



CERTIFIED
LIGHTING
DESIGNER

Candidate Handbook Supplement

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Introduction

The Certified Lighting Designer (CLD) certification has been developed to comply with proficiency standards that are expected and typical across most professions. In essence, certification is a standardized method of determining someone's core abilities. The CLD certification is an evidence-based assessment for architectural lighting design that provides a measurement of competency. Attaining CLD means the individual has demonstrated the essential qualities of a competent senior lighting designer.

The information in this handbook has been developed to assist you with your application.

The following information is provided for each Domain:

- The Domain definition
- An expanded explanation of the Domain
- Possible Exhibits an applicant may submit in support of his/her responses to the Domain questions
- The application questions
- Narrative on how what reviewers are trained to look for

DOMAIN 1 Goals and Outcomes

Definition

The creation of the lighting concept that satisfies the project requirements and the design concept so the solution performs as predicted.

Explanation

Project requirements may include:

1. Delivering results that meet the objectives of the brief; that satisfy the ambitions of the client and resolve constraints of the area, and
2. Complying with time deadlines, budget constraints, energy conservation goals, regulations, best practices, etc.

“*Design concept*” is what the lighting design is expected to accomplish or support. For example:

- Identity – visual appeal to reinforce the brand identity or sense of place
- Comfort – enhanced relaxation or reduction in fatigue
- Safety – meeting defined criteria as part of creating a safe environment
- Productivity – lifting morale, increasing efficiency and output
- Orientation – overt or subliminal direction of people’s attention towards a specific destination; for example, towards art exhibits, architectural elements, retail displays or directional guidance
- Functionality – meeting of defined technical criteria based on human needs and space conditions
- Mood/atmosphere – the specific feeling or ambiance created by the design
- Resources optimisation – integrating solutions that maximise the efficient use of materials and/or energy
- Environmental and energy goals – using the latest technology to meet or exceed energy conservation standards including the use of natural light and optimisation of electrical light

Possible Exhibits

Concept Presentations; renderings; final documentation; photos of commissioned Installations.

Application Questions

1. Explain the design concept and the project requirements including: client requirements, constraints, and any other project considerations that were important to the lighting design.
2. Explain the methods or tools you used to evaluate the performance or success of your lighting design describing why you believe the completed lighting design met the design concept.

Narrative

In this section, the applicant needs to show they have taken the client's requirements, or at least identified the project necessities, and created a lighting scheme that met the objectives within the project constraints. The applicant needs to show:

- what was required; either through written text (a brief/reverse brief) or visual material (concept)
- how the design was developed within the project constraints
- and how the design was resolved in the completed installation

Outcomes may be different from the original goals as projects can evolve over time, however, when this happens the applicant should explain the changes and the reasons for them.

DOMAIN 2 Collaboration

Definition

The interaction with other disciplines by serving as an integral member of the team so that lighting relates to its context and adds value to the project.

Explanation

- *“Interaction”* is exchanging and discussing ideas with other people in the project team so everyone understands the feasibility and implications of the suggestions being considered.
- *“Other disciplines”* may include other design professionals, clients, owners, users, contracting trades.
- *“Integral member of the team”* is about actively participating with others in the project; to express your ideas and to understand other people’s thinking; to explain and be aware of the implications of the ideas being considered as they relate to lighting design.
- *“Lighting relates to the context”* is about how the design solution is relevant/applicable to the overall scheme, the setting (space or place) or situation.
- *“Adds value”* is about how the contribution and interaction helped the team satisfy the project requirements and accomplish the overall design concept. It means that the contribution was beneficial to the outcome.

Possible Exhibits

No exhibits required.

Application Questions

1. List the role of the main project team members you collaborated with in developing the project (such as architect, interior designer, artist, end user, design trade representatives, etc.) and explain why you worked closely with them.
2. Explain how the project developed through collaboration.
3. Explain how your project design added value to the project.

Narrative

In this domain, the applicant needs to show that they have been an integral member of the project design team. They need to show they’ve engaged with relevant design team members and ideally with other stakeholders associated with the project. This is more than just attending project meetings; the applicant should demonstrate collaboration was vital to understanding the diverse desires and constraints of other parties and how the lighting scheme ultimately benefited from the collaboration.

DOMAIN 3 Ingenuity

Definition

The contribution of ideas that demonstrate innovation, creativity, originality, imagination, or resourcefulness to solve the challenges of the project.

Explanation

- “*Contribution of ideas means*” the applicant provided information, suggestions, and solutions that helped explore new possibilities, to make better use of resources, to take advantage of opportunities or overcome barriers.
- “*Foster the goals*” refers to how **their** input and skills contributed to solving problems in an innovative, creative, imaginative or resourceful way.

Possible Exhibits

Design Concepts, Sketches, Photos of Models, Mark ups + Detailed Drawings, Simulations, Calculations, Photos of Commissioned Installations.

Application Questions

1. What were the challenges that required innovation, creativity, originality, imagination or resourcefulness?
2. How did your design solutions solve the challenges you described in Question 1 above?
3. What was innovative, original, imaginative, or resourceful in your design solution?

