

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Public Protection through Examination, Licensure, and Regulation



Landscape Architects Technical Committee

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www.latc.ca.gov



DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS • BUSINESS, CONSUMER SERVICES AND HOUSING AGENCY

CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD

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

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CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD

Department of Consumer Affairs

Contractors State License Board



Department of Consumer Affairs

*California Board for
Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors*



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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



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Related Organizations

- ◆ Council of Landscape Architectural 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



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Committee Member Appointment

LATC consists of five licensed landscape architects:

3 - Appointed by the Governor

2 - Appointed by the Legislature





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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



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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



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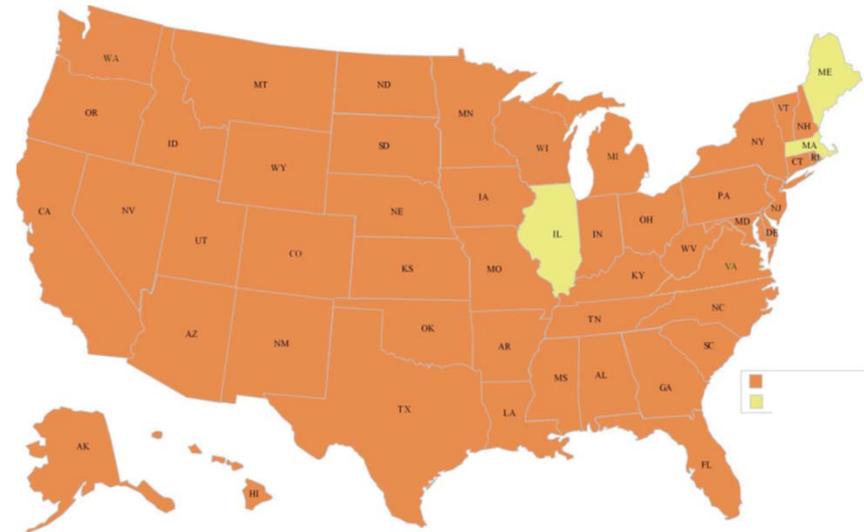
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Title and Practice Acts

- ◆ Two forms of Regulations
 - Practice Act (47 States)
 - Title Act (3 States)
- ◆ Licensure jurisdictions
 - All 50 States
 - 2 Canadian Provinces
 - Puerto Rico





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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



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Why is Licensure Important?

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



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Three Legged Stool: Becoming Licensed

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





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Licensing Exam Eligibility Requirements – Sections 1 and 2

Effective March 7, 2012

Applicants who hold an approved degree or extension certificate in landscape architecture are eligible to take LARE sections 1 and 2 prior to earning training experience.



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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



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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



