



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY 12234

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**State Board for Architecture  
Board Meeting**

1411 Broadway (between 39th & 40th Streets) - Tenth Floor – Regents' Room – Manhattan

**Wednesday August 6, 2025**  
10:00 am (start time for meeting)

*Members of the public may attend and observe the meeting outside of the Executive Session*

**AGENDA**

1. Executive Session
  - Education Review
  - Endorsement Experience Review
  - Practical Exam – Request for Volunteers
  - Disciplinary Case
2. Public Session
  - Introductions, Welcome Guests, Board Departure
3. Approval of Minutes
4. New Business
  - NCARB Visit
5. Board Chair Report
6. Board Office Report
7. Old Business
  - 2025 NCARB Annual Meeting Summary
  - Project Construction Cost Estimates – NYC
  - Women in Architecture Series
  - Fiverr Issue
8. New Business
  - 2025 NCARB Regional Summit – March 20/21, 2026 Volunteer
  - 2026 Meeting Dates
9. Other Board Member Topics for Future Meetings

10. Adjournment

Next Meeting – *Thursday, November 13, 2025 – NYC*

**Minutes of the Meeting**  
**State Board for Architecture**  
1411 Broadway; Regents' Room  
New York, NY 10018

Present: Nicole Dosso, Chair  
Carol Bentel, Vice Chair  
Greg Canaras  
Giuseppe Lauro  
Fred Mosher, Jr.  
Anik Pearson  
Joel Peterson  
Talisha Sainvil  
Marcy Stanley

Staff: Robert Lopez, Executive Secretary  
Gina Sacco, Assistant in Professional  
Education

Guests: None

**May 21, 2025**

**OPEN SESSION**

1. **Motion:** *Stanley/Bentel:* That the Board enter Executive Session.
2. The Board resumed Open Session.
3. **Welcome New Member:**  
The Board welcomes new public member Joel Peterson. Member Peterson introduced himself followed by introductions from all Board members.
4. **Approval of Minutes:**  
**Motion:** *Mosher/Pearson:* That the minutes of the February 13, 2025 meeting of the State Board for Architecture be approved.  
**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
5. **Board Chair Report:**  
Chair Dosso discussed the misuse of the title “architect” and possible ways to address it. She noted that most enforcement cases reflect a general lack of awareness of misuse of the title. She suggested that NCARB has the resources and reach to help raise awareness and elevate this issue. Member Sainvil recommended involving AIA in the discussion.  
  
Chair Dosso also revisited the idea of an “all-education” pathway, previously discussed by the Board. She pointed to the NAAB website, which outlines requirements for NAAB-accredited architecture programs, and emphasized the need to align these with the 16 core competencies required for licensure. She suggested beginning the conversation with NCARB, who could then approach NAAB. The Executive Secretary will add this topic to the agenda for the upcoming NCARB visit.
6. **Board Office Report:**  
The Executive Secretary delivered the Board Office Report, which included updated statistics, recent activities, and proposed legislation.

A new Education Credentials Specialist 1 will begin in the Board office on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

The Executive Secretary and Member Peterson noted a reorganization within NCARB's outreach team that could affect future licensure presentations.

The Board discussed several legislative proposals:

- **S7220:** A bill to modernize continuing education (CE) requirements for landscape architects. The Executive Secretary noted that the language mirrors recent CE changes for architects, except for an exemption for first-time licensees.
- **S3268:** A bill promoting comprehensive infrastructure project delivery. The Board discussed this in the context of Chapter 534 of the Laws of 2024 (authorizing alternate delivery in NYC) and Parts Y and Z of the NYS Executive Budget Bill, which aim to expand such methods statewide. The Board reaffirmed confidence in the protections recommended in its previously developed design-build white paper.
- **S5838:** A bill involving pre-approved construction documents. The Board raised concerns about public safety if licensed design professionals are not involved.

7. **Old Business:**

**Education and Experience Review:**

The Executive Secretary reported that Board-approved changes to education and experience awards have been implemented and posted online. These changes are already positively affecting candidates, especially the 50/50 split allowed in Categories I and J, except for the "all-experience" pathway.

The Board had previously supported reducing the required years of experience for the "all-experience" pathway from 12 to 10. However, such a change would require an amendment to the Education Law. The Board agreed to wait for NCARB's upcoming pathways-to-practice updates before making further recommendations.

