



OFFICE OF THE STATE BOARD FOR ARCHITECTURE
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**State Board for Architecture
Board Meeting**

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

Wednesday, May 20, 2026
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
 - Disciplinary Cases
 - Research Review
 - Practical Exam Candidates in August and November – Architect Volunteers

2. Public Session
 - 2. Welcome New Board Member / Farewell to Board Member
 - 3. Approval of Minutes
 - 4. Board Chair Report
 - 5. Board Office Report
 - 6. Old Business
 - March 2026 NCARB Regional Summit Summary
 - April 2026 NCARB Pre-BoD Meeting Summary
 - Future Regulatory Amendments
 - Architect’s Seal Clarification
 - Endorsement Pathway with UK
 - Project Construction Cost Estimates – NYC
 - Architecture as STEM
 - Women in Architecture Series
 - 7. New Business
 - Proposed NCARB Visit
 - NCARB Annual Meeting – June 25-27
 - Resolutions
 - Elections
 - Voting Delegate

- NCARB MBC/MBE Meeting – Oct. 9/10
- 2027 NCARB Regional Summit – February 25-27
- Professional Member Search

8. Other Board Member Topics for Future Meetings

9. Adjournment

Next Meeting – *Wednesday, August 5, 2026 – 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
Fred Mosher, Jr.
Anik Pearson
Joel Peterson
Talisha Sainvil
- Absent: Giuseppe Lauro
- Staff: Robert Lopez, Executive Secretary
Gina Sacco, Assistant in Professional Education

February 5, 2026

OPEN SESSION

1. **Motion:** *Bentel/Canaras*: That the Board enter Executive Session.
2. The Board resumed Open Session.
3. **Approval of Minutes**
Motion: *Pearson/Mosher*: That the minutes of the November 13, 2025 meeting of the State Board for Architecture be approved.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
4. **Board Chair Report**
Chair Dosso distributed information on the committees that Board members serve on in addition to their State Board participation. She reported on non-confidential items regarding the NCARB R&D Committee upon which she serves. Chair Dosso noted that NCARB hasn't sent out its annual call for volunteers to serve on its committees. The Executive Secretary will inquire about when that volunteer application will be sent out by NCARB.
5. **Board Office Report**
The Executive Secretary delivered the Board Office Report, which included updated statistics, recent activities, and proposed legislation. The Executive Secretary attended the most recent ARPL webinar, shared that the AIA has recently rejoined ARPL, along with some legislative updates from other States. He noted that the bill to modernize continuing education (CE) requirements for landscape architects had been signed into law by the Executive, with an effective date in May 2027. Drafting of regulatory amendments will begin in the first quarter of 2026.
6. **Old Business**
ICOR Practice Overlap Guidance Overlap
The Executive Secretary distributed this long-awaited document to the State Board, and, per ICOR's request, he asked that this document not be shared with non-State Board members. The document provides a defensible framework for identifying where professional competencies

amongst architecture, landscape architecture, engineering, interior design and land surveying overlap – and where they remain distinct. The document may be useful in future practice conversations involving architecture and interior design and landscape architecture and engineering. The Executive Secretary noted that the document does not always reflect New York State law, citing as one example the coterminous relationship between architecture and engineering with regard to designing buildings.

Licensure Trends in New York

The Executive Secretary reviewed statistics shared in NCARB’s Jurisdictional Data reports from 2022-2025 as requested by the Board. Several statistics stood out in the report related to demographics and improved pass rates for underrepresented groups. NCARB has cited improved pass rates for many candidates due to the increased use of practice exams.

Member Peterson raised a related issue about challenges associated with some architecture firms not accepting experience duration towards promotional opportunities and paid time off. Member Pearson noted she is hosting a high school student to shadow her and to offer the student a more complete picture of what an architect does during their workday. The Board discussed a few New York high schools that offer programs introducing the field of architecture to their students and how early mentorship is important when choosing a career.

Project Construction Cost Estimates - NYC

The Executive Secretary mentioned that AIA NY representatives will be meeting shortly with the NYC Department of Buildings’ leadership. AIA NY will be bringing the questions related to architects certifying cost estimates in their submissions to the DoB at this meeting.

Architecture as STEM

AIA NYS has been informed about the issue of architecture as a STEM profession. They are having conversations with other AIA chapters around the US to best gauge how to move this effort forward. The issue is that architecture does not have its own CIP (Classification of Instructional Program) code title in the DHS STEM designated degree program list.

The Board also reviewed an article and AIA and NCARB statements regarding the impact of architecture no longer being considered a professional degree. This proposed regulation, if implemented, will limit the amount of federal loans available to graduate students. The Board advised that architecture should be included in a list of professional degreed programs at the federal level and supported any efforts on behalf of the Department regarding this matter.

Possible Regulatory Amendments

The Executive Secretary described bundling regulatory amendments to include technical corrections to an architect’s seal and an endorsement pathway for UK architects with proposed regulatory amendments in landscape architecture.

Women in Architecture Series

Member Pearson updated the Board on the Women in Architecture series, including a recent event about skills growth in leadership capacity, mentoring, and a master class in grant writing. Most of the events continue to occur virtually, given that attendees come from around the US.

7. New Business

Private Design Build

The Executive Secretary described some recent history with design build, including the context of public design build allowances that have been included in prior legislation. He described the

potential issues related to misconduct for architects in New York who are approached about being hired by non-professional service entities if it falls outside of these allowances. Should the question about private design build be raised in New York, he will ask the State Board for its technical assistance regarding this issue.

Education and Experience Question

The Board discussed a scenario that was not envisioned during the Board's recent review of the education and experience policies affecting licensure candidates that resulted in the May 2025 update. The question raised was for those candidates receiving 10 units of education award and whether they should be permitted to have a 50/50% split in allowance for Category I and J experience. After discussion, the Board agreed that a 50/50 split to align with the other pathways outside of the all-experience pathway is appropriate.

Professional Degree:

This agenda items was discussed under possible regulatory amendments.

Professional Member Search

Professional members are still needed to replace three soon to be outgoing members of the State Board. Interviews for potential candidates are ongoing and the Executive Secretary has reached out to several potential candidates. All Board members were encouraged to recommend individuals who may be a good fit for the work of the State Board.

2026 NCARB Annual Meeting

Should permission to attend be granted by the State of New York, Member Peterson has volunteered to attend this meeting. Should any professional members have a desire to attend, they are encouraged to reach out to the Executive Secretary.

2026 NCARB MBC/MBE Meeting

Member Pearson may have interest in attending this biennial meeting and will confirm with the Executive Secretary.

The 2027 Regional Summit was also discussed, with Chair Dosso and Member Peterson showing interest in attending.

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Motion: *Pearson/Bentel:* That Chair Dosso be re-elected as Chair.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion: *Dosso/Pearson:* The Member Canaras be elected as Vice Chair.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Changes to the ARE Coming in 2026

Minor adjustments to the ARE were included in the Board package and discussed by the Board. The changes should have minimal impact on candidates.

Other Board Member Topics for Future Meetings

Member Peterson has invited the Executive Secretary along with NCARB to meet with the Large Firm Roundtable in NYC in April. They will also hold a meeting with the small firm HR roundtable via Zoom. Member Peterson also updated the Board on a conversation with NCARB regarding outreach efforts.

Motion: *Pearson/Mosher:* Moved to adjourn.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The next meeting of the Board will be held on Wednesday, May 20, 2026 in NYC.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Lopez, RA
Executive Secretary

DRAFT

**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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Absent: Giuseppe Lauro

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

February 5, 2026

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. **Disciplinary Cases**
The Board reviewed three recent disciplinary cases, and the Executive Secretary described some recent events as a follow-up to an already decided case.
2. **Practical Exam:**
There may be 1 or 2 candidates for practical exams in May. Members Mosher, Canaras and Pearson volunteered for the first practical exam. If there is a second candidate, the Executive Secretary will request three additional volunteers.
3. **Approval of Minutes**
Motion: *Pearson/Mosher:* That the minutes of the November 13, 2025 meeting of the State Board for Architecture be approved.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
4. **Motion:** *Pearson/Sainvil:* That the Board resume the Open Session.
PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Lopez, RA
Executive Secretary

NEW YORK STATE BOARD FOR ARCHITECTURE
BOARD OFFICE REPORT

Registered Architects (RA)

Current Resident Registered Architects	12,039
Current Non-Resident Registered Architects	9,589
<u>Foreign Registered Architects</u>	<u>440</u>
Total Number of RA as of 1/1/26	22,068

Licenses Issued

2026 – 320 (thru 4/30); 2025 – 891; 2024 – 870; 2023 – 905; 2022 – 940; 2021 – 804

ARE Candidates	(January 16, 2026 – April 30, 2026)	-
Early Admit ARE Candidates	(January 16, 2026 – April 30, 2026)	220
NCARB Certification	(January 16, 2026 – April 30, 2026)	103
Endorsement	(January 16, 2026 – April 30, 2026)	5
Via Educ, Exp & Exams	(January 16, 2026 – April 30, 2026)	11

Candidate Admissions to ARE

2026 - 279 (thru 4/30); 2025 - 876; 2024 – 1,031; 2023 – 1,030; 2022 – 770; 2021 – 875

OP/Staff Activities

The Executive Secretary has been involved in the following virtual licensure presentations since the last Board meeting:

- Cornell University – April 8, 2026 - 7 participants
- AIA NY – May 4, 2026 – 20 participants

Additionally, thanks to Member Peterson’s efforts, the Executive Secretary along with Jared Zurn and Patricia Ramallo of NCARB presented the licensee titling requirements at the AIA Large Firm HR and Small Firm HR Roundtables as follows:

- AIA Large Firm Roundtable (in-person) – 45 participants
- AIA Small Firm Roundtable (virtual) – 34 participants

Legislative / Regulatory Activity

The NYS Legislature is in its second year of a 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.

Bill was signed Ch. 529 of the Laws of 2025 on November 21, 2025.

S9673 / A4840-A – 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 advanced to 3rd reading in the Senate and is advanced to 3rd reading in the Assembly.

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 advanced to 3rd reading 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.

A2571-A / S620-C – Relates to the practice of geology

Adds the practice of geology to legacy corporations.

Bill is printed in the Assembly and is passed in the Senate.

S2146-A / A4907-A – 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 referred to Judiciary in the Senate and is referred to Higher Education in the Assembly.

A4680 / S8840 – 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 and is referred to Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs in the Senate.

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 referred to Corporations, Authorities and Commissions 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.

S7217-A / A7675-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 printed in the Senate and is printed in the Assembly.

Bills 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

Lori P. Saizan
Youngsam Yu

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

OLD BUSINESS

MARCH 2026
NCARB
REGIONAL
SUMMIT
SUMMARY

To: Architecture Board Members
From: Robert Lopez
Subject: NCARB Regional Summit Summary
In reply to:

Date: May 4, 2026

Member Peterson and the Executive Secretary attended the NCARB Regional Summit held from March 20-21, 2026. Additionally, the Executive Secretary attended the Member Board Executives' (MBE) Workshop the day prior to the start of the Summit on March 19th. Finally, Member Peterson and the Executive Secretary attended the NCARB Region 2 Strategic Planning Retreat on March 22nd.

