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Ball State's interior design program receives national accreditation

(9/11/2007)

The Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA) has granted accreditation to Ball State's [interior design](#) program for six years. Of the approximately 500 interior design programs in the U.S., 149 have accreditation.

"It's not easy to get it," said Reza Ahmadi, associate professor of family and consumer sciences. "We have been working on this for four years."

Accreditation certifies that an interior design program meets professional standards. It also aids graduates' efforts to obtain licensing. Not all states require interior designers to have licenses, but regulations vary between states. A program's accreditation also qualifies its students to take the National Council for Interior Design Qualification examination and join professional organizations.

"We will see more students coming into this program," Ahmadi said. "Many in the past did not come to Ball State because we did not have accreditation."

Accreditation follows a self-study by the program and a series of evaluations and reviews by a visiting CIDA team, its evaluation committee and an accreditation commission, which makes the final decision. The team, committee and commission include interior design professionals and educators.

Ball State's interior design program, under the [Department of Family and Consumer Sciences](#), prepares students for entry-level positions in such fields as residential design, hospitality design and store planning.

For more information, contact Ahmadi at 765-285-1471 or rahmadi@bsu.edu.

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