**Proposed Updates to AXP:**

The Executive Secretary reviewed the memo included within the Board package with the State Board and asked for the Board's input on two items:

- **Change to experience reporting policy:** The Board recommended support of this change allowing more flexibility for candidates to record experience towards AXP. The Board also suggested that NCARB consider an appeals process for candidates with experience older than one year who can verify their experience to determine if it should receive full (100%) credit instead of 75% credit.
- **Removing Canadian Architects as Equivalent to US Architect from Work Setting A:** The Board recommended that the proposed removal of Canadian architects in work setting A appears to be inconsistent with NCARB's Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) with Canada. If Canadian architects are recognized for NCARB certification via the MRA, the Board recommended that experience under a Canadian architect should be considered as AXP's work setting A. The Board also recommended that NCARB consider extending this approach to other countries with which NCARB has an MRA.

The Executive Secretary will submit the Board's comments to NCARB by the May 30, 2025 deadline.

**2025 NCARB Regional Summit Summary:**

Member Pearson summarized key topics discussed:

- **MRA Process:** the process to evaluate other countries licensure requirements and its mapping to NCARB requirements was described. The discussion surrounding the MRA process brought forward some questions for NCARB such as what happens after an agreement is signed and does it get reviewed if there are regulatory changes in a different country?
- **Pathways to Practice:** Multiple pathways to licensure are being examined by NCARB. One goal is for candidates to have at least 2 options for completing at least 8 of the competencies between education, experience and exam, with validated outcomes. The Board acknowledged that the current scenario of having to meet education, experience and exam requirements were well understood and would like NCARB to help candidates to better understand the possibilities in an uncertain future. NCARB hopes to finalize the pathways by July of 2028.

**2025 April NCARB BoD Meeting:**

The Executive Secretary shared updates on IPAL and other items discussed at the NCARB Board of Directors meeting.

**2025 NCARB Annual Meeting:**

The Executive Secretary reviewed the resolutions, with Board recommendations below:

- **Resolutions**
  - 2025-01 No
  - 2025-02 Withdrawn
  - 2025-03 No
  - 2025-04 Yes
  - 2025-05 Yes
- **Elections**
  - The Board reviewed the candidates running for office and decided to permit those attending the Annual Meeting to listen to speeches and vote accordingly.
- **Selection of Voting Delegate:**

**Motion:** *Bentel/Lauro*: That Marcy Stanley designated to vote in representation of the Board.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**NCARB Visit:**

Chair Dosso and the Executive Secretary discussed topics for the NCARB visit in August. Board members agreed with the proposed agenda and suggested adding items on NCARB outreach and the evolving role of Licensing Advisors to the agenda.

**Project Construction Cost Estimates - NYC:**

The Executive Secretary shared feedback from AIA NY, which aligned with the Board's concerns on this topic. The Board suggested that AIA NY may be best positioned to lead further efforts. The Executive Secretary will coordinate next steps with AIA NY.

**Women in Architecture Series:**

Member Pearson shared her experience with the Women in Architecture series, now in its sixth season. Sessions continue to be well-attended. She invited Board members to recommend future speakers. The next session is scheduled for September.

8. **New Business:**

**FIVERR:**

The Executive Secretary shared information about this website that allows the public to search for architects as well as other licensed professionals and pay a fee in return for architectural services. Multiple cases of fraud have come up in Ohio where fraudulent license numbers and seals were used without an architect's knowledge. Member Lauro suggested that this is a much larger issue than just within New York and impacts professions other than architecture. Updates regarding this issue will most likely be discussed at the NCARB Annual Meeting.

**RAND Building Impact Study:**

The Executive Secretary shared some of the key recommendations of the study, highlighting the recommendation for consideration of the development of two tracks within NAAB-accredited programs – one for those pursuing licensure upon graduation and one for those who may be unsure about pursuing licensure or who are interested in alternative career paths. This led to a Board discussion surrounding college professors who are not architects and those who do not practice architecture while teaching.

9. **Other Board Member Topics for Future Meetings:**

Since Member Lauro cannot attend the August meeting, he suggested that it would be helpful for NCARB to be clear about end goals with its initiatives and to create a stronger tie between the NAAB, NCARB and the State Boards.

**Motion:** *Bentel/Sainvil*: Moved to adjourn.

**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The next meeting of the Board will be August 6, 2025, in NYC.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Lopez, RA  
Executive Secretary

**Minutes of the Meeting**  
**State Board for Architecture**  
1411 Broadway; Regents' Room  
New York, NY 10018

Present: Nicole Dosso, Chair  
Carol Bentel, Vice Chair  
Greg Canaras  
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Joel Peterson  
Talisha Sainvil  
Marcy Stanley

Staff: Robert Lopez, Executive Secretary  
Gina Sacco, Assistant in Professional  
Education

Guests: None

**May 21, 2025**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

1. One disciplinary case was reviewed.
2. **Approval of Minutes:**  
**Motion:** *Mosher/Pearson:* That the minutes of the February 13, 2025 meeting of the State Board for Architecture be approved.  
**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**
3. **Motion:** *Mosher/Pearson:* That the Board resume the Open Session.  
**PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Lopez, RA  
Executive Secretary

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
**THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

**NEW BUSINESS  
NCARB VISIT**

**To:** Architecture Board Members

**Date:** July 23, 2025

**From:**

Robert Lopez

R.L.

