

## IDC 2021 Membership Frequently Asked Questions

### **Q: What are the benefits of becoming an IDC member?**

A: As the national advocacy body for the interior design profession in Canada, IDC is committed to delivering high quality services and products for our members at every stage of their career, as well as advocating to government and the wider business community on behalf of Canada's talented interior design industry.

### **Q: Who can become a member of IDC?**

A: Membership types and categories are listed on [IDC's website](#).

### **Q: Why have IDC's member categories changed?**

A: In consultation with the IDC board of directors and feedback from members, IDC has simplified its membership categories to reduce financial barriers wherever possible and allow access to industry allies to support the association and Canadian interior designers.

### **Q: What has changed specifically in the current membership categories chart?**

A: The membership categories chart is now aligned with [IDC's by-laws](#) in portraying voting and non-voting members and related subcategories of membership.

### **Q: Who are voting members at IDC?**

A: Voting members are IDC Registered members – those individuals who are active Registered, Licensed, Professional, or Certified members, in good standing, of any provincial interior design regulatory body in Canada; including any members that are Non-Resident Registered. Registered members may use the 'IDC' designation.

### **Q: Who are non-voting members at IDC?**

A: Non-voting members are IDC Affiliate members such as *students* who are actively enrolled as a student in a post-secondary program of interior design education at any university, college, or institution accredited by the [Council for Interior Design Accreditation \(CIDA\)](#); *interns* who have completed a recognized interior design educational program and are engaged in the work experience portion of their path to full registered membership; active

*educators* in post-secondary interior design education at any university, college, or accredited school of interior design; *allied* members who hold membership in other national or international associations, or individuals who are associated with the profession of interior design; and *retired* practitioners who have been members of IDC for a minimum of three years and have retired from the practice of interior design. Affiliate members may not use the 'IDC' designation.

**Q Who can join IDC as an Industry Individual member?**

A: To qualify as an industry individual member, you must be engaged in the interior design industry but not be a practicing interior designer, such as: A&D reps and agents, dealers and distributors, product designers and manufacturers, lighting designers, photographers, carpenters, acoustic designers, etc.

**Q: How are Industry Individual members different from Industry Partners?**

A: While members who belong to IDC as Industry Individuals may be involved with existing industry partners, they choose the individual category to be more directly involved with the association, to receive relevant industry information and opportunities, and connected with their community, both locally and globally.

**Q: What are the benefits of membership for students and interns?**

A: IDC helps students and interns build their professional network and stay up to date with the latest industry news and trends. Membership is free for students.

Benefits of membership include:

- Access to job opportunities through IDC's online [Career Centre](#)
- Annual awards, bursaries, and scholarships
- Connections to senior designers and industry manufacturers
- Exclusive discounts and invitations to industry networking events
- Educational seminars and webinars

**Q: What is the application process for new members?**

A: New applicants must complete the appropriate application form below and pay the membership dues associated with their membership type:

- a) [Application form for students](#)
- b) [Application form for new members](#)

**Q: Is membership with IDC mandatory to be able to practise as an interior designer in Canada?**

A: Membership with IDC is not mandatory to practise as an interior designer in Canada. As a national advocacy body, IDC provides connections to industry manufacturers and suppliers, access to professional development courses (CEUs), national and international opportunities, information on national trends and updates in design.

**Q: Which options exist for those who are soon retiring, but wish to stay connecting to their industry?**

A: IDC has a 'Retired' membership category, for those who are no longer practising as interior designers, but wish to remain connected to the industry. For more information on membership types and dues, please complete [the application form for new members](#). Anyone interested in joining IDC as a retired member must complete the application form and pay the relevant membership dues.

**Q: What is the deadline for payment of membership dues?**

A: Please pay your IDC membership dues by Feb. 28, 2021 to avoid late fees. Members who pay their annual dues before December 31, 2020 will receive a discounted rate.