A summary follows below:

MBE Workshop – March 19

Sessions included an introduction from NCARB President Ed Marley and nomination of the MBE Director, Shannon Himes. This session was followed by a workshop on cultivating leadership and one on an update to *Pathways to Practice*, including examples of future possible NCARB transmittals. In the afternoon, MBEs discussed enforcement, seal fraud, and overlapping practice. The workshop concluded with an MBE Forum designed to allow Executives from across the US to discuss issues of common interest.

Regional Summit – March 20

The Opening Plenary included updates from NCARB leadership, an overview of the proposed resolutions, and brief statements from the FY27 Board of Director candidates. There was also a panel discussion led by the Oklahoma Board of Architects, Landscape Architects and Licensed Interior Designers on trends in discipline and enforcement. Of interest is a recent \$30,000 fine for unauthorized seal use and that Oklahoma no longer includes license numbers for online searches.

The plenary also included an update on *Pathways to Practice*. Of interest is a timeline that suggests implementation of *Pathways* in 2028, followed by a 12-18 month period where NCARB will hold over its current model.

Regional meetings occurred in the afternoon, with jurisdictions giving the following updates:

- **Virginia** – first female Governor elected; comity is moving towards endorsement. 14 new members on the Board.
- **West Virginia** – discussing seal fraud; significant review of rules; examining regulations to combat fraud.

- **Pennsylvania** – working simultaneously on four regulatory packages; adding a CE requirement; CID’s now being regulated.
- **Maryland** – bill in to the legislature taking disciplinary discretion away from Board; bill in to legislature to require that a reviewer or code official conducting building permit reviews verify status of a licensee.
- **New York** – the Executive Secretary updated Region 2 on New York topics.
- **New Jersey** – Conducted outreach to NJIT and to Kean University, searching for new Board members.
- **Delaware** – going through audit process; lost their MBE; have gone through 4-5 MBEs in the last 5 years.
- **District of Columbia** – reviewing alternative pathways; were approached by the Institute for Justice.

Regional Summit – March 21

The future of continuing education (CE) was discussed, focusing on how CE must evolve to stay aligned with the competency standard and future pathways to practice. The regional meetings continued, with the Nominations Committee for Region 2 putting forward Bob Cozzarelli (NJ) forward for Regional Director, Mary McClenaghan (PA) for Regional Chair, Tim Colley (VA) as Vice Chair, and Mark Redden (DE) as Secretary.

Region 2 Strategic Planning Retreat – March 22

Member Peterson and the Executive Secretary attended and participated in the Region 2 strategic planning retreat led by Helene Combs Dreiling, FAIA. This session was the first of its kind for Region 2, and the session will lead to the Region’s first strategic plan. The plan will focus on Region 2’s purpose, mission, focus, service, support and vision for its eight jurisdictional members. It is expected that an update will be provided at the upcoming NCARB Annual Meeting.

Press

Regional Leadership Elected at NCARB's 2026 Regional Summit

03/23/2026

From March 20 – 21, 2026, NCARB regions comprised of the U.S. architectural licensing boards gathered in Oklahoma City for the 2026 Regional Summit. The annual summit provides a forum for NCARB's regions to weigh in on national initiatives, discuss regional issues, and elect leadership for the year ahead. This year's summit was hosted by NCARB's Region 5, which is made up of the licensing boards for Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Wyoming.

The summit's agenda is planned each year by NCARB's Regional Leadership Committee, which includes the chair, vice chair, and executive of each region. The 2026 Regional Summit kicked off on Friday with updates from NCARB President Edward T. Marley, FAIA, NCARB, LEED AP, and CEO

Michael Armstrong. Attendees also received an overview of the draft resolutions up for a membership vote at this year's Annual Business Meeting, engaged with candidates running for election to the FY27 NCARB Board of Directors, and heard updates related to NCARB's overlapping practice and Pathways to Practice efforts.

Throughout the summit, attendees met as regions to conduct regional business, including regional budgets, conferences, and leadership. During regional meetings, attendees heard presentations and participated in discussions on licensing board best practices, reciprocal licensure, and responsible control.

On Saturday, attendees participated in an interactive workshop exploring the topic of continuing competency. To end the summit, the chairs of each region shared the outcomes of their regional discussions, as well as each region's nominated candidate for regional director on the FY27 Board of Directors:

- Region 1: Thomas D. Lonardo, RA, NCARB (Rhode Island)
- Region 2: Robert Cozzarelli, FAIA, NCARB, SARA, PP, CID (New Jersey)
- Region 3: Catherine C. Morrison, FAIA, NCARB, LEED AP BD+C, NOMA (North Carolina)

- Region 4: Jill Lewis Smith, AIA, NCARB (Kentucky)
- Region 5: Nathan Baker, NCARB, AIA (Oklahoma)
- Region 6: Tian Feng, FAIA, FCSI (California)

Regional directors will be elected by NCARB's full membership at the Annual Business Meeting in June. The next Regional Summit will be hosted by Region 1 on February 25 – 27, 2027, in Providence, Rhode Island.

Related Blogs



Watch: Mid-Year Update From NCARB President Ed Marley



Insights From NCARB's 2026 Future Trends Report

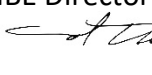


NCARB Volunteers Explore the Future of Licensure



MEMORANDUM

Edward T. Marley, FAIA, NCARB, LEED AP
President
Tucson, Arizona

To: Regional Directors, Public Director, and MBE Director
From: Edward T. Marley, FAIA, NCARB, LEED AP 
President

Date: March 31, 2026

Subject: April 2026 Board of Directors Meeting

John Patrick Rademacher, NCARB, AIA, NOMA
Vice President
Loveland, Ohio

Sylvia Kwan, FAIA, NCARB, NOMA, LEED AP
Second Vice President
San Rafael, California

Miguel A. Rodriguez, FAIA, NCARB, NOMA
Secretary/Treasurer
Coral Gables, Florida

The FY26 NCARB Board of Directors will hold a three-day meeting on April 16 - 18 in Washington, District of Columbia.

Kenneth R. Van Tine, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP
Past President
Brighton, Michigan

We are providing this summary of topics that will be discussed by the Board, along with brief descriptions regarding content and context to provide greater transparency and encourage collaboration between Board representatives and their constituencies.

Thomas D. Lonardo, RA, NCARB
Director, Region 1
Cranston, Rhode Island

Edward W. Tucker, FAIA, NCARB
Director, Region 2
Huntington, West Virginia

Generative & Strategic Discussions

- Asking the Right Questions. CEO Armstrong and Chief Programs Officer (CPO) Zurn will facilitate a discussion focused on strengthening strategic inquiry and decision-making to support effective governance.

Catherine C. Morrison, FAIA, NCARB,
LEED AP BD+C, NOMA
Director, Region 3
Charlotte, North Carolina

Linda Alfson Schemmel, AIA, NCARB
Director, Region 4
West Des Moines, Iowa

Program and Service Excellence

- NCARB Tri-national MRA: Relaunch. CEO Armstrong and Vice President Batkin will provide an update on the relaunch of the Trinational Mutual Recognition Agreement between the U.S., Canada and Mexico.
- Pathways to Practice: Status -- Continuing Education Guidelines Update (Action) and Competency Criteria Overview and Next Steps. CPO Zurn will provide an update on NCARB's Pathways to Practice initiative, including and proposed updates realigning the Continuing Education Guidelines for the Board's review and approval. The Board will also receive an overview of the draft of the Competency Criteria and the next steps for further development and implementation. Discussion will focus on how these efforts will align with the Pathways to Practice goals of addressing evolving practice needs and supporting licensure accessibility.
- Pathways to Practice: Communications. The Board will participate in a communications exercise focused on the Pathways to Practice initiative.
- Committee Chairs Pathways Check in. The Board will be meeting with the Chairs of the Licensure Process R&D Task Force, the Examination Committee, the Experience Committee, and the Education Committee to hear updates on the ongoing work related to Pathways to Practice. This engagement will allow the Board to better understand and

James Devine, NCARB, AIA, LEED AP
Director, Region 5
Bismarck, North Dakota

Tian Feng, FAIA, FCSI
Director, Region 6
Oakland, California

Shannon Himes
Member Board Executive Director
Columbus, Ohio

Stephanie V. Hopkins
Public Director
Baltimore, Maryland

Coffee Polk, NCARB, AIA, LEED AP
At-Large Director
Las Vegas, Nevada

Kevin J. Singh, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, NCARB
At-Large Director
Ruston, Louisiana

Michael J. Armstrong
Chief Executive Officer

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An Equal Opportunity Employer

NCARB, in collaboration with licensing boards, facilitates the licensure and credentialing of architects to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

guide how the future licensure programs under consideration are developing as part of the charges given to each committee.

- Statement regarding Artificial Intelligence. **(Action)** The Board will review a proposed update to its statement, based on a review by the staff Artificial Intelligence Work Group.

Fiduciary Responsibilities

- Board Policies for Review. Consent Agenda **(Action)**: Board Policies are reviewed by the Board on a rolling three-year cycle. At this Board meeting, the Board will consider proposed updates to the Conflict of Interest Policy and Whistleblower Policy.
- Financial Update. Secretary/Treasurer Rodriguez and CEO Armstrong will provide updates on the current financial state of the Council’s funds and performance of the FY26 budget.
- Investment Policy Update **(Action)**: The Board will review and consider updates to the Investment Policy to provide clarity in language regarding investment advisor decision-making authorization. In addition, the Board will consider adding an annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) percentage to annual calculation of NCARB’s minimum target balance for strategic reserves.
- Resolutions. Consent Agenda **(Action)**: The Board will decide which resolutions to present to the membership at the June 2026 Annual Business Meeting, including any potential revisions to the drafts issued to Member Boards earlier this year. The Board will also vote on whether or not to support adoption of the resolutions it places on the Annual Business Meeting agenda. Final draft resolutions will be shared with the membership in late April / early May.
- Volunteer Code of Conduct. **(Action)** Vice President Batkin and Assistant Vice President Williamson will present a Volunteer Code of Conduct to the Board for review based on feedback from the September 2025 board meeting.
- Funding Request **(Action)**: As part of its budget review process, Board of Directors will act on supplemental employee benefit proposals that were provisionally adopted last June, including the FY26 Staff Bonus Pool and the CY25 Retirement Plan Discretionary Contribution. Past President Van Tine will provide information about the FY26 CEO Evaluation Process.
- FY27 Budget. Secretary/Treasurer Rodriguez and CEO Armstrong will present a draft of the FY27 NCARB budget for initial comment to guide final review and adoption by the new FY27 Board following the Annual Business Meeting.

Informational items:

- President’s Report. President Marley will update the Board on his activities since the January 2026 Board of Directors meeting.
- Regional Summit Debrief. President Marley will facilitate a debrief with the Board regarding the Regional Summit.
- CEO Update Q&A. CEO Armstrong will address questions arising from his view-ahead video report on staff activity since the February 2026 Board of Directors Call.
- NCARB Board Leadership Training. During this session, facilitated by consultant Sacha Thompson, the Board will participate in a session titled, “Accountability Without Fear: A Board Questioning Toolkit to Operationalize Big-Picture Priorities”.
- Annual Business Meeting Preview. The Board will receive an update on the agenda and activities planned for the 2026 Annual Business Meeting.