**Subject:** NCARB Visit

**In reply to:**

Leadership from NCARB will visit with the State Board at the August meeting. Below are the topics that NCARB leadership have been asked to touch upon during the meeting and items that will be discussed with NCARB:

- Pathways to Practice
- New York's Recent Updates to Education/Experience
- NAAB Updates
- Rand *Building Impact* report
- IPAL Updates
- Architecture as a STEM Profession
- Illegal Practice Awareness
  - Architect Title Awareness
    - Candidates
    - NAAB Programs
    - Architects
  - Fiverr
  - Future of Architect's Seals
- Future of Outreach to Architecture programs / Evolving role of Licensing Advisors
- Deregulation Efforts in the US



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**NEW BUSINESS  
NCARB VISIT  
UPDATES TO AXP  
AND UPDATES TO  
ARE**

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To align the Architectural Experience Program® (AXP®) with the [NCARB Competency Standard](#) and the evolution of NCARB's programs as part of the [Pathways to Practice](#) initiative, NCARB is implementing several changes to the AXP and the Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®).

These updates to NCARB programs will better reflect the capabilities necessary at the point of initial licensure as an architect, as well as address common administrative impediments faced by candidates on the path to licensure—including the experience program's reporting requirement.

## Updates to the Experience Program

The updates to the AXP are expected to launch on November 18, 2025. These changes include:

- **Refreshed descriptions of each of the program's six experience areas:**  
The AXP experience areas will no longer be described using a list of 96 tasks; instead, each experience area will be updated to reflect appropriate capabilities described in the *Competency Standard for Architects*.
- **Replacing the five-year reporting requirement with a new reporting policy:** Under the current requirement, candidates must report all experience within eight months of earning it for 100% credit, and within five years for 50% credit. Under the new policy, candidates will be able to earn 100% credit for experience up to a year old. Experience older than one year will be worth 75% credit, with no limitation on how old that experience can be. When this change is implemented, many candidates will receive additional AXP credit as approved hours previously reported for 50% credit will be increased to 75% credit.
- **Expanding the opportunities through which candidates can gain experience for completing professional development courses:** Candidates are currently able to earn experience for completing HSW-qualified continuing education programs approved by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) utilizing an AIA transcript. Under the updated Setting O opportunity, candidates will be able to earn continuing education experience for completing programs

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All changes are reflected in a new version of the [AXP Guidelines](#), which will be available to download at this link tomorrow, July 17—this version of the *Guidelines* will go into effect on November 18. The updates to the AXP will not impact the total hours required to complete the program, the hours required under each of the six experience areas, or the overall program structure.

## Updates to the Exam

NCARB also expects to launch several updates to the ARE in April 2026. These changes include:

- **Adjustments to several exam objectives:** NCARB will make minor adjustments to 12 of the 91 exam objectives identified in the *ARE Guidelines*. These adjustments are limited to small clarifying updates and—in some cases—narrowing the competency expectations assessed in the exam to align with the *Competency Standard for Architects*.
- **Updated case studies:** The ARE's scenario-based case studies will be refined for efficiency and effectiveness, with an end goal of improving the exam candidate experience.

More detailed information regarding the ARE changes will be available in fall 2025. The updates to the ARE will not impact the overall division structure, number of items per division, or testing time per division.

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*This email was sent to robert.lopez@nysed.gov*  
National Council of Architectural Registration Boards  
1401 H Street NW, Suite 500  
Washington, DC 20005



## Blog

# IPAL Policy Changes Expand Access to Accelerated Licensure Program

07/01/2025 by CLAIRE HILTON MARTÍNEZ



NCARB is implementing several changes to the Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure (IPAL) program, an accelerated pathway to licensure for motivated students. Download the new [IPAL Program Standards](#) to learn more about the changes and get an overview of the program—including how to establish an IPAL program at your school, expectations for IPAL firms, and tips for earning experience as an IPAL student.

**DOWNLOAD PROGRAM STANDARDS**

[Effective today, July 1, 2025](#), these changes are designed to make the IPAL option accessible to a wider range of academic programs, while refining the student requirements to be more focused and achievable:

- **Education:** Under the new policy, a broader range of academic programs will be eligible for participation in IPAL. In addition to programs accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), the following academic architecture programs will also be eligible for participation:

- Two-year community college program that has an agreement in place for articulation into a NAAB-accredited program
- Four-year undergraduate program that qualifies for admission into a NAAB-accredited master's program
- **Experience:** While IPAL students will still be required to be consistently employed in a work setting that qualifies for the Architectural Experience Program® (AXP®), they will no longer be required to complete the entire AXP at the time of their graduation. Instead, IPAL students will be required to complete at least 75% of AXP at the time of their graduation, with experience documented across all

six experience areas. Experience gained prior to enrolling in an academic degree program or between academic programs can be applied to the requirement.

