**02-288**

Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation

**BOARD FOR LICENSURE OF ARCHITECTS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS**

**AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS**

**2025-2026 Regulatory Agenda**

AGENCY UMBRELLA-UNIT NUMBER: **02-288**

AGENCY NAME: Department of Professional & Financial Regulation, Office of Professional & Occupational Regulation, **Board for Licensure of Architects, Landscape Architects and Interior Designers**

CONTACT INFORMATION for thE agency **RULEMAKING LIAISON**: Penny Vaillancourt, Director, OPOR, 35 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333, 207-441-7153, penny.vaillancourt@maine.gov

**EMERGENCY RULES ADOPTED SINCE THE LAST REGULATORY AGENDA**: None.

**EXPECTED 2025-2026 RULE-MAKING ACTIVITY:**

Expected rulemaking will be to implement P.L. 2025, c. 318 which adds a continuing education requirement for architect license renewal beginning July 1, 2026 which will require the creation of a new chapter of rules.

Additional expected rulemaking will be to implement legislation governing licensure by endorsement and provisional licensure. A review for conformance with statutes and current rules will be conducted and updated as may be necessary, including an update to discontinue the use of the terms “handicap,” “handicapped” and “hearing impaired” pursuant to 36 M.R.S. § 2557, sub-§2.

**CHAPTER 10**: **Definitions**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. § 214(1)

PURPOSE: This chapter defines specialized terms used throughout the board’s rules. Changes may be necessary to define terms adopted for purposes related to other sections of the Board rules.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Licensees and the public.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 11**: **Advisory Rulings**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 5 M.R.S. §§ 8051 and 9001(4)

PURPOSE: This chapter provides for the discretionary issuance of advisory rulings by the Board. Changes may be necessary to clarify a provision.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Licensees and the public.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 12**: **Licensure of Architects**

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

PURPOSE: This chapter sets forth the educational qualifications, experience and examination requirements necessary for licensure as an architect. Changes may be necessary to clarify a provision or update the versions of guidelines and standards adopted by reference; and to amend provisions as necessary to implement statutory changes.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Applicants for licensure.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 12-A**: **Licensure by Endorsement—Architects**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. §214(1); 32 M.R.S. §220-D; 10 M.R.S. §8003-H

PURPOSE: This chapter describes the pathway for Maine licensure for applicants with an active architect license in another U.S. jurisdiction that maintains licensing requirements that are substantially equivalent to Maine’s requirements, so long as the applicant is in good standing in all jurisdictions in which the applicant holds or has held a license and no cause for denial exists under 10 M.R.S. §8003(5-A)(A) or under any other law.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Applicants for licensure.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 13**: **Licensure of Landscape Architects**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. § 214(1) and 220(2)(B)

PURPOSE: This chapter sets forth the educational qualifications, experience and examination requirement necessary for licensure as a landscape architect. Changes may be necessary to clarify a provision or update the versions of guidelines and standards adopted by reference; and to amend provisions as necessary to implement legislation.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Applicants for licensure.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 14**: **Licensure of Certified Interior Designers**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. § 214(1) and 220-B(2) and (3)

PURPOSE: This chapter sets forth the educational qualifications, experience and examination requirement necessary for licensure as a certified interior designer. Changes may be necessary to clarify a provision, amend qualifications for licensure and the standards and/or guidelines adopted by reference, and to amend provisions as necessary to implement legislation.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Applicants for licensure.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 16**: **License Denials and Disciplinary Procedure**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. § 214(1)

PURPOSE: This chapter sets forth a licensee’s right to appeal certain Board actions and specifies the enforcement and disciplinary procedures used by the Board. Changes may be necessary to clarify a provision and/or relocate content to other chapters as appropriate.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Licensees and the public.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 17**: **Grounds for Disciplinary Action**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. § 214(1)

PURPOSE: This chapter sets forth prohibited practices that may result in disciplinary action against a licensee, or denial of nonrenewal of a license. Information from complaint investigations may identify conduct that is not currently set out in this section of the rules or is needed to clarify professional standards.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Licensees and the public.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER 18**: **Documentation**

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 32 M.R.S. § 214(1)

PURPOSE: This chapter authorizes reliance on technical submissions in electronic form and requires licensees to retain certain records for a period of five years. Changes may be necessary to clarify a provision.

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within one year, if necessary.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Licensees and the public.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A

**CHAPTER NUMBER and Title: N/A**

STATUTORY BASIS: P.L. 2025, c. 318

PURPOSE: The Board may adopt rules to establish the continuing education requirements for renewal of licensure..

SCHEDULE FOR ADOPTION: Within the year.

AFFECTED PARTIES: Licensees and members of the public.

CONSENSUS-BASED RULE DEVELOPMENT: N/A