Additional Activities

- NCARB Board/Senior Staff Strategic Planning Retreat. The Board will participate in a retreat with the NCARB senior staff during which staff to share the results of the development of draft departmental 'North Star' statements and seek the Board's feedback on those aspirational goals to ensure alignment as NCARB refreshes its strategic plan.
- South Africa MRA Signing Ceremony. On Saturday, April 18 representatives from South Africa will join the Board of Directors for an official signing ceremony regarding the Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) between the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) and the South African Council for the Architectural Profession (SACAP). The event will recognize this achievement and set the stage for implementation of the reciprocity agreement beginning this summer.

cc: NCARB Executive Committee
Michael J. Armstrong, CEO

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

OLD BUSINESS

**FUTURE
REGULATORY
AMENDMENTS**

To: Architecture Board Members

Date: May 4, 2026

From: Robert Lopez

Subject: Regulatory Amendments

In reply to:

With the signing of the Continuing Education (CE) Modernization Bill for landscape architects, the Department is considering two additional regulatory amendments in architecture that the State Board has recommended be moved forward to SED leadership and the Board of Regents. This memo outlines regulatory changes that the Board has recommended.

Endorsement provisions for UK Architects

The State Board has recommended updating endorsement provisions to facilitate licensure in New York for qualified applicants from the UK, similar to the endorsement model in existence for US and Canadian architects. Requirements will include:

- At least **5 years of acceptable experience** within the UK within the past 7 years.
- **Examination compliance:** Either passing the required licensing exam or, if not previously taken, a practical exam administered by the State Board.
- **Verification of good standing** in all jurisdictions where the applicant holds licensure.
- **Attestation of good moral character.**

Seal updates

Updates to the sealing provisions will be made to conform the regulation to Chapter 58 of the Laws of 2020. These changes are to accommodate the words “E Pluribus Unum” that were added to the New York State Coat of Arms under the word “Excelsior.”

This memo is being brought to the attention of the Board, and its movement forward is contingent upon SED leadership review.



NCARB

National Council
of Architectural
Registration Boards

NEW BUSINESS

NCARB ANNUAL
MEETING

AGENDA AND
GUIDE

Edward T. Marley, FAIA, NCARB, LEED AP
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Tucson, Arizona

John Patrick Rademacher, NCARB, AIA, NOMA
Vice President
Loveland, Ohio

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Ruston, Louisiana

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An Equal Opportunity Employer

March 27, 2026

Dear Member Board Members,

It is my pleasure to invite you to attend NCARB’s 2026 Annual Business Meeting, held June 25 – 27, 2026, in Minneapolis, Minnesota!

With a packed agenda to explore, new leadership to elect, and critical resolutions to vote on, your engagement at this year’s Annual Business Meeting is more important than ever. With a spirit of continuous improvement and innovation, NCARB continues to seek your feedback on the Pathways to Practice initiative as we transition to developing new competency assessments. Please join us as we shape NCARB’s ongoing evolution in the months and years ahead—registration is now available.

At this year’s Annual Business Meeting, members will have the opportunity to provide their jurisdiction’s unique perspective as we elect the FY27 Board of Directors, vote on resolutions, and discuss current trends. You’ll have the chance to attend workshops designed to gather your feedback on key Pathways-related topics, including reviewing prototype assessment methods and competency criteria. You’ll also explore topics designed to advance your board’s essential mission to protect the public.

Your participation is crucial as we reflect on current accomplishments and set the agenda for the year ahead—make sure your jurisdiction’s voice is heard.

I hope you can join us!

Edward T. Marley, FAIA, NCARB, LEED AP
2025-2026 NCARB President

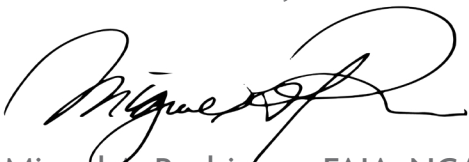
NCARB, in collaboration with licensing boards, facilitates the licensure and credentialing of architects to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

2026 Annual Business Meeting

Official Meeting Notice

- Draft Annual Business Meeting Agenda
- Your Guide to ABM

This notice is sent 90 days in advance of the Annual Business Meeting in accordance with [NCARB Bylaws](#), Article V, Section 1.



Miguel A. Rodriguez, FAIA, NCARB, NOMA
NCARB Secretary/Treasurer

National Council of Architectural Registration Boards
1401 H Street NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005
Tel: 202/879-0520 | Fax: 202/783-0290

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Draft 2026 Annual Business Meeting Agenda

All times are Central Time. Agenda subject to change.

Thursday, June 25, 2026

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 11 a.m. | Registration Opens
Attendees can begin picking up their attendee badges. The registration and information desk will remain open until 6:30 p.m. |
| 1 – 2:30 p.m. | First-Time Attendee Luncheon
<i>First-time attendees are invited to network with each other, engage with staff and leadership, and learn more about NCARB.</i> |
| 4:30 – 6 p.m. | First Business Session
<i>Join your fellow attendees and NCARB leadership as we kick off the meeting with our opening business session. This session includes a welcome from the Minnesota Board, introduction of special guests, and remarks from FY26 President Marley. Two presentations regarding Pathways to Practice support will also occur: the roll-out of first draft “assessment tool prototypes” supporting Pathways to Practice, and an overview of NCARB’s advocacy strategy.</i> |
| 6:30 – 9 p.m. | Welcome Reception/Icebreaker
<i>Lumber Exchange</i>
<i>The Lumber Exchange Building was the first skyscraper built in Minneapolis dating back to 1885. It is the oldest high-rise building standing in Minneapolis and the oldest building outside of New York City with 12 or more floors.</i> |

Friday, June 26, 2026

All times are Central Time. Agenda subject to change.

- 8 – 9 a.m. **Workshop Session #1**
Choose from a selection of workshop options (see page 7 for more information).
- 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. **Workshop Session #2**
Choose from a selection of workshop options (see page 7 for more information).
- 11 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **Second Business Session**
[Candidates](#) running for positions on the FY27 Board of Directors will deliver their speeches.
- 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. **All Attendees Lunch**

Incoming Committee Chairs Lunch
See page 5 for more information.
- 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. **Third Business Session**
Receive an update on NCARB’s financials from FY26 Secretary/Treasurer Rodriguez and an update on organizational operations from NCARB CEO Armstrong. Also, members will engage in a town hall discussion on important membership issues.
- 3 – 5:30 p.m. **Regional Meetings**
Meet with your fellow region members to discuss topics of local importance, elections and resolutions, and any other regional business.

2026 Annual Business Meeting Workshops

To provide you with options so you can choose workshops that best apply to your interests and role on your licensing board, we're offering a variety of workshops this year.

All Attendees

Design & Documentation: The Crux of the Architect

Delve into the assessment criteria and anticipated tools that will be used to ensure future licensure candidates are competent in these critical areas. This session will explore and highlight how education and experience will likely drive demonstration of these competencies while reinforcing rigor and reliability.

Construction Administration: The Small but Mighty Competencies

Engage in a deeper dive into this competency domain's assessment criteria and likely tools of the future. This session will explore and highlight how experience and examination continue to play an important role in ensuring readiness for licensure in the future with defensible and fair options.

Practice and Project Management: Business Aspects That Matter to HSW

Explore how the business side of architectural practice is necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public and clients through the assessment criteria and tools expected to ensure future licensure candidates are capable of independent practice. This session will introduce participants to educational and examination approaches that ensure equivalency across assessment methods.

NCARB's Future Strategy

Help shape NCARB's next chapter. It is time for NCARB to review and evaluate its strategic plan, and determine what's working, what's missing, and what needs to evolve. Led by NCARB's strategy consultants, this session will allow you to share your feedback and inform the future of the organization.

Exploring NAAB Accreditation Conditions

NAAB has begun a multi-year standards revision effort to update the conditions and procedures for NAAB accreditation. Join NAAB leadership to hear the current themes being captured by early research and share your insights as to how the conditions could best evolve to serve regulation, future architects, and the public.

Special Interest

Public Members

- **Empowering Public Members**

For public members, this session will offer tools and tips to elevate the voice of the consumer on your licensing board.

FY27 Committee Chairs

- **The Year Ahead**

As we get ready to kick off a new year, incoming committee chairs will join President-elect Rademacher and CEO Armstrong as they preview the year ahead and share their goals and expectations for the volunteer committees.

Your Guide to the 2026 NCARB Annual Business Meeting

If you're new to NCARB or have never attended an Annual Business Meeting, here's everything you need to know about this gathering and its important role in the regulation of the architectural profession.

What is the Annual Business Meeting?

NCARB is made up of the architectural licensing boards of the 50 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Once a year, delegates from each board come together to review and comment on NCARB's programs and services, consider changes to national licensure standards, and elect new leadership. A key focus of the meeting is ensuring that Member Boards are equipped to fully understand the role of the Council and licensing boards; utilize NCARB's suite of resources; and demonstrate the value of architectural regulation. In doing so, attendees develop national consensus regarding best practices and strategic thinking.

The meeting enables NCARB to evolve in its work of facilitating architectural licensure across the United States by providing essential services to its members, licensure candidates, and licensed professionals while supporting our Member Boards as they protect the public health, safety, and welfare.

Why attend the Annual Business Meeting?

Participation from each jurisdictional board is an essential part of the Annual Business Meeting. Changes to programs, adjustments to model laws and regulations, and the election of national officers to guide the implementation of NCARB services all require national consensus from the diverse voices of NCARB's 55 jurisdictional Member Boards. Your attendance ensures that your board's unique perspective, priorities, and concerns are a part of the national conversation.

As an attendee of the Annual Business Meeting, you will help shape NCARB's agenda for the coming years as you vote on resolutions and elect new members of the NCARB Board of Directors. In addition, you will receive important resources and training to better position yourself as an effective member of your licensing board.

Your Role

All delegates attend each day's plenary session, where organizational business is carried out, as well as several workshops. Your role is to represent your board as we work to create the best possible national licensing standards and further our shared mission of protecting the public by facilitating licensure.

Voting Delegates

If you have been identified as your board's voting delegate, you are responsible for casting an official ballot in any votes for resolutions or elections for NCARB's Board of Directors. You will receive follow-up information, including a voting guide, if you are designated as the voting delegate.

Funding Classifications and Eligibility

Member Board Chairs are responsible for identifying their board's funded attendees and appointing their voting delegate. Please do so as soon as possible so that attendees can register and make travel arrangements.

While identification of members to receive funding is at the discretion of the Member Board, it must abide by the funding categories as outlined below. Please note, the Member Board Member from the professional category may not take the place of a public member or board executive attendee. Every Member Board is eligible to receive funding to send representatives to each meeting, as follows:

- Two (2) Professional Member Board Members – This funding is for any design professional on the board
- One (1) Public/Consumer Member Board Member
- One (1) Member Board Executive

There is also potential funding for the following roles:

- One (1) Legal Counsel – There is limited funding available on a first come, first served basis. These attendees must be submitted to NCARB in advance for approval
- One (1) New Member Board Member – If you have a new Member Board Member appointed during the current fiscal year (after July 1, 2025), limited funding on a first come, first served basis is available to support their participation in NCARB events. These attendees must be submitted to NCARB in advance for approval

NCARB will cover travel, food, registration, and lodging expenses for funded attendees—see a detailed description of what is and is not covered through NCARB funding on the event website.