- **Examination:** IPAL students will no longer be required to attempt all six Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®) divisions by graduation. Instead, IPAL students will be required to take all six of NCARB's free divisional *practice* exams. While not required, IPAL students will still be eligible to take divisions of the ARE prior to graduation.
- **Post-Graduation Exam Eligibility:** Students made eligible to test through IPAL may maintain their eligibility post-graduation—without needing to switch

their eligibility to a licensing jurisdiction—until after they have passed all six ARE divisions.

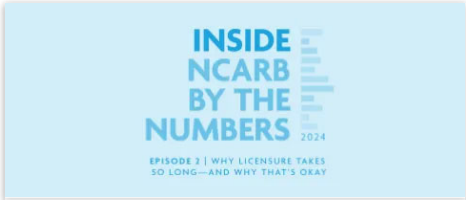
### More About IPAL

Enrolling in an IPAL option allows students to complete the AXP and the ARE while earning their degree. These programs provide students with an education that connects to real-world practice while shortening their time to licensure and expanding their career opportunities. Is your school interested in offering an IPAL option? NCARB accepts proposals year-round. Learn more about [establishing an IPAL option](#).

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To learn more about the accelerated licensure program, download the [IPAL Program Standards](#) or email [ipal@ncarb.org](mailto:ipal@ncarb.org).

## Related Blogs



### INSIDE NCARB BY THE NUMBERS

EPISODE 2 | WHY LICENSURE TAKES  
SO LONG—AND WHY THAT'S OKAY

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Episode Exploring  
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5 Takeaways From  
the Building Impact  
Report to Inform  
NAAB Accreditation



5 Takeaways From  
the Building Impact  
Report for Architects

## NEW YORK STATE BOARD FOR ARCHITECTURE BOARD OFFICE REPORT

### Registered Architects (RA)

Current Resident Registered Architects	11,880
Current Non-Resident Registered Architects	9,435
<u>Foreign Registered Architects</u>	<u>436</u>
<b>Total Number of RA as of 7/1/25</b>	<b>21,751</b>

### Licenses Issued

**2025 – 368 (thru 6/30); 2024 – 870; 2023 – 905; 2022 – 940; 2021 – 804; 2020 – 681**

ARE Candidates	(May 1, 2025 – July 17, 2025)	2
Early Admit ARE Candidates	(May 1, 2025 – July 17, 2025)	103
NCARB Certification	(May 1, 2025 – July 17, 2025)	68
Endorsement	(May 1, 2025 – July 17, 2025)	2
Via Educ, Exp & Exams	(May 1, 2025 – July 17, 2025)	8

### Candidate Admissions to ARE

**2025 (thru 6/30 – 453); 2024 – 1,031; 2023 – 1,030; 2022 – 770; 2021 – 875; 2020 – 889**

### OP/Staff Activities

Along with NCARB, the Executive Secretary conducted a licensure seminar for AIA NY on May 14, 2025. Approximately 22 people attended this seminar.

Along with Members Stanley and Canaras, the Executive Secretary attended the NCARB Annual Business Meeting held on June 19-21, 2025. Key takeaways from the meeting will be discussed under old business.

### Legislative / Regulatory Activity

The NYS Legislature is in a new two-year session that will run from January 2025 December 2026. Although early in the session, legislation of interest follows:

#### **A7561 / S7220 – Relates to continuing education requirements for landscape architects**

Relates to continuing education requirements for landscape architects; provides that adjustments to such requirements may be granted for health reasons, active duty, or other good cause; limits the number of credit hours that may carry over to the next registration period.



**S3268 / No Same as – Relates to comprehensive delivery of infrastructure delivered between a public entity and a development entity**

Relates to comprehensive delivery of infrastructure delivered between a public entity and a development entity consolidating at least two or more of design, construction, finance, operations and/or maintenance work, including construction manager or construction manager at risk; authorizes a public entity to pursue certain authorized projects; provides for project funding and authorizes the public entity to accept from any source any grant, donation, gift or other form of conveyance of land, money; provides for labor and public interest protections; makes related provisions.

*Bill is referred to Procurement and Contracts in the Senate.*

**A5838 / No Same as – Relates to pre-approved construction documents**

Requires municipalities which issue building permits to provide pre-approved construction documents at no cost for the types of residential building permitted to be constructed in such jurisdiction.

