

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Public Protection through Examination, Licensure, and Regulation



LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

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WWW.LATC.CA.GOV



The Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) is one of 36 licensing agencies under the California Department of Consumer Affairs.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD

Department of Consumer Affairs
Contractors State License Board

Department of Consumer Affairs
California Board for
Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors



About the LATC

- ◆ Licensing and regulatory agency
- ◆ 1953 – California’s Board of Landscape Architects (BLA)
- ◆ 1998 – BLA restructured as LATC under California Architects Board
- ◆ Approximately 3,500 California landscape architects
- ◆ Over 15,000 US landscape architects

Related Organizations

- ◆ Council of Landscape Registration Boards (CLARB)
National examination vendor – www.clarb.org
- ◆ American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA)
National Professional Association – www.asla.org
- ◆ California Council of the ASLA (CC/ASLA)
Northern California, San Diego, Sierra, and Southern California –
www.asla-californiacouncil.org

Committee Member Appointment

LATC consists of five licensed landscape architects:

- 3 Appointed by the Governor
- 2 Appointed by the Legislature



LATC Staff Assist With:

- ◆ Eligibility Review
 - Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE)
 - California Supplemental Examination (CSE)

- ◆ License Issuance and Renewal

- ◆ Enforcement

- ◆ Outreach

- ◆ Legislative and Regulatory Actions

- ◆ Strategic Planning Actions

Mission, Vision and Goals

Mission

- Regulates the practice of landscape architecture
- Protects the health, safety, and welfare of the public
- Safeguards the environment

Vision

- Safeguards the public
- Protects and enhances the environment
- Ensures quality landscape architectural services

Goals

- Regulation and Enforcement
- Professional Qualifications
- Public and Professional Awareness
- Organizational Relationships
- Organizational Effectiveness

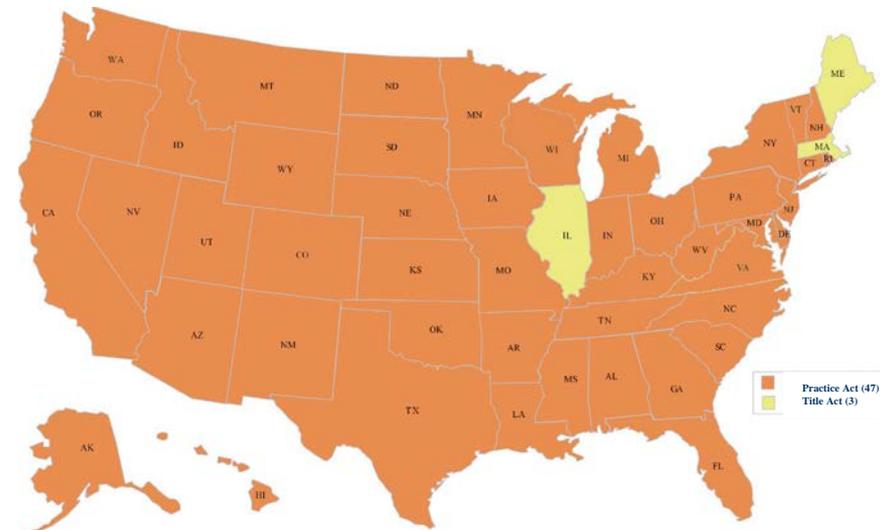
Title and Practice Acts

◆ Two forms of Regulations

- Practice Act (47 States)
- Title Act (3 States)

◆ Licensure jurisdictions

- All 50 States
- 2 Canadian Provinces
- Puerto Rico



Laws and Regulations

Landscape Architects Practice Act

- ◆ Defines scope of practice
- ◆ Defines practice parameters for unlicensed persons
- ◆ Prohibits from use of titles similar to “landscape architect”
- ◆ Provides Rules of Professional Conduct and other practice requirements
- ◆ Contains examination/licensure requirements

Why is Licensure Important?