Funded attendees should select the correct funded attendee type when registering for the meeting. **In-person attendees must register by May 22, 2026.**

Submission of Resolutions

The items placed on the agenda for discussion and vote by NCARB membership at the Annual Business Meeting are known as resolutions.

As per the *NCARB Bylaws*, all resolutions submitted by Member Boards or regions for consideration at the 2026 Annual Business Meeting must be presented to the Regional Leadership Committee for review by **April 13, 2026**. Resolutions may include a brief statement of support. You can access the [current NCARB Bylaws on our website](#).

Draft resolutions were distributed in January 2026. While subject to change, current items under consideration are:

- A new Mutual Recognition Agreement to replace the existing agreement with our counterpart in the United Kingdom
- Updates to policies previously passed by the membership
- An additional pathway to NCARB certification

The Council will distribute all resolutions that are not laudatory in nature to its Member Boards by early May. All Member Boards, regions, and the NCARB Board of Directors may offer amendments to the resolutions at the Annual Business Meeting. More information will be available when the final resolutions are released in May.

NCARB Elections

The NCARB Board of Directors is elected annually by voting delegates from Member Boards. Voting rules are established by the *NCARB Bylaws*, the Credentials Committee's "Procedure for Election to the NCARB Board of Directors," and/or Iowa law as the Council's incorporation venue.

The *NCARB Bylaws* establishes the qualifications and limitations, nomination, election, terms of service, and vacancies of all members of the NCARB Board of Directors. (See *NCARB Bylaws*, Articles VII and VIII). The Credentials Committee oversees the nomination and election process of the Board of Directors, including validation of candidate and voting delegate credentials.

The deadline to be on the ballot is the first day of the Annual Business Meeting: **Thursday, June 25, 2026**. It is encouraged to submit your candidacy information early so it can be shared with membership at upcoming events. To include your information for attendees in pre-materials for the Annual Meeting, please submit it by **May 1, 2026**.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding campaign activities or a potential candidacy, please reach out to the Credentials Committee at credentials-committee@ncarb.org.

FY27 Board of Directors Elections

The FY27 NCARB Board of Directors will be elected at the 2026 Annual Business Meeting. The Credentials Committee will accept nominations at credentials-committee@ncarb.org until the president closes nominations at the Annual Business Meeting for the following positions*:

- Vice President
- Public Director
- At-Large Directors (2)

Nominations for the following positions** are closed:

- Director, Region 1
- Director, Region 2
- Director, Region 3
- Director, Region 4
- Director, Region 5
- Director, Region 6
- Member Board Executive Director

* The role of second vice president is eliminated, and the role of secretary/treasurer was elected at the 2025 Annual Business Meeting based on the transition plan in the *NCARB Bylaws*, Article XV. Elections for secretary/treasurer will resume on a yearly basis at the 2027 Annual Business Meeting.

**The nomination processes for these positions are determined by individual regions' bylaws and the Member Board Executives Committee in accordance with the *NCARB Bylaws*.

The president and past president positions on the Board of Directors are automatically filled based on results from previous elections.

MEMORANDUM

TO: Member Board Members, Member Board Executives, and Regional Officers

FROM: Miguel A. Rodriguez, FAIA, NCARB, NOMA
NCARB Secretary/Treasurer

DATE: January 29, 2026

SUBJECT: 2026 Draft Resolutions for Consideration

At the NCARB Board of Directors January 2026 Meeting, the Board voted to move three resolutions to the membership for discussion and feedback. These three resolutions will remain as drafts until the Board of Directors' final review in April, when the Board will decide the final content of the resolutions they wish to move forward to the membership for consideration at the June 2026 Annual Business Meeting.

All three draft resolutions are enclosed in this packet.

Resolution 2026-A would replace the existing Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) between NCARB and Architects Registration Board (ARB) in the United Kingdom. The amended MRA would eliminate post-licensure experience requirements as a qualification and allow acceptance of pathways outside of the standard path to NCARB certification.

Resolution 2026-B would update six policies previously passed by the membership to reflect current terminology and practice. This resolution also creates a single membership document with all the policies for clarity, consistency, membership accessibility, and ease of future review. In addition, it would sunset two additional policies that have been incorporated into other official documents and are duplicative, or are no longer necessary.

Resolution 2026-C would update the *NCARB Certification Guidelines* to add an alternative to the Examination Requirement for the NCARB Certificate for architects licensed through historic exams. This will allow architects who were licensed through a jurisdiction-specific process of satisfying the NCARB paper-

and-pencil exam to seek NCARB certification if they have been in good standing, building on previous guidelines amendments.

Next Steps

We hope that you will take the time to review and discuss these draft resolutions with your fellow board members. We look forward to receiving your feedback and answering questions during the upcoming Regional Summit. Again, these drafts will undergo further discussion by the Board in April. At that time the Board will review Member Board feedback in determining the final composition of resolutions they determine should be forwarded for a membership vote at the June Annual Business Meeting.

In the interim, please feel free to contact me at secretary@ncarb.org if you have any questions or would like to discuss further.

Enc:

- Draft Resolutions to be Acted Upon at the 2026 Annual Business Meeting



Draft Resolutions
to be Acted Upon at the
2026 Annual Business Meeting

JANUARY 2026

National Council of Architectural Registration Boards
1401 H Street NW, Suite 500
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DRAFT

FY26 Draft Resolutions Overview

At the January Board of Directors Meeting, the Board reviews proposed resolutions and determines which resolutions they would like to move forward to the membership for consideration. These resolutions are still considered drafts and are shared with Member Boards and regions so they can provide feedback at the Regional Summit each spring. The Board will make final decisions on which resolutions to put forward at the Annual Business Meeting at the April Board Meeting.

This packet includes three draft resolutions (plus related supporting documentation as appropriate).

Resolution 2026-A: Mutual Recognition Agreement With the Architects Registration Board (ARB)

This resolution would replace the existing Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) between NCARB and the U.K.'s Architects Registration Board (ARB). The amended MRA will allow acceptance of pathways outside the standard path to NCARB certification, and will align this MRA with the current MRAs with Canada and Australia/New Zealand. Appendix A includes the amended MRA.

Strategic Plan Objective:  Program and Service Excellence

Resolution 2026-B: Amendment and Restatement of Policies Passed by Membership

This resolution updates six of the remaining policies passed via the resolution process and recommends that an additional two resolutions be sunset. The six remaining policies will be incorporated into a new official document for ease of future review and tracking. Appendix B includes the restated policies.

Strategic Plan Objective:  Program and Service Excellence

Resolution 2026-C: Certification Guidelines Amendment – Expanding Access to the NCARB Certificate

This resolution proposes an update to the requirements for certification in the *NCARB Certification Guidelines* to include an alternative to the Examination Requirement for the NCARB Certificate for architects licensed through historic exams. This will allow architects who were licensed through a jurisdiction-specific process of satisfying the NCARB paper-and-pencil exam to seek NCARB certification if they have been in good standing, building on previous guidelines amendments.

Strategic Plan Objective:  Program and Service Excellence

Strategic Plan Objective:  Program and Service Excellence

RESOLUTION 2026-A

TITLE: Mutual Recognition Agreement With the Architects Registration Board (ARB)

SUBMITTED BY: Council Board of Directors

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has established a priority to identify ways to assist architects licensed in a U.S. jurisdiction in obtaining reciprocity for international practice; and

WHEREAS, the process to obtain a license in the United Kingdom is significantly similar to the process to obtain a license in the United States insofar as applicants satisfy prescribed competencies required for licensure; and

WHEREAS, the International Qualifications Evaluation Work Group, composed of volunteer subject-matter experts, has thoroughly assessed the competencies required for licensure set by the Architects Registration Board (ARB) and determined significant correlation exists between the competency requirements in United Kingdom and the United States; and

WHEREAS, staff representatives from NCARB and ARB have successfully negotiated an agreement that is mutually satisfactory to the leadership of each organization; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the *NCARB Bylaws*, Article V, Section 12, all written international and/or foreign agreements entered into by the Council shall be subject to ratification by majority vote of the Member Boards (28 votes) at an Annual Business Meeting.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY:

RESOLVED, that the Mutual Recognition Agreement between the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, representing the 55 architectural licensing boards of the United States, and the Architects Registration Board in the United Kingdom be and hereby is ratified and approved as published in Appendix A in these resolutions.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon the approval of this MRA by a majority of the Council Member Boards, such change will become effective no earlier than 60 calendar days after the execution of the Agreement.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

- No financial impact.

SPONSORS' STATEMENT OF SUPPORT:

The proposed *revised* Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) between the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) and the Architects Registration Board (ARB) expands opportunities for U.S. and U.K. architects, enabling them to establish professional connections, seek work, and perform services as a licensed architect in the other country. This *revised* MRA is in its final form and will be signed by NCARB and ARB following ratification by the Member Boards. Once approved and signed by all parties, the MRA will take effect by 2027 and supersede all prior agreements between the two organizations.

The new terms negotiated for the NCARB/ARB MRA represent a strategic evolution in NCARB's approach to certification and licensure, prioritizing competency-based standards and removing barriers unrelated to professional qualifications. This evolution supports architects with diverse licensure paths and reflects NCARB's commitment to fostering a globally connected profession while maintaining rigorous standards for licensure.

Key changes in the new agreement include:

1. Accepting architects who obtained their NCARB Certificate or U.K. license through various routes, including alternative qualifications and international architect pathways (except for another MRA).
2. Removing requirements that do not impact professional competency development, such as those related to citizenship/permanent residency status or the location of the applicant's principal place of practice.

MRAs enable licensing boards to bring international architects—who may already contribute to projects within their jurisdiction—under formal regulatory oversight. This approach strengthens adherence to local laws, building codes, and ethical standards, providing a mechanism to enforce compliance and safeguard public health, safety, and welfare. At the same time, MRAs empower NCARB Certificate holders to expand their practices globally, unlocking new markets and professional opportunities. Facilitating licensure across borders allows architects licensed in participating U.S. jurisdictions to contribute their expertise to international projects, fostering collaboration and promoting the exchange of best practices while upholding high professional standards.

After implementation, participating Member Boards may grant licensure to U.K. architects issued an NCARB Certificate through this Agreement and meeting the requirements outlined in the MRA. To ensure a smooth rollout, NCARB will contact each Member Board following ratification to confirm their participation in the Agreement. NCARB shall maintain an electronic list of participants available publicly that is updated each time a new Participant is added or removed.

Comparative Analysis of Competency Requirements

The terms of NCARB-ARB MRA are based on the alignment of competency requirements for licensure established by the relevant regulatory entities in each country. NCARB's International Qualification Evaluation Work Group (IQEW) conducted a detailed comparative analysis of the competency requirements at the point of licensure. While acknowledging that the methods used to establish and assess those competencies may differ, the evaluation identified a strong correlation between the professional competencies required for practice in both countries. The IQEW is confident that United Kingdom's rigorous and standardized licensure process ensures a competency level for U.K. architects comparable to that of architects holding an NCARB Certificate in the U.S.