*Bill is referred to Governmental Operations in the Senate.*

**S1834 / No Same as – Relates to the licensing of landscape architects**

Relates to certain licensing exemptions for landscape architects.

*Bill is committed to Rules in the Senate*

**S3287 / A4942 – Relates to an engineering technology degree**

Provides that an applicant with a bachelor's degree or higher in engineering technology and an applicant with a bachelor's degree or higher in engineering shall have the same number of education and experience credit requirements, shall have the same eligibility for an identification card as "an engineer in training", as well as examination and examination eligibility requirements.

*Bill is referred to Higher Education in the Senate and is referred to Higher Education in the Assembly.*

**A483 / S5392 – Permits certain not-for-profit corporations engaged in engineering for certain conservation efforts to do business or provide professional engineering, land surveying or professional geology services in the state**

Relates to permitting certain not-for-profit corporations engaged in engineering for certain conservation efforts to do business or provide professional engineering, land surveying, or professional geology services in the state.

*Bill is referred to Higher Education in the Assembly and is passed in the Senate.*

**S1141 / A4840 – Relates to the requirements for certification for certified interior designers**

Relates to the educational and examination requirements for certification as a certified interior designer; provides an exemption from the education requirements for architects licensed under Article 147 of the NYS Education Law.

*Bill is referred to Higher Education in the Senate and is referred to Higher Education in the Assembly.*

**A2571 / S620 – Relates to the practice of geology**

Adds the practice of geology to legacy corporations.

*Bill is printed in the Assembly and is repassed in the Senate.*

**S2146 / A4907 – Repeals and reenacts provisions on time limitations on certain actions against professional engineers, architects, other designers and construction contractors**

Repeals and reenacts statute of limitation provisions on wrongful death, personal injury and property damage actions against professional engineers, architects, landscape architects, land surveyors and construction contractors to provide for a limitations period of ten years after completion of improvement to real property; "completion", which constitutes the accrual date for the limitations period, is defined; provides for a one year extension for injuries to person or property or wrongful death which occur during the tenth year after completion.

*Bill is committed to Rules in the Senate and is referred to Higher Education in the Assembly.*

**A4680 / No Same as – New York Emergency Responder Act**

Enacts the New York emergency responder act limiting the liability of certain emergency responders.

*Bill is referred to Governmental Operations in the Assembly.*

**S4577 / A5520 - Requires public authorities to negotiate with most qualified architectural, engineering, geological, landscape architectural and/or surveying professional firms before negotiating with other firms**

Requires public authorities and public benefit corporations to negotiate with professional firms providing architectural, engineering, geological, landscape architectural or surveying services in order from the most qualified to the least qualified with regard to the provision of services to the authority or corporation

*Bill is reported and committed to Procurement and Contracts in the Senate and is referred to Corporations, Authorities and Commissions in the Assembly.*

**S4877 / No Same as – Relates to the establishment of the water-based fire protection licensure act**

Establishes water-based fire protection licensure act, setting forth licensure requirements for contractors engaged in the business of the layout, installing, repairing, inspecting, testing, or maintaining of water-based fire protection systems and components.

*Bill is referred to Consumer Protection in the Senate.*

**S7104 / No Same as – NYC DoB False Documents**

Relates to false statements in documents submitted to the department of buildings of the city of New York

*Bill is referred to Cities in the Senate.*

**A5678 / No Same As – Increases to \$50,000 for cost of construction threshold**

Increases to \$50,000 the cost of the construction of a building, structure or public work, above which a professional engineer, land surveyor or architect must be.

*Bill is referred to Higher Education in the Assembly.*

**Bills Not yet Introduced**

**S / A – Relates to building permits**

Authorizes a city, town or village to establish a program whereby a building permit may be issued based upon certification by a registered architect or professional engineer.

*Bill is not yet introduced*

**S / A – Relates to public employees’ supervision, examination, review, and determination of acceptability of public works projects performed by contractors**

Requires certain public employees to be on the site for the duration of public works projects completed by contractors; requires such certain public employees to review a contractor’s work on public works projects and determine whether the work performed is acceptable.

*Bill passed in the Senate and passed in the Assembly but was vetoed by the Executive in 2024.*

*Bill is not yet introduced this session.*

**S / A – Relates to licensure requirements for professional geologists**

Provides that the education requirements to be licensed as a professional geologist may be partially substituted by practical experience; relates to the issuance of an identification card as a geologist in training.

*Bill is not yet introduced*

**S / A– Establishes a program where a municipal department of buildings may accept certain construction documents for code compliance**

Establishes a program where a municipal department of buildings may accept construction documents required to be filed in relation to code compliance prior to issuance of a certificate of occupancy with less than a full examination by such municipal department of buildings based on a professional certification of an applicant who is an architect or professional engineer; makes related provisions.