- ◆ Protected title “landscape architect”
- ◆ Professional services, as defined under law
- ◆ Protects the health, safety, and welfare of consumers and the public
- ◆ Safeguards the environment
- ◆ Ensures competency
- ◆ Practice in other states through reciprocity

Three Legged Stool: Becoming Licensed

- ◆ Education
- ◆ Experience
- ◆ Examination
 - LARE
 - CSE



Licensing Exam Eligibility Requirements – Sections 1 and 2

- ◆ Effective March 7, 2012
- ◆ Masters or Bachelors Degree in Landscape Architecture
- ◆ Extension Certificate in Landscape Architecture

Licensing Exam Eligibility Requirements – All Sections

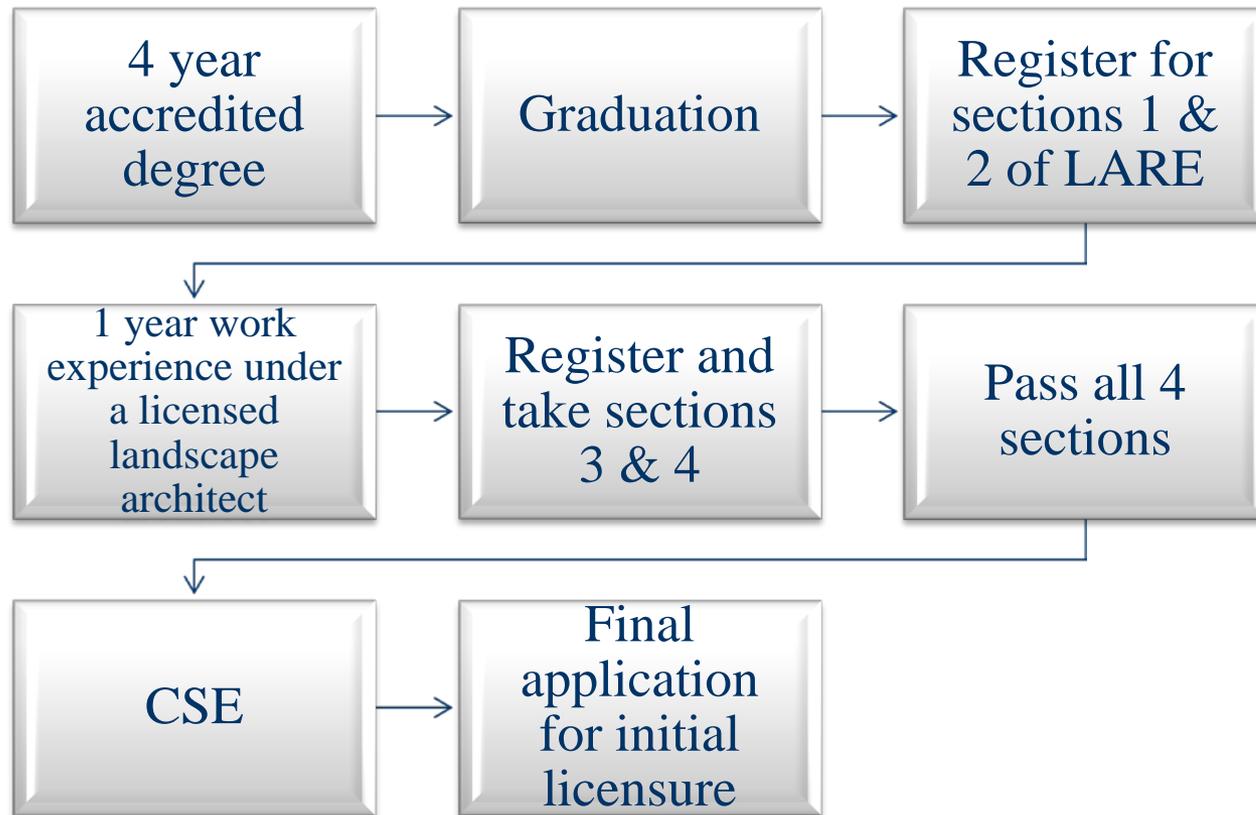
- ◆ Combined 6 years of qualifying education & work experience
 - Minimum 1 year education credit
 - Minimum 2 years work experience credits
 - 1 year work experience gained after obtaining a degree and under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect

Education Credits

Accredited MLA or BLA	4 years
Extension Certificate in LA and any 4-year degree	4 years
Extension Certificate in LA and Associate Degree in LA	3 years
Non-accredited MLA or BLA	3 years
Extension Certificate in LA	2 years
Associate Degree in LA	1 year
Accredited Masters/ Bachelors degree in Architecture	1 year