The comparative evaluation assessed alignment between:

- A. Requirements for licensure as an architect in the U.S.
 - *NCARB Competency Standard for Architects*
- B. Requirements for licensure as an Architect in U.K.
 - ARB UK General Criteria

NCARB's International Relations team, tasked with negotiating the detailed requirements of the MRA on behalf of NCARB, approached the process with an understanding that trust between organizations and individuals is essential to success. This understanding recognizes the significance of setting aside organizational differences in international discussions and reflects a commitment to mutual respect and professional equity between the parties involved.

The Role of NCARB Certificate

The NCARB Certificate serves as the foundation for facilitating domestic and international licensure through all MRAs. It is a prerequisite for U.S. architects to benefit from an MRA and is issued to incoming applicants upon satisfactory completion of the process. NCARB certification signifies that an architect has met the qualifications established in the *Certification Guidelines* and accepted by the Member Boards. To achieve NCARB certification, architects must meet the certification requirements outlined in the *Certification Guidelines*. For architects who do not meet these standard requirements, the *Certification Guidelines* provides alternative pathways.

Each pathway to NCARB certification and licensure in the United Kingdom, including non-traditional ones, was thoroughly presented and discussed between the two organizations. Following successful negotiation, the MRA between NCARB and ARB adopts an "all-inclusive" approach, enabling architects meeting eligibility requirements to seek licensure and certification in the other country, regardless of how they obtained their NCARB Certificate or their license in the United Kingdom.

The Alternative Requirements for Certification of an Architect Licensed in a U.S. Jurisdiction and the Requirements for Certification of an Architect Credentialed by a Foreign Registration

Authority, as outlined in the *NCARB Certification Guidelines*, were considered and accepted. This includes the Education Alternative to NCARB Certification (both the Two Times AXP and NCARB Certificate Portfolio options), Education Evaluation Services for Architects (EESA)-NCARB Evaluation Report, and the International Architect Path to Certification. Respectively, this Agreement accepts the additional pathways for licensing of architects established by the ARB.

Architects whose license in their home country was obtained by means of another MRA will not be eligible for reciprocity under this Agreement, which is consistent with NCARB's current MRAs.

The credible standards and consistent expectations for initial licensure, developed over many years and supported by robust regulatory procedures, enabled NCARB and ARB to negotiate this Agreement. Rather than dissecting individual components, the new MRA recognizes and respects each country's well-established and rigorous path to licensure.

ADVOCATES:

- Policy Advisory Committee
 - Chair: Michael G. Kolejka, NCARB, AIA, LEED AP, Arizona Member Board Member
 - Pedro Luis Alfaro Jr., RA, AIA, CAAPPR, SAP, Puerto Rico Member Board Member
 - Mary McClenaghan, AIA, NCARB, Pennsylvania Member Board Member
 - Jill Lewis Smith, AIA, NCARB, Kentucky Member Board Member
 - Julie Hildebrand
 - Keith Robinson
 - Catherine M. Monte Carlo, North Carolina Member Board Executive
 - Brian M. Kelly, AIA, NCARB, Nebraska Member Board Member
- International Qualifications Evaluation Work Group
 - Mohammad Ashjaei, OAA, AIA, NCARB
 - Yin Ching (Jaime) Chan
 - Nikhilesh Korde
 - Mark R. McKechnie, AIA NCARB
 - Leopoldo Robledo Jr., AIA, NCARB, LEED AP
 - Terance B. White, AIA, NCARB

RESOURCES:

- Appendix A: Mutual Recognition Agreement between the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards and the Architects Registration Board

Strategic Plan Objective:  Program and Service Excellence

RESOLUTION 2026-B

TITLE: Amendment and Restatement of Policies Passed by Membership

SUBMITTED BY: NCARB Board of Directors

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has charged various committees to review all policies and official documents that may need to be updated in preparation for recommendations related to updates to the licensure process; and

WHEREAS, the Policy Advisory Committee recommends that six previously passed policies by NCARB's membership be updated to reflect current terminology and restated for clarity and future tracking and two additional resolutions be sunset; and

WHEREAS, resolutions of substantive matters that NCARB's membership have passed by resolution may only be changed by an absolute majority of vote of the Council Member Boards (28 votes) with such changes becoming effective at the time specified in this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY:

RESOLVED, that the National Council of Architectural Registration amends and restates the following resolutions into *NCARB Policies Passed by Membership*, the full text of which is attached hereto as Appendix B:

- Resolution 1995-17: Annual Administrators' Workshop
- Resolution 1996-02: Centralized Disciplinary Action Data Base
- Resolution 2002-05: NCARB Goal of Universal Acceptance of Certificate
- Resolution 2003-07: Allowance for President and First Vice President
- Resolution 2003-15: Publishing of Comprehensive and Unabridged NCARB Accrual Basis Financial Statements on NCARB "Members' Only" Web Page Quarterly
- Resolution 2007-12: Continuing Education Credit for NCARB Activities

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards sunsets the following resolutions:

- Resolution 1999-06: Satisfying Training Requirements
- Resolution 2002-07: Support for Seeking Financial Assistance to Defray International Activities

FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon the approval of the foregoing resolution by a majority of the Council Member Boards, such resolution will become effective immediately

FINANCIAL IMPACTS:

- This resolution has no financial impact, as all policies are active policies that the Council has been following since the membership passed them.

SPONSORS' STATEMENT OF SUPPORT:

Between 2021-2024, the Policy Advisory Committee completed a multi-year review of policy resolutions passed by the membership to identify policies or positions that no longer aligned with current Council practices or philosophy. While the majority of these policies were sunset by the membership during this timeframe, the Policy Advisory Committee at the time recommended that eight policies not be sunset.

This year, the committee reviewed the remaining active policies passed by resolution as part of a larger charge to review all official policy documents ahead of potential changes to the licensure process through the Council's Pathways to Practice initiative. In addition, since all remaining active policy resolutions were last reviewed in 2021, they also reviewed the resolutions for housekeeping updates and alignment with current policies and practices.

The committee has recommended that six policy resolutions remain within the membership purview and two policies be sunset. In addition, it has recommended that the remaining policies be updated to reflect current terminology and practice and condensed into one membership document for clarity, consistency, membership accessibility, and ease of future review.

Two policy resolutions are recommended for sunset. These policies have either been incorporated into other official documents and are duplicative or are no longer necessary. The full copy of these resolutions are in Appendix C for reference.

Advocates:

- Policy Advisory Committee
 - Chair: Michael G. Kolejka, NCARB, AIA, LEED AP, Arizona Member Board Member
 - Pedro Luis Alfaro Jr., RA, AIA, CAAPPR, SAP, Puerto Rico Member Board Member
 - Mary McClenaghan, AIA, NCARB, Pennsylvania Member Board Member
 - Jill Lewis Smith, AIA, NCARB, Kentucky Member Board Member
 - Julie Hildebrand
 - Keith Robinson
 - Catherine M. Monte Carlo, North Carolina Member Board Executive
 - Brian M. Kelly, AIA, NCARB, Nebraska Member Board Member

RESOURCES:

- Appendix B: *NCARB Policies Passed by the Membership*
 - This is the amended and restated policy document with all policies via the resolution process for membership reference.

- Appendix C: NCARB Policies Passed by the Membership – Updated Compared to Original
 - This document includes the original resolutions passed for all eight remaining policies, including the two recommended for sunset.

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Strategic Plan Objective:  Program and Service Excellence

RESOLUTION 2026-C

TITLE: *Certification Guidelines* Amendment – Expanding Access to NCARB Certification

SUBMITTED BY: NCARB Board of Directors

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors charged the Policy Advisory Committee with evaluating impediments to obtaining an NCARB Certificate caused by historic jurisdictional variations in ARE requirements and develop a path that increases access to the NCARB Certificate while maintaining the validity of the credentialing decision through a combination of years of practice and absence of disciplinary action; and

WHEREAS, the Policy Advisory Committee has recommended that the Requirements for NCARB Certification in the *NCARB Certification Guidelines* be amended to include an alternative to the Examination Requirement for the NCARB Certificate for architects initially licensed prior to 1997; and

WHEREAS, the Requirements for Certification in the *NCARB Certification Guidelines* may only be changed by an absolute majority vote of the Council Member Boards (28 votes), with such change becoming effective at the time specified in this resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY:

RESOLVED, that Section 2.5 in the *Certification Guidelines* be amended by the addition of paragraph C. as indicated below:

“2.5 Alternatives to the Examination Requirement

If you fail to meet the examination requirement for certification identified in Section 1.5, you may still be certified in the following circumstances:

- A. If your license was based in whole or in part on having passed previous examination equivalents, you are deemed to have passed the corresponding divisions of the ARE. See the *ARE Exam Equivalency Guide* for a table of these qualifying equivalents.
- B. If your examination deficiency arose from causes other than having failed a division of an examination under applicable NCARB pass/fail standards, and the deficiency is, in NCARB’s judgment, compensated for by your demonstration of competency in the deficient area.
- C. If you were originally licensed prior to 1997 through a pre-computer-based jurisdiction examination method and:
 - Are an architect in good standing in a U.S. jurisdiction,

- Have no disciplinary action for a period greater than 5 years,
- Have no disciplinary action within the previous 5 years, and
- Have maintained a license for at least 10 consecutive years.”

FURTHER RESOLVED, the ARE Exam Equivalency Guide will be updated by the NCARB Board of Directors to reflect this change.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon the approval of the changes by absolute majority vote of the Council Member Boards, such changes will become effective September 1, 2026.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Neutral budget impact

ADVOCATES:

- **Policy Advisory Committee**
 - Chair: Michael G. Kolejka, NCARB, AIA, LEED AP, Arizona Member Board Member
 - Pedro Luis Alfaro Jr., RA, AIA, CAAPPR, SAP, Puerto Rico Member Board Member
 - Mary McClenaghan, AIA, NCARB, Pennsylvania Member Board Member
 - Jill Lewis Smith, AIA, NCARB, Kentucky Member Board Member
 - Julie Hildebrand
 - Keith Robinson
 - Catherine M. Monte Carlo, North Carolina Member Board Executive
 - Brian M. Kelly, AIA, NCARB, Nebraska Member Board Member

SPONSORS’ STATEMENT OF SUPPORT:

This resolution addresses longstanding inequities resulting from historical examination variances, scoring practices, and jurisdictional licensing practices. It ensures that architects who have been licensed and practicing responsibly for decades are not unduly burdened by outdated or inconsistent examination and scoring structures, while preserving the integrity and rigorous standards required for NCARB certification.

Background

Over the course of NCARB’s history, jurisdictions have utilized a variety of examination formats and processes to determine a passing score on a division of the registration exam. Prior to 1997, when the Architect Registration Examination was delivered via paper-and-pencil, jurisdictional boards independently administered and determined the passing threshold for candidates within their jurisdiction.

Prior to 1997, the NCARB Board of Directors in collaboration with psychometric consultants, recommended to each jurisdiction a passing score threshold for each exam division. At the time, the recommendation was reported that a numerical scaled score of 75 or higher should be considered passing and scores of 74 or below as failing.