*Bill is not yet introduced*

**S / A – Requires certain engineering plans that could pose a material risk to public safety to bear a stamp of approval of a professional engineer**

Requires certain engineering plans or specifications for engineering work or services that could pose a material risk to public safety to bear a stamp of approval of a professional engineer and authorizes the public service commission to promulgate rules and regulations relating to such requirement.

*Bill is not yet introduced*

**S / A – Interior Design/State Contracting**

Adds interior design services as a type of contract that can be entered into and negotiated by the state

*Bill is not yet introduced*

**S / A - Licensing consequences for serious abuse of self-certification privileges**

Relates to licensing consequences for architects or engineers who seriously abuse their self-certification privileges

*Bill is not yet introduced*

**Office of Professional Discipline**

Lee Nida Kristina Chesonis

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

OLD BUSINESS  
NCARB ANNUAL  
MEETING  
SUMMARY

To: Architecture Board Members

Date: June 23, 2025

From: Robert Lopez **R.L.**

Subject: NCARB Annual Meeting Summary

In reply to:

Below is a summary of the major presentations at the 2025 NCARB Annual Meeting. 280 people attended the meeting.

**Friday, June 20, 2025**

Workshop Session #1 - Pathways to Practice: Shaping the Future Licensure Model  
Julie Hildebrand, Greg Wynn, Jared Zurn

- Why and what
  - Increased fairness to candidates
  - Increased access for candidates
  - Uniform acceptance by Boards
  - Multi-year effort driven by previous and ongoing research
  - Envisioning an equally rigorous yet more flexible licensure process
- High level timeline
  - FY 25 – Refinement of Licensure Process concept – the past year
  - FY 26 – Develop Assessment Prototypes – the upcoming year
  - FY 27 - ? – Test, Refine, and Build Future Assessments
  - Medical profession - *Entrustable professional activity (EPA)* – how medicine is starting to look at competency
    - EPAs are units of professional practice that can be entrusted to a trainee once they have demonstrated sufficient competence.
  - Law profession – currently looking at competencies
  - Education – also looking at competency
- Overview of competency standards
  - Competency = an observable ability to perform a particular job function
  - 16 competencies
    - Design and Documentation
    - Construction Administration
    - Practice and Project Management
- Discuss assessment methods
  - Competency via Education
    - Validated educational outcomes
    - Other license or credential
  - Competency via Experience

- *Portfolio* – tangible examples of one’s work. Provides evidence of skills and abilities in action that are evaluated against common standards. Won’t just be the AXP of today. “AXP of the Future”. Will stop talking about hours. Hours don’t equal competency. Will be prototyping a version of a portfolio over next 12 months.
  - Competency via Exam
    - Situational judgement – more than one right answer
    - Case-based
    - Guided self-study w/test
- Licensure process SD
  - Education – competencies 3, 5, and 16
  - Experience – competencies 2, 3, 4, 5, 7-13
  - Examination – competencies 1, 2, 6, 9-16
  - Prototyping begins in 3 weeks
- Timeline in Depth
  - Launch date is still in question – will most likely be post-June 2028
  - Prototyping will be over the next 12 months – will come back to us in one year with updates

## Workshop Session #2 - Understanding the Education Landscape

Jeremy Fretts

- General landscape
  - Education in the US today
    - Seismic changes in federal/state education policy and funding – *What will be left of higher education in four years?* - Chronicle of Higher Education
    - Looming enrollment cliff
    - Changing Americans’ sentiment towards higher education
    - Cost of Higher Education/debt
    - Percentage of international students – can be 25-30% in some Schools of Architecture
    - Credit-hour based revenue model
    - Speed of degree completion as university success metric
    - Faculty often incentivized for research, not practice
    - Mental health is most talked about topic on campus besides political impact
    - Faculty concern for student opportunities within the profession – see *Fast Company* article
    - Expectation of rapidly evolving service delivery methods/skills
    - Bi-partisan interest in ROI for degree
  - Where NCARB was/is
    - 1853 – first university education in architecture
    - 1897 – IL is first State to license architects
    - 1912 – ACSA
    - 1919 – NCARB
    - 1940 – NAAB

- 1950 – NAAB requires 5-year degree for B.Arch
- 1984 – NCARB requires NAAB accredited degree