Work Experience Credits

Employment by a licensed landscape architect	Max. 5 years
Self employment as, or employment by a licensed architect or a registered civil engineer	Max. 1 years
Self employment as a California licensed landscape contractor	Max. 4 years



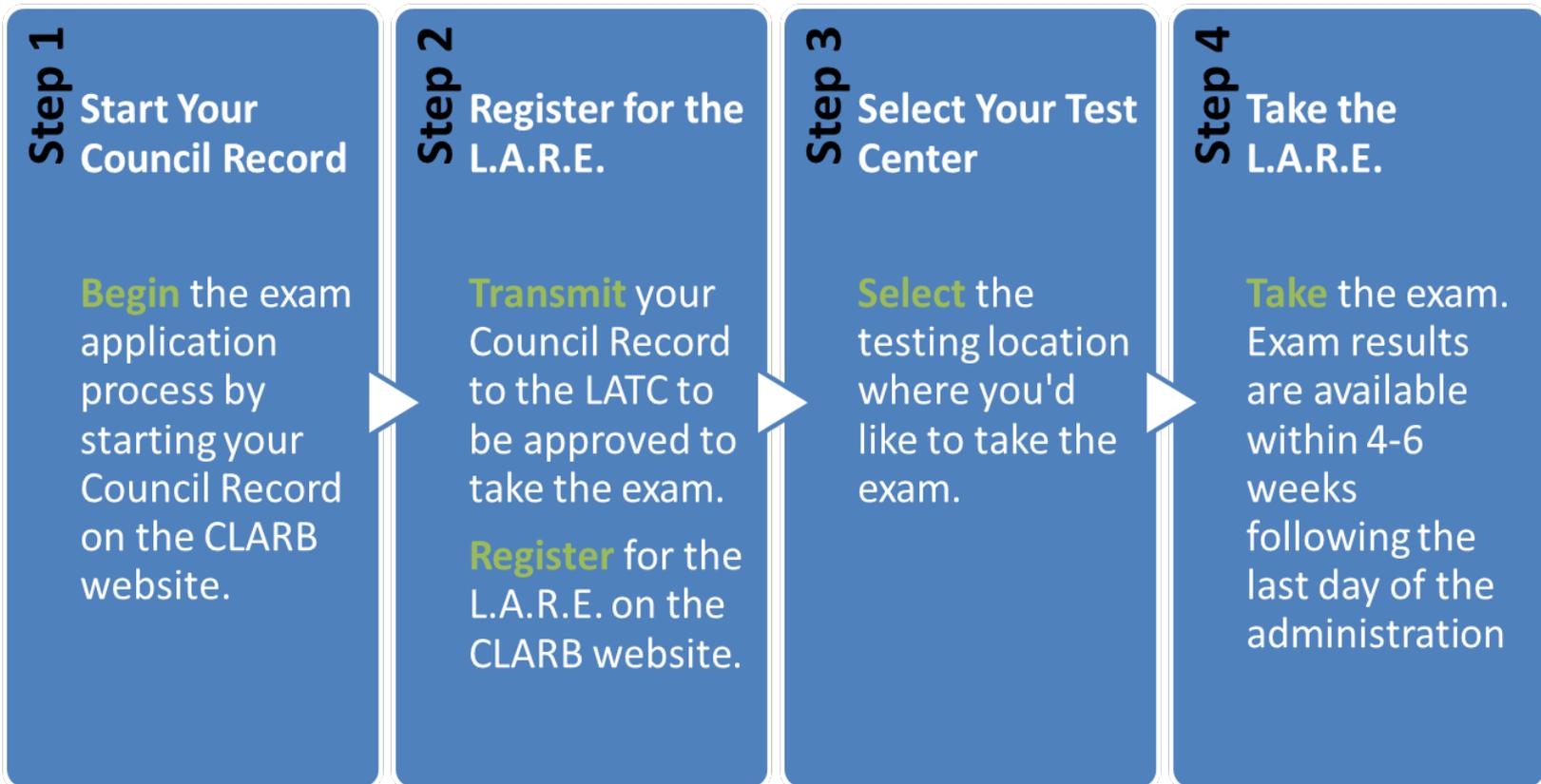
Other Pathways To Eligibility

Education		Experience	
Accredited BLA or MLA	+	2 years	Under a licensed landscape architect
Unaccredited BLA or MLA	+	3 years	Under a licensed landscape architect
UC Extension LA Certificate and a 4-year degree in any subjects	+	2 years	Under a licensed landscape architect
UC Extension LA Certificate	+	4 years	Under a licensed landscape architect
UC Extension LA Certificate	+	4 years	Self-employment as a licensed landscape contractor
AS/ AA in LA	+	5 years	Under a licensed landscape architect

Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE)

- ◆ National licensing examination
- ◆ Produced, administered, and scored by CLARB
- ◆ 4 computer based exam sections
 - 1 & 2 - multiple-choice
 - 3 & 4 - drag and place, and multiple-choice

Registration Process – California Candidates



Exam Administration Schedule

2014

March 31 – April 12, 2014

August 18 – 30, 2014

December 1 – 13, 2014

Current LARE Sections

- ◆ **Section 1:** Project and Construction Administration
- ◆ **Section 2:** Inventory and Analysis
- ◆ **Section 3:** Design
- ◆ **Section 4:** Grading, Drainage, and Construction Documentation

Examination Specifications

- ◆ Current LARE specifications are based on the 2010-2011 CLARB job analysis
- ◆ Tasks and subsequent knowledge, performed most often and important, form the basis for the LARE

Exam Specifications – Details

Section 1 - Project and Construction Management (100 items – 3 hours seat time)

- ◆ Project Management (62%)
- ◆ Bidding and Construction (38%)

Section 2 - Inventory and Analysis (80 items – 2.5 hours seat time)

- ◆ Site Inventory (22%)
- ◆ Analysis of Existing Conditions (78%)

Section 3 - Design (100 items – 4 hours seat time)

- ◆ Concept Development (58%)
- ◆ Design Development (42%)

Section 4 – Grading, Drainage and Construction Documentation (120 items – 4.5 hours seat time)



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vggoziBoz9M>

Current LARE Pass Rates

	2013	April		August	
		California	National	California	National
1- Project and Construction Administration		79%	82%	66%	77%
2- Inventory and Analysis		63%	69%	69%	74%
3- Design		64%	70%	74%	75%
4- Grading, Drainage and Construction Documentation		52%	57%	71%	55%

Licensure Fees

LATC eligibility application.....	\$35
LARE - Section 1.....	\$335
Section 2.....	\$335
Section 3.....	\$515
Section 4.....	\$515
<i>LARE fees are paid directly to CLARB</i>	
CSE application processing fee.....	\$35
CSE.....	\$275
Initial license.....	Prorated

Exam Resources

- ◆ Full Exam Specifications (CLARB)
- ◆ Sample Exams - \$70 each or 4 for \$200 (CLARB)
- ◆ YouTube Videos (CLARB)
- ◆ LARE Orientation Guide (CLARB)
- ◆ Recommended Reading List (CLARB)
- ◆ Additional Resources (ASLA)

California Supplemental Examination (CSE) - Specifications

1. Inventory (17%) - Evaluate the project site
2. Analysis (17%) - Evaluate site conditions
3. Development and Evaluation of Alternative Solutions (17%) - Refine alternatives and prepare recommendations
4. Design Development (33%) - Develop a design solution
5. Construction Documents (16%) - Prepare plans and specifications



Licensure - *After passing the LARE and CSE*

- ◆ Initial License Request Form
- ◆ Initial licensing fee and duration are prorated
- ◆ Licensees receive a wall certificate and a pocket license
- ◆ Provide current address and contact information
- ◆ Renew biennially
- ◆ Expired licenses may be renewed within 3 years after expiration

Enforcement

- ◆ All complaints will be investigated
- ◆ LATC receives complaints from various sources
- ◆ Possible violations include:
 - Incompetence
 - Unprofessional Conduct
 - Negligence
 - Unlicensed Activity
- ◆ LATC may issue administrative citations or seek suspension or revocation of a license

Reciprocity

- ◆ Licensed in another state or licensing jurisdiction
- ◆ Have passed a written examination equivalent to what is required in California
- ◆ Submit:
 - Application and required fee (currently \$310)
 - original transcripts showing degree in landscape architecture
 - proof of training/practice credit
 - and exam scores from licensing jurisdiction
- ◆ Pass the CSE



Important Websites

Visit these first!

- ◆ Landscape Architects Technical Committee
 - www.latc.ca.gov

- ◆ Council of Landscape Architects Registration Boards
 - www.clarb.org



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