Each jurisdiction retained discretion over what constituted a passing score and some jurisdictions adopted localized standards. Some candidates received score consideration for various reasons (e.g., military veterans, native born, or educated individuals within a jurisdiction, etc.) and were informed they passed

the division for purposes of licensure within their jurisdiction even though their initial scaled score was below 75. As a result, these individuals that received score consideration met the standards required for licensure in their jurisdiction but remain “exam deficient” under NCARB’s current certification standards.

It is important to recognize that these architects were licensed in good faith by their jurisdictions, have practiced competently, and remain in good standing as architects today.

Individual score consideration at the jurisdictional level was eliminated when NCARB implemented computer-based testing in 1997 and began reporting all scores as pass/fail based on a nationally established cut score.

Since the era of the nine paper-and-pencil divisions, a series of exam evolutions over the past several decades have significantly altered exam structure and content. These alterations make it extremely burdensome for long-licensed architects to retest on a previous single division’s content for which their initial jurisdiction applied a standard outside of NCARB’s guidance. As an example, a licensed architect who is currently considered exam-deficient based on their 1995 scaled score on only one of nine divisions of the then-current exam would now be required to take four of the six divisions of ARE 5.0 to earn the NCARB Certificate.

FY25 Draft Resolution Appendices

- Appendix A: Mutual Recognition Agreement between the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards and the Architects Registration Board
- Appendix B: NCARB Policies Passed by the Membership
- Appendix C: NCARB Policies Passed by the Membership – Updated Compared to Original



MUTUAL RECOGNITION AGREEMENT
between the
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTURAL REGISTRATION BOARDS
and the
ARCHITECTS REGISTRATION BOARD
as executed

November XX,
2025

The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB)
representing the architectural licensing boards of the 50 United States,
the District of Columbia, Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico,
and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

AND

The Architects Registration Board (ARB)
the statutory regulator of architects in the United Kingdom.

*This **Mutual Recognition Agreement** has been designed to recognize the professional credentials and qualifications of architects licensed or registered in the United States of America and its territories (referred to herein collectively as the US. or United States), and the United Kingdom (UK.) and to support their mobility by creating the opportunity to practice beyond their borders.*

More specifically, the purpose of this Agreement is to facilitate the registration of an architect licensed in a participating US. jurisdiction as a United Kingdom architect; and the licensing of a United Kingdom architect as an architect in a US. jurisdiction that participates in the Agreement.

WHEREAS, NCARB drafts model laws and regulations for U.S. jurisdictions and Member Boards to consider adopting for the regulation of the practice of architecture; promulgates recommended national standards for education, experience, and examination for initial licensure and continuing education standards for license renewal to its 55 Member Boards; and establishes the education, experience, and examination requirements for the *NCARB Certificate* in support of reciprocal licensure within the United States;

WHEREAS, the Architects Registration Board is the authoritative body established by section 1 of the Architects Act 1997 (UK) that has the statutory responsibility in the UK for prescribing the qualifications and experience required for the purposes of entering the UK Register, and for registering, monitoring and disciplining all architects in the UK;

WHEREAS, the NCARB Member Boards are empowered by state/territorial statutes to regulate the practice of architecture and/or the use of the title architect in their respective jurisdictions, including establishing the requirements for licensure and license renewal to ensure the standards of competency and professional conduct are met;

WHEREAS, the ARB is empowered by statutes to regulate the profession of architecture in the United Kingdom, including establishing education, experience, and examination/assessment requirements for registration and registration renewal to ensure the standards of competency and professional conduct are met;

WHEREAS, the standards, protocols, and procedures required for the practice of architecture within the United States and the United Kingdom have benefitted from many years of effort by NCARB and ARB;

WHEREAS, NCARB is the national organization supporting individual state and territory licensing authorities in the United States, and the ARB has the necessary statutory authority for the negotiation of mutual recognition agreements for architects with similar foreign authorities;

WHEREAS, while acknowledging the differences between the systems in place in the United States and the United Kingdom, there is nonetheless significant and substantial equivalence between the regulatory systems for licensure/registration and recognition of the rights and obligations of architects licensed/registered to practice in the United States and the United Kingdom;

WHEREAS, NCARB and ARB are recognized by the profession as mature and sophisticated facilitators of licensure/registration to which the utmost full faith and credit should be accorded, and both seek to support reciprocal licensure/registration in the respective jurisdictions supported by NCARB and ARB;

WHEREAS, any architect actively engaging or seeking to engage in the practice of architecture in the United States or the United Kingdom must be licensed or registered with an applicable governmental or regulatory authority, must comply with all practice requirements of the applicable licensing or registration authority, and is subject to all

governing legislation and regulations of the applicable authority and jurisdictions in which the architect is licensed or registered;

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NOW THEREFORE, NCARB and ARB (collectively, the "Parties" and each a "Party") agree as follows:

1. PARTICIPANTS IN LICENSURE/REGISTRATION RECIPROACITY

NCARB shall be responsible for maintaining a current list of NCARB Member Boards that provide licensure/registration reciprocity in accordance with the terms of this Agreement (each, a "**U.S. Participant**"). Following the ratification of this Agreement by the NCARB Member Boards, NCARB shall provide ARB with an initial list of Participants, and NCARB shall maintain an electronic list of Participants available publicly that is updated each time a new Participant is added or removed.

This Agreement shall be implemented in accordance with the *Mechanisms for the Implementation*, attached hereto as Appendix I and incorporated herein by reference.

2. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. Architects who are able to benefit from the provisions of this Agreement must obtain and continue to have at all times lawful authorization to work in the Locality in which the architect is licensed/registered (i.e., the United States or the United Kingdom—each, a "Locality").
2. Architects shall not be required to establish citizenship or permanent residency status in the Locality in which they seek licensure/registration under this Agreement.
3. Architects must provide proof of current and valid licensure/registration in good standing from the ARB or a Participant.
4. Architects who have been licensed/registered by means of a program recognizing architect credentials from a foreign country of either the United States or the United Kingdom, or other foreign reciprocal licensing/registration agreement, are not eligible to benefit from the provisions of this Agreement.
5. Each Party to this Agreement and each Participant reserves the right to apply compensation measures or licensing/registration criteria as may be necessary before licensing/registration is granted within their respective jurisdictions.

3. CONDITIONS

Each Party to this Agreement and each Participant reserves the right to apply additional requirements and fees for certification or licensing as may be necessary before certification, licensing, or registration is granted within their respective jurisdictions. Additional requirements shall be consistent with those applied to domestic architects and limited to the unique aspects of practice and/or regulation.

Applicants must satisfy the certification and licensure/registration requirements established by NCARB and ARB and in place as of the Effective Date to be licensed/registered through this Agreement. Each Party shall promptly notify the other Party in writing of any modifications to the certification, licensure programs, or registration requirements by NCARB or ARB. Such modifications will not apply to this Agreement unless representatives of each Party agree to do so in writing, which agreement shall not require further approval by NCARB or its Member Boards.

A. U.S. Architect to ARB

Upon application, the ARB agrees to register as an architect in the United Kingdom any

U.S. architect who:

1. meets the eligibility requirements listed in Section 2 and 3A of this Agreement; and
2. is currently licensed in good standing by one or more U.S. Participants, as confirmed by NCARB based on checks of relevant records, and
3. holds a current *NCARB Certificate*; and
4. successfully completes any additional jurisdiction-specific requirements for registration as specified by ARB; and
5. pays all applicable fees as imposed by ARB

[[[B. United Kingdom Architect to U.S. Participant

Upon application, NCARB shall issue an *NCARB Certificate* to any United Kingdom architect registered by the ARB meeting the eligibility requirements listed above in Section 2 of this Agreement.

Upon application, a Participant will license/register as an architect in its respective jurisdiction any United Kingdom Registered Architect who:

1. meets the eligibility requirements listed in Section 2 of this Agreement; and
2. has secured ARB-prescribed qualifications issued by schools of architecture in the United Kingdom at Part 1, Part 2 and Part 3 level;
3. holds a current *NCARB Certificate* issued pursuant to this Agreement;
4. is currently licensed/registered in good standing by the ARB, as confirmed by the ARB following checks on an architect's disciplinary record; and
5. successfully completes any additional jurisdiction-specific requirements for licensure/registration as specified by the Participant.

4. DATA PRIVACY

1. For the purposes of this Section 5:

"Data Protection Laws" means as applicable, (i) the UK Data Protection Act 2018, (ii) the General Data Protection Regulation EU 2016/679 as implemented into UK law (**UK GDPR**) and all other applicable laws and regulations relating to the processing of personal data and privacy, including statutory instruments (each as amended, updated and superseded from time to time).

"Data Security Breach" means a breach or breaches of security leading to the accidental or unlawful destruction, loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure of, or access to, the Protected Data.

"Data Subject Request" means an actual or purported request, notice or complaint made by, or on behalf of, a data subject in accordance with the exercise of rights granted pursuant to the Data Protection Laws in relation to the data subject's Protected Data.

"Disclosing Party" means the Party which is disclosing Protected Data to the other Party.

"Particulars" means the description of the Protected Data, data subjects and details of the transfer and sharing of the Protected Data amongst the Parties, as set out in Appendix III.

"Purpose" means the fulfilment and facilitation of this Arrangement, including the recognition and movement of architects in accordance with Section 3 of this Agreement.

"Protected Data" means the personal data to be processed by the Parties in relation to this Agreement.

"Receiving Party" means the Party that is receiving Protected Data from the other Party.

"UK IDTA" means the UK International Data Transfer Agreement for the transfer of personal data to third countries as approved by the United Kingdom and set out in Appendix IV in its current form, but which may be amended and updated in accordance with this Section 5.

The terms **"process"**, **"processing"**, **"controller"**, **"personal data"**, **"data subject"** and **"supervisory authority"** shall have the meanings given to them in the Data Protection Laws.

2. The Parties agree and acknowledge that each Party will act as an independent controller with respect to the Protected Data.
3. Each Party will comply with its respective obligations under the Data Protection Laws to the extent applicable, and will use reasonable endeavours to ensure that it does not act in a way to cause another Party to breach any of its obligations under the Data Protection Laws.
4. Each Party will implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to safeguard Protected Data against any Data Security Breach. Such measures shall be proportionate to the harm which might result from any such Data Security Breach (and having regard to the nature of the Protected Data in question).
5. The Parties will process the Protected Data in accordance with the Particulars set out in Appendix III.
6. The Receiving Party will only access Protected Data necessary and in accordance with the Purpose and shall process Protected Data for the Purpose (and in accordance with this Arrangement, except with the prior written agreement of the Disclosing Party or where applicable law strictly requires).
7. Each Party will promptly notify any other Party (within at least five (5) working days) if it receives a complaint or request relating to the other Party's obligations under the Data Protection Laws (other than a Data Subject Request, which is addressed below). On receipt of a notice under this Section 5.7, each Party will provide the other Party with reasonable co-operation and assistance in relation to any such complaint or request.
8. The Parties acknowledge that the processing of Protected Data may be subject to restrictions and requirements in addition to those set out in this Agreement (including but not limited to contractual restrictions, transfer risk assessments and supplementary measures) (**"Specific Requirements"**). Each Party will notify any other Party with access to the relevant Protected Data of any such Specific Requirements. The Parties will use all reasonable endeavours to make sure the relevant Protected Data is processed in accordance with the Specific Requirements, and will provide each other with reasonable co-operation and assistance in the undertaking of the Specific Requirements.