## ■ Specific landscape

- Accredited architectural education
  - 2020 NAAB Conditions for Accreditation (the What) and Procedures for Accreditation (the How)
  - 2020 Conditions are less prescriptive
  - 2020 Conditions maintained 150 credit hours for B.Arch
- Pre-1984 – no national requirement on education
- Since 1984 – accredited degree required for NCARB Certification
- 17 jurisdictions never required degree from NAAB program; now at 18 jurisdictions (WY latest to pull this requirement)
- 49 jurisdictions offer a path to reciprocal licensure without additional education
- 176 NAAB-accredited programs
- +-540 Community College programs offering 2-year degrees in Architecture
- 30,068 students in accredited programs; 18,002 in pre-professional programs
- NCARB's Role in Education
  - Model Law for Initial and Reciprocal Licensure
  - NCARB Education Requirement – to achieve NCARB Certification
    - NAAB degree
    - Education alternatives
      - 2x/AXP
      - Certificate Portfolio
  - Founding Member of the NAAB
  - Continuing Professional Education
    - NCARB CE Guidelines
    - NCARB Model Law and Regulations
  - Competencies Demonstrated in Education
    - Validated educational outcomes for Initial Licensure and NCARB Certificate
      - Not all Schools of Architecture will teach to the validated educational outcomes
      - Shift to demonstrated learning outcomes
      - Pass/Fail on each required competency
      - Focused on competency acquired by individual
      - Agnostic to where the competency is learned/acquired – could be community college or school of architecture
    - Education Committee Consensus
      - 13 of 16 Competencies could possibly be fully acquired in an educational setting
    - Not intended to be required, no requirement for schools to participate
- Validated education outcomes
  - Opportunity to reduce the need for their graduates to determine competency
  - Opportunity to offer accelerated degrees which contribute towards licensure
  - Opportunity to recognize other education settings

## Second Business Session

### ■ Treasurer's Report – Sylvia Kwan

- \$40 M budget
  - Revenue – 55.4% architect services
  - Revenue – 27.4% in ARE services
  - Revenue – 15.3% in License Candidate Record Services
- Cash Operating Results - \$42.7 M in income – exceeded \$40.4 M budget
- Expenses - \$39.5 M in expenses; lower than \$40.1 M budget
- \$2.5 M in operating cash, \$4.0 M in short term funds; \$23.1 M in strategic reserves
- Strong financial performance in past year; in good financial shape

### ■ CEO Report – Mike Armstrong

- More money stored now, the better off NCARB will be in the future
- NCARB Communities Continue to Grow
- 126K NCARB Record Holders
  - Up by 12% since 2020
  - 2024 – 9,600 new NCARB Records
    - 3-year spike in records
    - Post pandemic surge in Record holders
  - 2024 – 68,000 candidates kept up an active record
    - 40,000 reported experience or took the ARE
    - 5% increase since last year – highest number since 2018
  - 2024 – 3,600 new architects - 9% of candidate population
  - 2024 – 12.9 years to earn a license on average
    - Down 4% compared to last year – 6 months faster on average
- NCARB Certificate Holders
  - New record high – by end of 2024, 51,500 Certificate holders
  - 10% increase since 2020
- Applications for Licensure
  - Transmitted 16K applications, including 12k reciprocal transmittals
    - 150K reciprocal licenses nationwide
- Accessibility to Licensure
  - Ensure accessibility for all candidates
- IPAL
  - 33 architecture programs involved in IPAL at 28 schools
  - 850 students enrolled in IPAL – 200 more than last year
- ARE
  - Overall pass rate was 55%; -3% since last year
  - Candidates have an 8-10% higher pass rate when overlapping AXP and ARE
  - 16% higher pass rate when taking NCARB's free practice exam; 80% of all candidates use the free practice exam.
  - ESL – 4,000 candidates; improved pass rate by 25%
  - Score Validity Policy – all jurisdictions have removed the rolling clock policy, with 7,000 exam divisions reinstated

- 49% of candidates are people of color; 46% are women
- 33% of new candidates are people of color; 42% of new candidates are women
- 8% of new Certificate holders pursued alternative pathways to licensure
- Engaged with 3,000 people on the Building on Belonging outreach
- NCARB is redesigning its outreach program
- NCARB By the Numbers – 2025 issues available

### Third Business Session

- Election Procedures
  - Last year of electing 2<sup>nd</sup> VP
- Candidate Speeches
  - Ken Van Tine – Past President
  - Ed Marley - President
  - John Rademacher – 1<sup>st</sup> VP candidate
  - Sylvia Kwan – 2<sup>nd</sup> VP candidate
  - Scott Harm – Secretary/Treasurer
  - George Miller – Secretary/Treasurer
  - Miguel Rodriguez – Secretary/Treasurer
  - Stephanie Hopkins – Public Director
  - At-Large Director – Dmitry Kazakov
  - At-Large Director – Mark McKechnie
  - At-Large Director – Coffee Polk
  - At-Large Director – Kevin Singh
- Town Hall

