



American Academy of
Healthcare Interior Designers

CHID Exam Application Project Description Examples

This document includes two sample project descriptions to help CHID applicants understand what reviewers are looking for during the application review process. These examples show how to clearly describe your role, responsibilities, and decision-making on healthcare design projects. The samples are not meant to represent “perfect” or ideal submissions. Instead, they demonstrate the level of clarity and detail reviewers need to evaluate your experience. Strong project descriptions focus on what you did, why your role mattered, and how your work contributed to the project.

As you prepare your own descriptions, use these examples as a guide to clearly explain your role, scope of work, and healthcare-specific responsibilities. Every project and career path is different, but reviewers need enough information to understand your level of involvement and professional judgment.

Please note: These examples were written by an actual CHID examination applicant. All identifying information has been removed for the purpose of the example. Applicants may include project names in their submissions, provided doing so is permitted by the organizations involved.



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Example 1:

Project Title: (NAME) Behavioral Health Pavilion

Role on Project: Senior Interior Designer- IDOR

Size of Project: 95,000 square ft

Project Tyle: Behavioral Health Hospital

Completion Date/Expected Completion Date: 11/30/2023

Project Description:

The (NAME) Behavioral Health Pavilion at (NAME) Hospital campus in (STATE), is an 82-bed, 95,000-square-foot facility that replaces the health system's older psychiatric hospital across the street, enhancing, expanding and centralizing inpatient and outpatient care for people affected by mental and behavioral health challenges. In addition to intake space and outpatient services, the pavilion includes four inpatient units dedicated to specific patient populations: a 16-bed geriatric unit, a 20-bed acute care unit, a 24-bed adult unit and a 22-bed adolescent unit. Front-of-house and back-of- house circulation emphasizes safety for both patients and staff, and standardized floor plans enhance efficiency. However, while the units are similar in layout, unique colors, finishes and artwork on each floor—which were strategically chosen to reduce environmental stressors—give each space a unique identity. To maximize natural light in the facility's inpatient rooms, the design team increased the ceiling height to allow for larger windows. Additionally, glass partitions around staff and social spaces allow light further into the building while also enhancing sightlines. Promoting dignity and independence, inpatient rooms allow patients who stay overnight to control the temperature and mood lighting in their room, open and close their blinds, and certain patient populations have access to a personal shower. The interior courtyard, which features a garden, patio and gym, as well as upper-level screened-in porches, provide respite and further connect patients to nature.

Role & Responsibility

Interior Designer of Record. I was responsible for leading the interior design team, being the main client contact, leading all of the design presentations and providing all interior related specifications, drawings (with the team) and coordination with all disciplines.



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Example 2:

Project Title: (NAME) Surgical, Neuroscience, and Transplant Tower

Role on Project: Senior Interior Designer- IDOR

Size of Project: 550,000 Sq. Ft.

Project Tyle: Ambulatory Surgical Tower

Completion Date/Expected Completion Date: 12/31/2027

Project Description:

The 500,000-square-foot, twelve-story expansion of (NAME) Surgical, Neuroscience, and Transplant tower will include 32 operating rooms, 170 intensive care patient rooms across four floors, a sterile processing department, an administrative suite and a 400-person conference room for team member education and training. The first-floor main lobby will have access to outdoor space, a cafe and an outpatient clinic. The patient rooms were all designed to meet the highest acuity needs so that each room is equipped to care for the most critically ill. All patient floors (4 total) are identical, with only the color palettes and super graphic imagery changing to provide some autonomy to the patient floors. The surgical floors (3 total) are also designed to be identical in layout with Prep/Recovery, PACU and the Operating Rooms all on the same floor adjacent to Family Waiting and staff support spaces.

The design goal was to create a modern, state-of-the-art facility that not only represents the high quality of care (hospital) is known for, but also provides a space that will endure for decades to come. The design aesthetic balances wood tones, stone textures and a spa like color palette with clean ceiling lines, contemporary lighting and decorative glass elements. Large, nature inspired super graphics are located on each patient floor to provide inspiring imagery and clear wayfinding for both patients and staff.

The overall finish palette will also be used as the base palette for future renovation projects to provide a refreshing, consistent design theme across the campus.

Role & Responsibility

Interior Designer of Record. I was responsible for leading the interior design team in completion of the Contract Documents and all design approvals. I also acted as the main client contact conducting all interior design presentations, furniture and artwork coordination and leading my talented team of designers.