9. In relation to Data Subject Requests:

- a) Each Party will ensure that it protects the rights of data subjects under the Data Protection Laws and agrees to promptly notify the other relevant Party in writing (within at least five (5) working days) if it receives a Data Subject Request for personal data of a data subject that the other relevant Party is a controller of.
- b) Each Party agrees that the Data Subject Request will be dealt with by the Party in receipt of the Data Subject Request, and that the other Party will provide all reasonable co-operation and assistance in relation to any Data Subject Request to enable the Party in receipt of the Data Subject Request to comply with it within the relevant timescale set out in the Data Protection Laws.

10. Each Party will notify the other Party without undue delay after becoming aware of any Data Security Breach affecting Protected Data and in any event no later than 72 (seventy-two) hours after becoming aware of the Data Security Breach.

11. Each Party shall provide reasonable assistance to the Party affected by the Data Security Breach in the event that such Party is required to notify a relevant supervisory authority, other regulator and/ or affected data subjects.

12. International data transfers:

- a) It is acknowledged and understood that the operation of this Arrangement necessitates the transfer of personal data (or personal information) from the UK to the United States (the "**Restricted Transfer**")
- b) The Parties will work together in good faith to ensure that any Restricted Transfers are only made in accordance with the requirements of the Data Protection Laws.
- c) The UK IDTA will apply to the Restricted Transfer, with NCARB acting as the **Data Importer** and ARB acting as a **Data Exporter**.
- d) If the UK IDTA is updated by the UK Government (as relevant), the Parties shall promptly enter into any updated and amended form of the UK IDTA as required, unless the Parties agree that another mechanism under Data Protection Laws can be relied upon to provide adequate protection to the Protected Data or if the United States is considered adequate by the UK Government.
- e) If the UK IDTA ceases to be valid, whether by a decision of a court of competent jurisdiction or the UK Government (as relevant), the Parties will co-operate in good faith to ensure that any continued UK Restricted Transfers are compliant with the Data Protection Laws.

13. Each Party agrees to only process the Protected Data for as long as reasonably necessary for the Purposes. Nothing in this Section 5 will prevent a Party from retaining and processing Protected Data in accordance with any statutory retention periods applicable to that Party.

14. Where one Party interacts with any relevant supervisory authority (whether proactively, for example to review a data protection impact assessment or reactively, for example, in response to an inquiry from the supervisory authority) related to the processing of Protected Data, the other Party will provide such information and assistance as is reasonably required to assist in such interactions.

15. In the event that any enforcement action is brought by a relevant supervisory authority or in the event of a claim brought by a data subject against any Party, in both instances relating to the processing of Protected Data, the relevant Party will promptly inform the other Party about any such action or claim and will co-operate in good faith with the other Party with a view to resolving it in a timely fashion.
16. If during the term of this Agreement, the Data Protection Laws change in a way that this Section 5 is no longer adequate or appropriate for compliance with the Data Protection Laws, the Parties agree that they shall negotiate in good faith to review this Section 5 in light of the current Data Protection Laws and amend this Section 5 as appropriate.
- 17. Data Use Restrictions: Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning**
- 18. 1. Definitions**
19. For the purposes of this Section, the following definitions shall apply:
20. a. **"Shared Data"** means all data, information, results, materials, and associated documentation, in any format, provided or made accessible by the Disclosing Party to the Receiving Party under this Agreement, regardless of whether such data is marked as "Confidential" or "Proprietary."
21. b. **"AI System"** means any machine learning model, large language model (LLM), neural network, generative artificial intelligence system, or other computational system designed to derive, generate, predict, or create new content, data, or models.
22. c. **"Training"** means the process of using the Shared Data to develop, train, fine-tune, pre-train, validate, test, modify, or otherwise enhance any AI System or its underlying algorithms.
- 23. 2. Absolute Prohibition on AI/LLM Training**
24. a. **Prohibition of Use.** Notwithstanding any other provision in this Agreement, the Receiving Party is expressly and unequivocally prohibited from using, incorporating, or permitting any third party to use or incorporate the Shared Data, in whole or in part, directly or indirectly, for **Training** any **AI System**.
25. b. **Scope of Prohibition.** This prohibition applies to all forms of AI System, including:
26. i. Generative AI Systems (e.g., Large Language Models, Generative Adversarial Networks);
27. ii. Proprietary, commercial, or third-party hosted AI Systems; and
28. iii. AI Systems developed solely for internal, non-commercial, or research purposes.
29. c. **No Derivative Works for Training.** The Receiving Party shall not create, or permit the creation of, any derivative work, aggregated dataset, or anonymized version of the Shared Data for the purpose of circumventing this prohibition on Training.
- 30. 3. Purpose Limitation and Remedial Action**
31. a. **Limited Use.** The Shared Data shall be used **strictly and solely** for the specific research purpose(s) set forth in the Research Plan or Scope of Work attached hereto as Schedule [Insert Schedule Letter/Number] and for no other purpose whatsoever.
32. b. **Input Prohibition.** The Receiving Party shall not input, upload, or otherwise transmit any Shared Data into any commercially available or publicly accessible AI System (e.g., third-party LLM tools, cloud-based AI services) where such input could reasonably result in the Shared Data being retained, stored, or used by the provider of the AI System for its own purposes, including, but not limited to, Training or product improvement.
33. c. **Remedies for Breach.** Any breach of this Section shall constitute a material breach of this Agreement. In addition to all other remedies available at law or in equity, the Disclosing Party shall have the right to immediately terminate this Agreement, demand the return and certified destruction of all Shared Data, and seek injunctive relief. The Receiving Party shall indemnify and hold harmless the Disclosing Party against any and all losses, claims, and liabilities arising from or related to the unauthorized use of the Shared Data for Training an AI System.

5. LIMITATIONS

1. Nothing in this Agreement limits the ability of a Participant or the ARB to refuse to license/register an architect or impose terms, conditions, or restrictions on their license/registration as a result of complaints or disciplinary or criminal proceedings relating to the competency, conduct, or character of that architect where such action is considered by the Participant or ARB, as applicable, necessary or desirable to protect the

public interest, or otherwise in accordance with the jurisdiction's applicable laws and regulations.

2. Nothing in this Agreement limits the ability of NCARB to refuse the issuance or withdraw an *NCARB Certificate*, or impose terms, conditions or restrictions on their benefits to an architect as a result of complaints or disciplinary or criminal proceedings relating to the competency, conduct, or character of that architect where such action is considered by NCARB necessary or desirable to protect the public interest, health, safety, or welfare, or otherwise in accordance with NCARB's applicable disciplinary procedures.

3. Nothing in this Agreement limits the ability of any Party or any Participant to seek appropriate verification from an applicant or an applicable Participant of any matter pertaining to the foregoing or the eligibility of an applicant under this Agreement. The Parties acknowledge and understand that disclosure of such information sought by a Party or Participant may be subject to applicable law or confidentiality obligations, or both, which may restrict or prevent the disclosure of certain information related to complaints, investigations, and/or disciplinary matters.

4. This Agreement relates only to the licensing of architects, and the Parties note that the governments of or within their respective Localities will have distinct requirements related to matters outside the scope of this Agreement, including without limitation requirements related to immigration and access to the employment marketplace, and the Parties and the Participants may be unable or unwilling to intervene in or advise on such matters.

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6. METHODS OF IMPLEMENTATION

Representatives of the Parties may work together, without further organizational approval, to establish common rules and procedures necessary for the consistent application, administration, implementation, and monitoring of the provisions in the Agreement (collectively “**Methods of Implementation**”). Decisions about the Methods of Implementation shall be reached through consensus of the Parties’ authorized representatives. Each Party retains the right to make decisions independently concerning their internal rules and additional requirements, provided such decisions do not conflict with the Agreement or the Methods of Implementation. If a Party determines that a Method of Implementation conflicts with an internal rule or requirement, the Party will promptly notify the other Parties in writing, and the Parties will work in good faith to modify the relevant Method of Implementation as needed.

7. MONITORING COMMITTEE

A Monitoring Committee is hereby established to monitor the performance of each Party to this Agreement to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of this Agreement.

The Monitoring Committee shall be comprised of two staff members and no more than three additional individuals appointed by NCARB, and two staff members and no more than three additional individuals appointed by ARB. The Committee shall convene at least one meeting (by phone, video conference, or in person) in each calendar year, and more frequently if circumstances so require.

The Committee shall adhere to the terms of the *Mechanism for Monitoring Committee* guidelines, which is attached hereto as Appendix II and incorporated herein by reference.

8. AMENDMENT

This Agreement may be amended only with the written consent of NCARB and ARB. Each Party shall ratify the amended Agreement in accordance with the Party’s applicable rules.

9. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

Each Party acknowledges that they have read this Agreement, understand it, and agree to be bound by its terms, and further agree that it is the entire agreement between the Parties hereto and it supersedes all prior agreements, written or oral, relating to the international reciprocity of architecture licenses/registrations between the Localities that are the subject matter hereof.

10. NO ASSIGNMENT

No Party to this Agreement can assign its rights under this Agreement without the prior written consent of NCARB and ARB.

The Parties agree that a reference to an individual State, Provincial, or Territory Board includes a reference to any entity, board, or regulator that assumes the role and responsibility to regulate an architect registered by that individual State, Provincial, or Territory Board under the relevant legislation, and that a restructure of an individual Board will not be deemed an assignment under this Agreement.

11. WITHDRAWAL;DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Should any dispute between ARB and NCARB arise in relation to this Agreement that cannot be settled through negotiations between the Parties within 60-days, the Parties shall attempt to

Appendix A: MRA between NCARB and ARB

resolve the matter by mediation, or another form of alternative dispute resolution as may be agreed upon by the Parties prior to resorting to litigation.

Any Participant may withdraw its participation. NCARB shall promptly notify ARB in writing of all withdrawals.

In the event of withdrawal, all licenses/registrations and any *NCARB Certificate* granted to architects pursuant to this Agreement shall remain valid as long as all registration and renewal obligations are maintained and all other generally applicable licensure/registration requirements are met or unless registration is revoked pursuant to the rules of NCARB, ARB, or the relevant Participant, as applicable.

12. TERMINATION

NCARB or ARB may invoke termination of this Agreement with 90-days of written notice to the other Party to this Agreement and all Participants.

In the event of termination, all licenses/registrations and any *NCARB Certificates* granted to architects pursuant to this Agreement shall remain valid as long as all registration and licensure renewal obligations are maintained and all other generally applicable licensure/registration requirements are met by the licensee/registrant or unless the registration/license is revoked pursuant to the rules of NCARB, ARB, or the relevant Participant, as applicable.

13. PERIODIC REVIEW This agreement shall be subject to periodic review. The first periodic review will commence no later than three years after the Agreement has come into force, or more frequently as necessary or desirable. These reviews will include consideration as to what additional qualifications could be included within the scope of the Agreement.

