

Snapshot: Landscape Architecture Laws
Eligibility Requirements: Education, Experience & Examination
5-1-2011

Title Act (T) Practice Act (P) [*]	LAAB-accredited program + years of experience	Other LA program + years of experience	Non-LA program + years of experience	Experience only	Type of experience required	Landscape Architect-in-training (or similar designation)	Examination and other eligibility requirements	CLARB Record/Certificate ¹
AL P	6 years, up to 5 years can be via education ²	8 years of experience in LA work	8 years of experience in LA work	8 years of experience in landscape architectural work	Actual practical experience in landscape architecture work of a grade & character satisfactory to the board.	N/A	LARE; supplemental exam on AL statutes, rules & code of conduct	N/A
AK P	8 years: BLA+MLA/ PhD+ 3 years BLA+4 years MLA+ 4 years 10 years: 3 yrs can be satisfied via coursework in an LAAB program w/o degree	8 years: Degree+ 5years Degree+MLA/PhD+ 4 years	TBD on case-by-case basis by the Board	12 years	Must gain experience under the responsible control of a US-licensed LA to get full credit or successfully complete the requirements for a mentoring program	N/A	LARE; Board-approved course in artic engineering; Jurisprudence exam (take home)	Optional for Reciprocity
AZ P	8 years: up to 5 yrs can be via education + 1 yr of teaching; In training- 4 or 5-yr Degree	In training: 4 yrs of combined edu/exp in work directly related to LA.	In training: 4 yrs of combined edu/exp in work directly related to LA.	In training: 4 yrs of combined edu/exp in work directly related to LA.	Must be attained under the direct supervision of a licensed LA, except that up to 1 yr may be under another licensed professional (architect, engineer, geologist, land surveyor).	Graduation from an LAAB- accredited program or four years of combined education and experience in work directly related to landscape architecture. Must complete the exam designated by the board.	LARE (exempt with LAAB degree + 12 years of LA experience)	Optional for Reciprocity

* All Practice Acts have provisions restricting the use of the title "Landscape Architect" to licensed individuals.

¹ Signifies that the CLARB record or certificate is required for licensure, or specifically permitted by statute or regulation as an option. N/A signifies that there is no mention in the state's statute or regulations and is not intended to reflect whether the state board accepts the certificate if the statute/rules are silent on the issue.

² Alabama statute and regulations require graduation from a "school of landscape architecture approved by the board," but does not reference the LAAB.

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AR P	Degree ³ + 1 yr	Degree + 4 yrs	Degree + 4 yrs	7 years	Experience satisfactory to the board	N/A	LARE	Authorizes board to require for initial licensure. Optional for reciprocity
CA P	Board - approved program + 2 yrs	Degree + 3 yrs extension certificate + 4 yrs Associate degree + 5 yrs		N/A – All candidates must have at least 1 yr of education and 2 yrs of experience	At least one year of experience must be under the direct supervision of a licensed LA after graduation.	N/A	LARE; CA supplemental examination	N/A
CO ⁴ P	Degree+ 3 yrs	Degree + 3 yrs	PLANET- BA/BS + 3 yrs Accredited A/E (civil e engr)+ 4 yrs	6 years	Diversified practical experience under the supervision of a licensed landscape architect, architect, or professional engineer, or in the employ of an organization otherwise engaged in the practice of landscape architecture.	N/A	LARE	N/A
CT P	Degree + 2 yrs			8 years	Diversified LA experience under the direct supervision of licensed LA. Board may consider experience under a licensed civil engineer or architect when it includes sufficient elements of LA included in the LARE.	N/A	LARE	Required unless good cause is shown
DE P	6 years: Degree + 2 years; 2 years education+ 4 years exp				Professional experience under the supervision of a licensed LA.	N/A	LARE	N/A
DC No law								

³ Arkansas statute requires “degree in landscape architecture from an institution accredited by an appropriate authority selected by the board...” but does not reference the LAAB.

⁴ Colorado included a “Licensure by Prior Practice” standard. All applications under this category must have been received by 1/1/2009.

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FL P	Degree + 1 yr			6 years: rules have specific parameters for this work	All experience must be under the supervision of a licensed LA.	N/A	LARE: supplemental exam on statute & rules, plant materials, aspects of practice in FL	N/A
GA P	4-yr degree ⁵ + 18 months or 5-yr degree only. MLA w/o BLA +18 months				Actual full-time practice of LA under the direct supervision of a licensed LA. If practice is part-time, 36 months is required.	N/A	LARE: supplemental exam on GA laws, regulations, ecosystem	N/A
HI P	5 yr degree ⁶ + 2 years 4 yr degree + 3 years	Degree in pre-LA program + 5 yrs	Arts & Sciences degree + 5 yrs	12 years	Field or office training under the supervision of a licensed LA. One year can be earned via teaching 3, 4 or 5 th year courses	N/A	LARE (unless 15 yrs of experience); supplemental exam testing HI climatic conditions, native plants & native ecosystems, land use ordinance, cultural & historical conditions.	N/A
ID P	Approved ⁷ degree			8 years	Grade and character acceptable to the board. Experience must be in subjects contained in accredited landscape architecture programs. At least 50% of experience must be under licensed landscape architect.	Meet the eligibility requirements for initial licensure, except passage of the LARE. Must work under the supervision of a licensed landscape architect.	LARE	Optional for initial licensure and reciprocity.

