical edits.