### Saturday, June 21, 2025

#### Workshop Session #3 - *Evolving NCARB's Programs Based on the Competency Standard*

Michelle Cohn, Laura Zuniga, Sian Roberts

- History
  - 2012 – Practice Analysis
  - 2012-2016 – Research and Development of AXP and ARE 5.0
  - June 2016 – AXP changes
  - November 2016 – ARE 5.0
  - June 2018 – Retired ARE 4.0
  - Dec. 2020 – Launch online proctoring
  - May 2023 – Launch of score validity policy/retire rolling clock
  - Feb 2024 – Retired QFIB
  - April 2025 – Retired drag and place items
  - 2021-22 – NCARB completed the Analysis of Practice
  - Fall 2024 – Competency Standard released



- Winter 2025/26 – AXP and ARE updates
- **Current AXP**
  - Builds competency thru real-world experience
  - Required by most US jurisdictions
  - Experience as tasks candidates must perform to complete the program
  - Six experience areas
  - Experience setting A (Architecture) and Experience Setting O (Other)
  - Has reporting requirement – timely reporting – experience gained within past 8 months – get 100% credit; past 8 months up to 5 years – get 50% credit – NCARB BoD considering changing the reporting requirements.
  - AXP Portfolio – for experienced designers – 2 years of experience earned more than 5 years ago
- **ARE**
  - Six divisions – aligned with the AXP
  - Security critical throughout exam development, delivery, and after the exam is complete
  - Exam eligibility services can be provided to those Boards who request it
  - Score reporting – candidates receive provisional feedback and is displayed for all candidates.
  - Score reports are sent to candidates 7-10 days after testing, with fail reports including scaled score and descriptive feedback
- **Program Evolution – What’s next for AXP and ARE?**
  - NCARB Competency Standard released in October 2024 - established 16 competencies necessary for initial licensure; focuses on protecting HSW
  - NCARB’s Competency Standard
    - Measures competency at initial licensure
    - Describes what an architect must be able to do at point of initial licensure
    - Ensures focus on HSW
  - Started in 2021/22 with Analysis of Practice; in Fall 2024, NCARB’s BoD adopts and publicly releases the Competency Standard
  - Competency Standard
    - Near term – guide updates to AXP and ARE
    - Long term – create the foundation of future NCARB programs
  - Proposed Updates to the AXP – BoD voting on this on 6.22.25
    - Proposed changes – adjustments to six experience area descriptions
    - What stays the same
      - AXP structure
      - Required AXP hours
      - Candidates maintain AXP credit
    - Proposed Updates
      - Reporting requirement – within 1 year – 100% credit; more than 1 year ago receives 75% credit
      - Procedural updates
        - Allowing non-AIA CE
        - Removing Canadian architects in Setting A
        - Community based design center

- Summer / Fall 2025 – Begin candidate messaging, AXP system updates
  - Launch AXP updates Winter 25/26
- Proposed updates to the ARE – BoD voting on this on 6.22.25
  - Proposed changes - Adjustments to some test objects
  - What stays the same
    - ARE structure
    - Division cut scores
    - Candidates maintain passed exam divisions
    - Spring 2026 – launch ARE updates

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Business Session

- Ed Marley – incoming President remarks
  - Time truly changes everything
  - 6 key themes
    - Be proactive
    - Continue to be an innovative thought leader
    - Continue to nourish the NCARB Leadership Institute
    - Sustain the momentum behind Pathways to Practice
    - Implement the Competency Standard
    - Value Member Board Engagement
    - Support Member Boards
    - ICC
      - CE
      - Address individuals using fraudulent seals
- Report of Credentials Committee
  - 54 out of 55 jurisdictions present
- Elections
  - Region 1 Director – Tom Lonardo
  - Region 2 Director – Ed Tucker
  - Region 3 Director – Catherine Morrison
  - Region 4 Director – Linda Schemmel
  - Region 5 Director – James Devine
  - Region 6 Director – Tian Feng
  - MBE Director – Shannon Himes
  - Secretary/Treasurer – Miguel Rodriguez
  - At Large Directors – Coffee Polk and Kevin Singh
- Resolutions
  - 2025-01 – Passed 53-1
  - 2025-02 – Passed 53-1
  - 2025-03 – Passed 54-0
  - 2025-04 – Passed 53-1

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

**NEW BUSINESS**  
**2026 MEETING**  
**DATES**

**To:** Architecture Board Members

**Date:** July 8, 2025

**From:** Robert Lopez 

**Subject:** Proposed 2026 Board Meeting Dates

**In reply to:**

The below dates and locations are proposed for 2026 Architecture Board Meetings:

Thursday, February 5	NYC
Wednesday, May 20	NYC
Wednesday, August 5	NYC
Wednesday, November 4	NYC

These dates will be discussed at the upcoming Board meeting, so please bring your calendars.