Narrative

In this section, the applicant needs to show that they have come up with original ideas and solutions to deliver a **thoughtful and/or interesting and well-lit** environment while complying with the project’s constraints.

To pass this section the applicant needs to show imagination and inventiveness. It doesn’t necessarily have to be ground-breaking, but they must have done more than apply a standard solution to the design process. The applicant should demonstrate original thought has been applied to the design process.

There are very few solutions that are truly “original” although there are solutions that are “novel” (new or unusual in an interesting way). The technology used could be old, but it could be used in a new and/or interesting way.

DOMAIN 4 Synthesis

Definition

The integration of the technical and aesthetic elements of lighting with space and form.

Explanation

- “*Integration*” is about combining elements or detailing them in such a way that the lighting components of the scheme work in harmony with other features of the space, so that the effect of lighting is seamless with the architecture or the environment.
- “*Technical elements*” may include the source of light, optical control and distribution of light, the luminaires, management of natural light, electrical monitoring and control, bespoke mounting details, architectural detailing, etc.
- “*Aesthetic elements*” may include those features and components of the lighting that enhance or contribute to visual beauty and make a space appealing.

Possible Exhibits

Sketches, Visual Dialogue with Architects, Mock-up Photos, Detailed Design Drawings, Simulations, Photos of Commissioned Installations

Application Questions

1. Explain the technical or aesthetic elements that required particular integration with the space or form for one aspect or one section of a project.
2. Explain what you did to integrate the technical and aesthetic elements.
3. Explain the end result and how the integration was effective.

Narrative

Synthesis is about combining the many elements of a project **design** into a harmonious whole. The applicant must show how all the components of their scheme are resolved with the architecture and other services. They must demonstrate that lighting is not an overlay; it's embedded into the overall built environment.

DOMAIN 5 Science

Definition

The application of the principles of light to meet project relevant demands.

Explanation

- “*Principles of light*” refers to the science, rules and theories about light, its calculable characteristics and properties; the way that it is generated, radiates and is absorbed; its effect on shape and form; its influence on people emotions and well-being; the health and sustainability of plants and wildlife and other physical elements.
- “*Relevant technical criteria*” may include the practical, predictable and probable factors that are applicable to a specific project.

Possible Exhibits

Illuminance and/or luminance calculations, technical analysis. Summarized technical reports, control diagrams and/or schedules, photos of commissioned installations

Application Questions

1. What were the technical demands of the project?
2. Describe how your solutions solved the technical demands of the project.

Narrative

In this section, the candidate needs to demonstrate that they understand how to apply the principles of light as set out in the definition above. Candidates need to show they can formulate relevant technical criteria or have the capacity to do research into technical problems and then use the ‘scientific’ information to benefit or validate their design.

DOMAIN 6 Stewardship

Definition

The response of lighting to known and potential environmental impacts.

Explanation

- “*Stewardship*” is about acting as a protector of resources and the environment and making or encouraging decisions that consider the effect on living things, now and in the future.
- “*Environmental impact*” is about how the lighting solution affects or influences the use of natural resources, the plant and wildlife surrounding the space or place, and the ability to replenish for the enjoyment of people in the future.

Possible Exhibits

Letter from a client or user, articles in the press or an award that references and environmental impact, Documentation that the applicant bettered minimum energy requirements or codes; documentation of the design philosophy to address environmental challenges; photos of Commissioned Installations

Application Questions

1. Explain the environmental challenges and aspirations of the project.
2. Explain your philosophy, reasoning or research in developing the project in order to address the environmental and operational challenges.
3. Explain how your design minimizes the negative environmental impact and considers the future.

Narrative

It is vital that the lighting scheme has tried to minimise its environment impact. This should be evident in the concept and through to the completed installation.

Stewardship is more than just complying with the relevant energy standard; the stewardship means going further than just meeting statutory energy use obligations. Apart from energy reduction measures, other negative impacts such as light spill and sky glow are important. As well as the impact on nature, wildlife, and people who use and neighbour the space.

DOMAIN 7 Human Experience

Definition

The design of lighting solutions that positively affects people.

Explanation

- “*Human experience*” is about how lighting solutions positively influences people who use the space, or are dependent on the space, and how it met the aspirations.
- “*Positively affects*” is about how lighting solutions provide a beneficial effect on human health, wellness, or the cultural and economic well-being of the community that use the space or place.

Possible Exhibits

Post-Occupancy Analysis; letters from clients citing the impact on people; awards; press articles; social media; photos of commissioned Installations

Application Questions

1. Explain the positive effects on people the lighting design aspired to achieve.
2. Explain how your lighting design positively impacts people who use the space.
3. Cite the research, analysis or validated past experience that supports your claim that your solution positively affects people.

Narrative

Good lighting should always provide a positive experience for people who see or interact with it.

Demonstrating that a lighting scheme has had a particular impact on the people can be hard as it is not always possible to do a full post occupancy evaluation (POE). In the absence of a POE it's up to the applicant to establish the project has benefited the experience of people who use the space in some way by demonstrating that the end user (whether it's the client or the public) or the architect likes the project. Evidence may include written compliments, letters from the client or press articles, positive feedback from the architect, social media feedback or traffic statistics. These are all relevant ways of validating this Domain.