Licensure with the Board

Pursuant to S.C. Code of Laws, Section 40-3-30, no individual may engage in the practice of architecture without a license. An individual is considered to engage in the practice of or offer to engage in the practice of architecture who in any manner represents himself to be an architect or who performs or holds himself out as able to perform any architectural service or other services recognized by educational authorities as architecture.

Architect License Requirements

*Prior to applying with the Board, applicants must have completed all NCARB education, exam and experience requirements and obtain an NCARB Council Record.

(1) have a professional degree in architecture from a school or college program accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) or the Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB). The school or program must be accredited by NAAB or CACB not later than two years after the applicant's graduation. Foreign-educated applicants who do not hold an accredited degree may have their credentials evaluated to determine if their foreign degree is equivalent to the required professional degree in architecture. Foreign-educated applicants must satisfy NCARB's general educational requirements.

(2) have satisfactorily completed the training requirements established by NCARB for the Architectural Experience Program (AXP).

(3) have attained a passing score on all subject areas of the NCARB Architect Registration Examination (A.R.E.).

Click the link below to access the "Applications & Forms" section of our website for application instructions.

https://llr.sc.gov/arch/pub.aspx

Certificate of Authorization (Firm License) Requirements

A firm offering to engage in the practice of architecture in this State must have a certificate of authorization issued by the board before undertaking architectural work. An individual practicing architecture in his name as registered with the board (John Doe, Architect) is not required to obtain a certificate of authorization.

(1) file an application and pay the required fee. Before a certificate of authorization can be issued to an out-of-state business or professional corporation, the corporation must be approved to transact business in this State. A copy of the approved certificate of authority issued by the SC Secretary of State must be filed with the board application.

(2) designate one employee registered to practice architecture in this state who is in full authority and responsible charge of the firm's architectural practice. Persons in full authority and responsible charge shall mean regularly employed persons who are in unrestricted, unchecked,

and unqualified command of, and legally accountable for, the actions of such architectural practice.

(3) if a South Carolina or out-of-state firm seeks to register under a name referring to persons rather than a trade name, the persons referred to in the firm's name must be licensed as individual architects, engineers, land surveyors, or landscape architects in this State or in another jurisdiction.

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https://llr.sc.gov/arch/FLCA.aspx