14. ENTRY INTO FORCE

This Agreement shall come into force (the “Effective Date”) no fewer than 60 days after such time as (i) all the NCARB Member Boards ratify this Agreement at a duly called meeting at which a quorum is present and (ii) both NCARB and ARB sign this Agreement, so long as such conditions are met on or before XXXXX, 2026, or as mutually extended by the NCARB Board of Directors and ARB.

SIGNATURES

NCARB

ARB

President
Edward Marley, FAIA,
NCARB, LEED AP

November XX, 2025

Chief Executive and
Registrar
Hugh Simpson

November XX, 2025

Chief Executive Officer
Michael J. Armstrong

November XX, 2025

Witness, Chair
Alan Kershaw

November XX, 2025

Appendix A: MRA between NCARB and ARB

Witness, Vice President, Council Relations
Joshua Batkin November XX, 2025

Witness, Director of Governance & International
Emma Matthews November XX, 2025

Witness, Assistant Vice President, Council Relations
Maurice Brown November XX, 2025

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APPENDIX I

**MECHANISMS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION
Of the
MUTUAL RECOGNITION AGREEMENT
between the
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTURAL REGISTRATION BOARDS
(NCARB)
and the
ARCHITECTS REGISTRATION BOARD (ARB)**

November XX, 2025

Whereas NCARB and ARB have agreed to and signed a Mutual Recognition Agreement dated XX XXX, 2025 (the "Agreement"), the following terms of reference will govern the implementation of the Agreement. Capitalized terms used and not otherwise defined have the meanings given in the Agreement.

1. Mechanisms for Dialogue and Administrative Co-Operation

NCARB and ARB will put into place mechanisms and procedures, which will include:

- 1.1 Establishing the rules and procedures necessary for the application, maintenance, and monitoring of the provisions of this Agreement.
- 1.2 Establishing communication mechanisms so that architects within the participating jurisdictions will understand the rights and obligations they will have to meet when they are granted a license or registration to practice their profession in a foreign country.
- 1.3 A means to resolve differences in interpretation of the mechanisms for the implementation of this Agreement. Any proposed changes or irreconcilable disputes must be presented to NCARB and ARB for resolution.
- 1.4 Developing an agreed-upon process to address noncompliance with the Agreement by a Party to this Agreement and a mechanism for rescission of participation rights of a noncompliant Party to this Agreement if necessary. NCARB will be responsible for the official list of NCARB Member Boards that are Participants.
- 1.5 Additional tasks as determined by the Monitoring Committee or as mutually requested by NCARB and ARB.

2. Mechanisms for Application

- 2.1 The point of contact for information for the United States is NCARB and for United Kingdom is ARB.
- 2.2 Once established and operational, actual applications shall be processed within a reasonable period of time from receipt of a completed application.
- 2.3 The Parties mutually agree and are authorized by the Agreement to utilize a secure document management system, the selection of which shall be a joint decision. The chosen document management system shall be employed to facilitate efficient communication and the secure exchange of documents and information related to the Agreement.

2.4 Documentation forms to be used by local jurisdictions to certify an applicant's registration/licensure status shall be in uniform format and in English.

3. Application Process

3.1 Eligibility

To be eligible to benefit from this Agreement an architect must meet the requirements of Section 2 of the Agreement.

3.2 Application

The applicant must:

- 3.2.1 File an application and pay the required fees.
- 3.2.2 Secure the appropriate forms from the relevant authority (i.e., NCARB or ARB) which will confirm that the applicant's qualifications are within the scope of this Agreement.

3.3 Transmittal of Required Documentation

For purposes of this Section 3.3, "Required Documentation" means the specific official documentation necessary for a Party or Participant to be able to confirm that an applicant meets the applicable requirements set forth below.

U.S. Architects to ARB:

NCARB will transmit to ARB a copy of the architect's application for mutual recognition, *Evaluation of Record and Council Certification issued by NCARB. These documents will confirm that the architect certified by NCARB is licensed by a Participant and meets the requirements for NCARB Certification and is in good standing.*

U.K Architects to NCARB

ARB will transmit to NCARB a copy of the architect's application for mutual recognition in a U.S. Participant to the Agreement, *and a Compliance Certificate, issued by ARB. The Compliance Certificate will confirm that the UK architect is registered with ARB, holds ARB-prescribed qualifications issued in the UK, and is in good standing.*

3.3. Conditions

Upon application, applicants must meet the conditions of Section 3 of the Agreement.

4. Disciplinary Sanctions

4.1 NCARB and ARB, respectively, will use reasonable efforts to timely inform the other Party if any architect granted licensure or registration pursuant to this Agreement is subject to any disciplinary action that results in revocation or suspension of the architect's license or registration.

4.2 ARB and each Participant will have the authority to determine whether and to what extent the action will have further effect within their respective jurisdiction.

Appendix B: NCARB Policies Passed by the Membership

This document, effective June 2026, includes additional polices passed by the membership via the resolution process. It supersedes the previous resolutions included in Resolution 2026-B.

The resolutions and policies outlined in this document were established by the membership through the resolution process and would require a vote of the membership to be changed or sunset.

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Advocacy

This set of policies provides direction to Council from the membership on the acceptance of NCARB programs and services:

NCARB Goal of Universal Acceptance of the NCARB Certificate

The Council will seek to ensure that a holder of the NCARB Certificate will be registered by every Member Board as qualified to practice architecture in the Member's jurisdiction without further evaluation of the Certificate holder's underlying credentials. (Adopted June 29, 2002; Amended June 27, 2026)

Financial

This set of policies provides additional direction from the membership as it relates to financial matters of the Council:

Allowance for the President and Vice President

The Council will provide a suitable allowance for the President and Vice President. Such allowances may be adjusted by the Board of Directors from time to time and shall be included as a line item in the budget, as well as in the quarterly financial statements. (Adopted June 28, 2003; Amended June 27, 2026)

Comprehensive and Unabridged NCARB Accrual Basis Financial Statements

The Council shall post quarterly comprehensive and unabridged NCARB Accrual Basis Financial Statements, with all footnotes, to its membership portal so that Member Boards may stay informed about the activities and financial conditions of NCARB. (Adopted June 28, 2003; Amended June 27, 2026)

Membership Resources

This set of policies provides additional direction from the membership on resources and activities to the Council to support Member Boards:

Member Board Executive Workshop

The Council will hold an annual workshop for Member Board Executives. (Adopted June 24, 1995; Amended June 26, 2026)

Centralized Disciplinary Database

The Council will develop and maintain a disciplinary database, allowing Member Boards to access disciplinary actions taken by other Member Boards. The database should include the name of the person disciplined and the reporting Member Board. (Adopted June 29, 1996; Amended June 26, 2026)

Volunteers

This set of policies provides additional direction from the membership on Council volunteers:

Continuing Education Credit for NCARB Activities

NCARB Member Boards accept service on NCARB Advisory Committees, task forces, and other volunteer opportunities when designated as HSW qualifying, and the Council will report those hours to the American Institute of Architects (AIA) or other Member Board-accepted entities for record-keeping purposes.

(Adopted June 23, 2007; Amended June 26, 2026)

Appendix C: NCARB Policies Passed by the Membership (Updated Compared to Original)

This document, effective June 2026, includes additional polices passed by the membership via the resolution process. It supersedes the previous resolutions included in Resolution 2026-B.

The resolutions and policies outlined in this document were established by the membership through the resolution process and would require a vote of the membership to be changed or sunset.

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Advocacy

This set of policies provides direction to Council from the membership on the acceptance of NCARB programs and services:

NCARB Goal of Universal Acceptance of the NCARB Certificate

Updated (June 27, 2026)	Original (June 29, 2002)
The Council will seek to ensure that a holder of the NCARB Certificate will be registered by every Member Board as qualified to practice architecture in the Member's jurisdiction without further evaluation of the Certificate holder's underlying credentials.	RESOLVED, that this Council seek to ensure that a holder of the NCARB Certificate will be registered by every Member Board as qualified to practice architecture in the Member Board's jurisdiction without further evaluation of the Certificate holder's underlying credentials.

Financial

This set of policies provides additional direction from the membership as it relates to financial matters of the Council:

Allowance for the President and Vice President

Updated (June 27, 2026)	Original (June 28, 2003)
The Council will provide a suitable allowance for the President and Vice President. Such allowances may be adjusted by the Board of Directors from time to time and shall be included as a line item in the budget, as well as in the quarterly financial statements.	RESOLVED, That NCARB continue the practice of providing a suitable allowance for the President and First Vice President. Such allowances, as determined by the Board from time to time, shall continue to be included as a line item in the budget as well as in the quarterly budget reports of NCARB which are furnished to the Member Boards.

Comprehensive and Unabridged NCARB Accrual Basis Financial Statements

Updated (June 27, 2026)	Original (June 28, 2003)
The Council shall post quarterly comprehensive and unabridged NCARB Accrual Basis Financial Statements, with all footnotes, to its membership portal so that Member Boards may stay informed about the activities and financial conditions of NCARB.	RESOLVED, NCARB shall post quarterly on the "Members-only" section of the NCARB web page the comprehensive and unabridged <u>NCARB Accrual Basis Financial Statements</u> , as they exist at the time with all of the footnotes, so that Member Boards may stay completely informed about the activities and financial condition of NCARB.

Membership Resources

This set of policies provides additional direction from the membership on resources and activities to the Council to support Member Boards:

Member Board Executive Workshop

Updated (June 27, 2026)	Original (June 24, 1995)
The Council will hold an annual workshop for Member Board Executives.	RESOLVED, that the Council Board be directed to schedule annually a workshop for member board administrators

Centralized Disciplinary Database

Updated (June 27, 2026)	Original (June 29, 1996)
The Council will develop and maintain a disciplinary database, allowing Member Boards to access disciplinary actions taken by other Member Boards. The database should include the name of the person disciplined and the reporting Member Board.	RESOLVED, that NCARB develop and maintain and periodically distribute, electronically or by other means, to its member boards a list of all disciplinary actions taken by member boards. This list shall identify the person disciplined and the member board which took the action. A member board seeking detailed information respecting the disciplinary action should contact the disciplining board.

Volunteers

This set of policies provides additional direction from the membership on Council volunteers:

Continuing Education Credit for NCARB Activities

Updated (June 27, 2026)	Original (June 23, 2007)
NCARB Member Boards accept service on NCARB Advisory Committees, task forces, and other volunteer opportunities when designated as HSW qualifying, and the Council will report those hours to the American Institute of Architects (AIA) or other Member Board-accepted entities for record-keeping purposes.	RESOLVED, That NCARB Member Boards accept service on NCARB committees and task forces (when designated by NCARB as HSW eligible) as fulfilling the continuing education requirements for Member Boards, and that NCARB report those contact hours to AIA for record keeping purposes.

Recommended for Sunset:

Resolution 1999-06: Satisfying Training Requirements

“RESOLVED, that a candidate for certification who successfully completes the Council training requirements for certification shall be treated as having satisfied those training requirements notwithstanding subsequent changes in Council training requirements.”

Resolution 2002-07: Support for Seeking Financial Assistance to Defray International Activities

“RESOLVED, that the Member Boards of NCARB support the Council Board of Directors' efforts to obtain financial support from the federal government and other sources to defray the costs of considering, entering into and carrying out agreements with other nations and international organizations to facilitate the international practice of qualified architects.”