

Chapter 12: LICENSURE OF ARCHITECTS

Summary: This chapter sets forth the educational qualifications, experience and examination requirements for licensure as an architect.

1. Overview

Applicants for licensure by examination must satisfy the requirements of at least one of the pathways to licensure as set forth in this Chapter.

2. Incorporation by Reference

The board hereby incorporates the following guidelines and standards into the board's rules by reference:

1. Architectural Experience Program Guidelines, © 2020 National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, effective May 2020 (hereinafter referred to as "NCARB Architectural Experience Program Guidelines"); and
2. *NCARB Education Standard* contained in Education Guidelines, © 2021 National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, effective January 2021 (hereinafter referred to as "*NCARB Education Standard*").

These publications are available from the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, 1801 K Street, NW, Suite 700K, Washington, DC 20006, and are accessible online at www.ncarb.org.

3. Examination

1. The examination for architects is the ARE administered by NCARB. Unless examination is waived by law, the applicant must achieve a passing grade on each division of the ARE. The time, place and manner of examination and the standards for a passing grade shall be as determined by NCARB, including but not limited to any decisions regarding requests for testing accommodations.
2. Those individuals who wish to take the ARE shall contact NCARB directly to obtain exam eligibility.

3. Notwithstanding Section 2(2) of this Chapter, there is no requirement that an individual has fully completed the education and experience or experience alone required for licensure before sitting for any division of the ARE.

4. Pathways to Licensure

1. Professional Degree from NAAB Accredited Program. An applicant may qualify for licensure as an architect by:
 - A. Providing evidence of receiving a Bachelor of Architecture, Master of Architecture or equivalent or higher degree from an academic institution in the United States and the degree program was accredited by NAAB not later than two (2) years after the degree was received;

and
 - B. Demonstrating completion of the NCARB Architectural Experience Program (AXP);

and
 - C. Demonstrating a passing grade on each division of the ARE.
2. Professional Degree in Architecture from a Program Accredited or Certified by CACB. An applicant may qualify for licensure as an architect by:
 - A. Providing evidence of receiving one of the following:
 - i. A Bachelor of Architecture, Master of Architecture or equivalent or higher degree from an academic institution in Canada and the degree program was accredited by CACB not later than two (2) years after the degree was received;

or
 - ii. A Bachelor of Architecture, Master of Architecture or equivalent or higher degree from a Canadian university that was certified by CACB;

and
 - B. Demonstrating at least three (3) years' full time architectural work experience. The experience must be comprised of a combination of experience gained under the direct supervision of an experienced and licensed architect or architects engaged in the practice of architecture as a profession and completion of either:
 - i. The Canadian provincial Internship in Architecture Program, as verified by the applicant's Canadian Experience Record Book;

or

ii. The NCARB Architectural Experience Program (AXP);

and

C. Demonstrating a passing grade on each division of the ARE.

3. Professional Degree from Non-Accredited Program. An applicant may qualify for licensure as an architect by:

A. Providing evidence of receiving a professional degree from an architectural degree program that was neither accredited nor certified, but which substantially satisfies the credit hour and area distribution requirements for coursework set forth in the NCARB Education Standard;

and

B. Demonstrating at least three (3) years of full time architectural work experience. The experience must be comprised of a combination of experience gained under the direct supervision of an experienced and licensed architect or architects engaged in the practice of architecture as a profession and completion of the NCARB Architectural Experience Program (AXP);

and

C. Demonstrating a passing grade on each division of the ARE.

4. Pre-Professional Degree. An applicant may qualify for licensure as an architect by:

A. Providing evidence of receiving a 4-year baccalaureate degree with a concentration in architecture that is a component of an NAAB-accredited, CACB-accredited or CACB-certified professional degree program, including but not limited to Bachelor of Science in Architecture, Architectural Studies, or a major in architecture, or a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Architecture;

and

B. Demonstrating at least nine (9) years of full time architectural work experience. The experience must be comprised of a combination of experience gained under the direct supervision of an experienced and licensed architect or architects engaged in the practice of architecture as a profession and completion of the NCARB Architectural Experience Program (AXP);

and

- C. Demonstrating a passing grade on each division of the ARE.
- 5. Degree in Field Other than Architecture. An applicant may qualify for licensure as an architect by:
 - A. Providing evidence of receiving a bachelor's degree or higher in a field other than architecture;

and
 - B. Demonstrating at least eleven (11) years of full time architectural work experience. The experience must be comprised of a combination of experience gained under the direct supervision of an experienced and licensed architect or architects engaged in the practice of architecture as a profession and completion of the NCARB Architectural Experience Program (AXP);

and
 - C. Demonstrating a passing grade on each division of the ARE.
- 6. Experience Only. An applicant may qualify for licensure as an architect with no post-secondary baccalaureate or higher degree by:
 - A. Demonstrating at least thirteen (13) years of full time architectural work experience. The experience must be comprised of a combination of experience gained under the direct supervision of an experienced and licensed architect or architects engaged in the practice of architecture as a profession and completion of the NCARB Architectural Experience Program (AXP);

and
 - B. Demonstrating a passing grade on each division of the ARE.

5. Application for Licensure

1. Form of Application and NCARB Record

An applicant for licensure as an architect shall submit an application on a form provided by the board and any fees required by Chapter 10 of the rules of the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation.

An applicant shall provide all evidence of satisfying the requirements for licensure to NCARB and direct NCARB to transmit their NCARB record directly to the board. The board reserves the right to require an applicant to submit other information needed to evaluate the application and qualifications for licensure.

An applicant who graduated from a non-accredited program or who earned their degree in a foreign country may be required, at the applicant's expense, to obtain an NCARB Evaluation Report prepared by the Education Evaluation Services for Architects (EESA), which is administered by NAAB, to determine whether the applicant's professional education substantially satisfied the credit hour and area distribution requirements for coursework set forth in the *NCARB Education Standard*.

2. Completeness

The board will not act on an application until the application is complete. If an applicant does not remedy the deficiencies described by the board within the time designated by the board, the application may be voided and the applicant would need to submit a new application and any required fee to reapply.

6. Display of License Number

1. Advertising and Promotional Materials

An architect shall display the legend "Maine Licensed Architect" in all advertising and promotional materials published by or on behalf of the named architect that relate to architectural services for Maine-located projects. Such materials include but are not limited to advertisements contained in print media, websites, and social media platforms.

2. Correspondence and Business Cards

An architect shall display the legend "Maine Licensed Architect" on the architect's business card and beneath the architect's name on all professional correspondence, proposals and solicitations signed by or on behalf of the named architect for Maine-located projects.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. §§ 214(1) and 220(1)(B); 221

EFFECTIVE DATE:

June 3, 2009 – filing 2009-223

AMENDED:

November 5, 2012 – filing 2012-304

February 13, 2017 – filing 2017-017

REPEALED AND REPLACED:

September 15, 2023 – filing 2023-151