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Work Experience Credits

Self employment as, or 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



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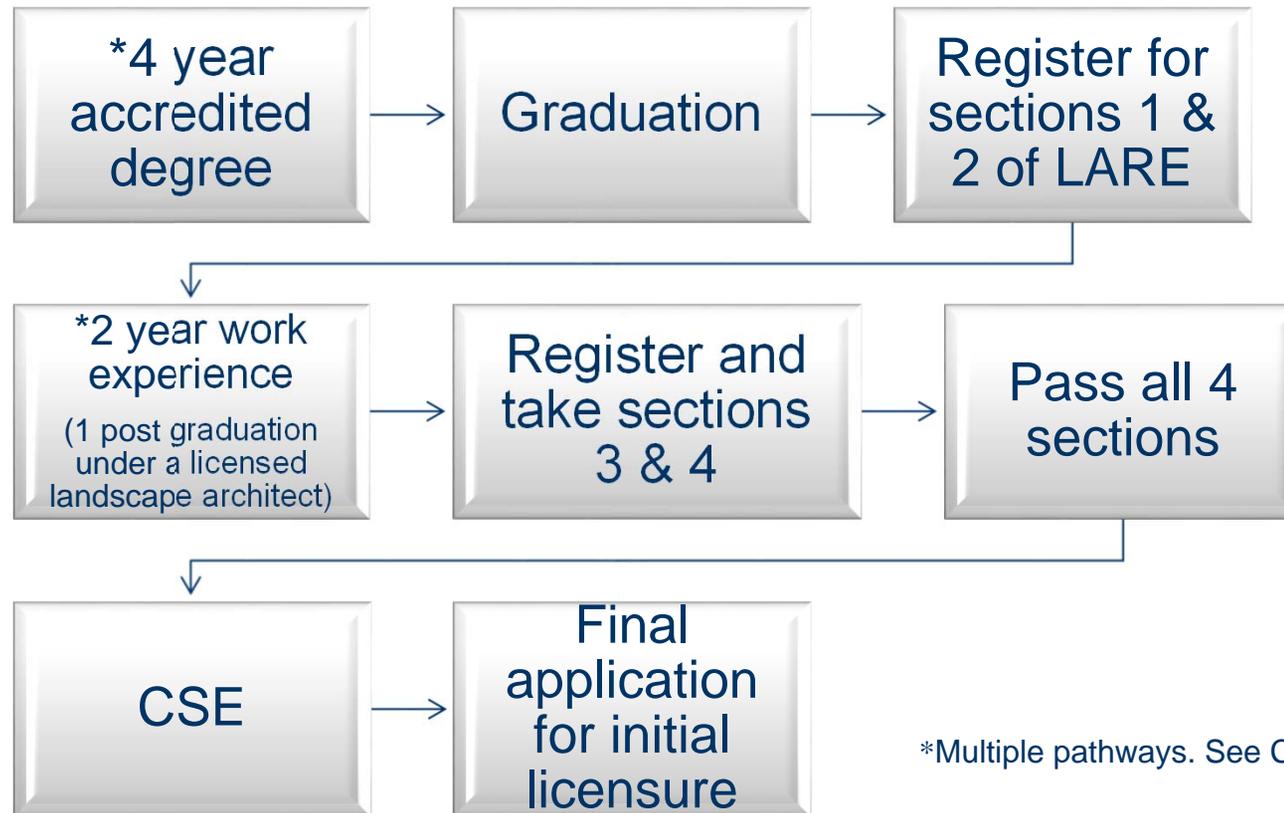
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*Multiple pathways. See CCR 2620.



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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 subject	+	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

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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



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Registration Process – California Candidates

- ◆ Step 1 – Submit Eligibility Application, Certification of Experience, Transcripts, \$35 Application Fee to LATC
- ◆ Step 2 – Start CLARB Council Record
- ◆ Step 3 – Register for and take LARE
- ◆ Step 4 – Submit Eligibility Application for CSE \$310
- ◆ Step 5 – Register for CSE online
- ◆ Step 6 – Results provided at testing site, including license application when CSE is passed



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Current LARE Sections

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



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Examination Specifications

- ◆ Current LARE specifications are based on the 2016 CLARB job analysis
- ◆ Participants in the job analysis were asked to rate all job tasks on three separate scales: how frequently the tasks were performed, how important the tasks were to successful performance of the job, and whether successful performance of each task was required at initial licensure
- ◆ Overall, the tasks, and subsequent knowledge, that are performed most often are considered the most important and are required at the initial point of licensure and thus form the basis of the LARE



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Licensure Fees

LATC eligibility application.....	\$35
LARE - Section 1.....	\$365
Section 2.....	\$365
Section 3.....	\$570
Section 4.....	\$570
<i>LARE fees are paid directly to CLARB</i>	
CSE application processing fee.....	\$35
CSE.....	\$275
Initial license.....	\$400



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Exam Resources

- ◆ Full Exam Specifications (CLARB) www.clarb.org
- ◆ Sample Exams (CLARB)
- ◆ YouTube Videos (CLARB)
- ◆ LARE Orientation Guide (CLARB)
- ◆ Recommended Reading List (CLARB)
- ◆ Additional Resources (ASLA) www.asla.org



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California Supplemental Examination (CSE) - Specifications

1. Site Assessment (15%)
2. Program Analysis (10%)
3. Design Process (65%)
4. Construction Documents and Contract Performance (10%)

Detailed descriptions of the above CSE content areas are available at www.latc.ca.gov



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California Licensure - *After passing the LARE and CSE*

- ◆ Submit Initial License Application
- ◆ Licensees receive a wall certificate and a pocket license
- ◆ Provide current address and contact information (Note, address of record is public information. Address of record can be PO Box.)
- ◆ Renew biennially
- ◆ Expired licenses may be renewed within 5 years after expiration



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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



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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



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Important Websites

Visit these first!

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

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



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