⁵ Georgia does not designate LAAB for approval of programs. Any BLA or BS in landscape architecture from a college or school of landscape architecture, environmental design, or its equivalent approved by the board will qualify.

⁶ Hawaii statutes and regulations refer to programs “approved by the board,” but do not reference LAAB.

⁷ Idaho regulations specify that “approved” programs include those accredited by LAAB and any others deemed approved by the board.

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IL T	BLA ⁸ + 2 yrs MLA + 1 yr				Experience includes (but is not limited to) work in a landscape architect's office or work in the office or government agency where an architect or engineer is legally authorized to practice. Experience also includes teaching or research in an approved program. All experience must be under the supervision of a landscape architect, architect or engineer.	N/A	LARE	Optional for reciprocity
IN P	Degree + 3 yrs (2 yrs must follow graduation)				Diversified, actual, practical experience in LA work. Experience includes: (1) work under the direct supervision of a licensed LA; (2) teaching in an accredited LA program; (3) work in an architect/ engineer/ land surveyor's office under a licensed architect, engineer, or surveyor; or (4) work in a governmental office under a licensed LA, architect, engineer, architect, land surveyor or certified planner. Teaching can only qualify for 2 of 3 yrs.	N/A	LARE	Optional for reciprocity. Rees much higher w/o CLARB record
IA P	4-yr-degree ⁹ + 3 yrs 5-yr-degree + 2 yrs	4-yr-degree + 4 yrs	4-yr-degree + 4 yrs	10 years	At least 1 yr must be under a licensed landscape architect. One year is defined as at least 2,080 hours.	Defined as an individual with LA degree who is employed under the supervision of a licensed LA and intends to actively pursue licensure.	LARE	Optional for reciprocity
KS P	4-yr-degree ¹⁰ + 4 yrs 5-yr-degree + 3 yrs				Satisfactory experience in LA work: (1) within the definition of LA practice; and (2) be supervised & verified by a licensed LA, architect or engineer.	N/A	LARE	Record required for initial licensure and reciprocity
KY P	Degree ¹¹ + 2 yrs				Experience satisfactory to the Board	N/A	LARE	N/A

⁸ Illinois regulations set up standards for the board to approve landscape architecture programs. All programs accredited by the LAAB as of 1/1/98 are deemed approved.

⁹ Iowa statute requires "graduation from a...university offering an accredited...curriculum in landscape architecture," but does not reference the LAAB.

¹⁰ Kansas statute references LAAB for accreditation, but also authorizes the board to approve other programs.

¹¹ Kentucky statute requires a degree from an accredited landscape architecture curriculum, but does not reference the LAAB.

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LA P	Degree ¹² + 1 yr		Degree ¹³ + 4 yrs	6 years – provide proof of work in certain areas ¹⁴	Practical LA experience under direct supervision of LA, landscape horticulturalist, or design professional in related profession	N/A	LARE; supplemental exam	N/A
ME T	Degree + 2 yrs diversified exp Degree+ 5 yrs as principal	Degree + 3 yrs diversified exp Degree + 1 yr diversified exp + 5 yrs as principal	A/E Graduate Degree + 3 yrs diversified exp A/E Graduate Degree+ 1 yr diversified exp + 5 yrs as principal Other Degree + 5 yrs diversified exp Other degree + 3 yrs diversified exp + 5 yrs as principal	12 years	Diversified experience means documented involvement in site analysis, site programming, design, construction documentation, code research, cost estimation and field observation across a range of project scales, project types and project settings. Qualifying experience' includes the following options: (1) diversified experience in LA lawfully practicing as a principal; (2) diversified experience in LA under the direct supervision of a licensed LA; (3) diversified experience directly related to LA under the direct supervision of a civil engineer, licensed architect, or credentialed planner; (4) 50% of the applicant's teaching in a LAAB-accredited program; (5) 50% of the applicant's experience in LA directly related to onsite construction, maintenance or installation procedures; or (6) 50% of the applicants non-diversified experience in LA under the direct supervision of a LA, civil engineer, architect or urban or regional planner. Each pathway has its own minimum for experience gained under the supervision of a licensed LA.	N/A	LARE; interview required	Certificate optional for reciprocity
MD P	6 yrs total, including degree ¹⁵ (at least 1 yr exp)			8 years	Satisfactory to the board. Full-time employment in landscape architectural work.	N/A	LARE	N/A

¹² Louisiana regulations refer to "degree in landscape architecture," but do not reference the LAAB.

¹³ Degree in horticulture/plant science, architecture, civil engineering, environmental design or urban design.

¹⁴ Work examples in three of the following areas: site design; staking or layout plan; grading plan; irrigation plan; construction details; planting plan with a plant list; or specifications.

¹⁵ Maryland statute and regulations refer to "approved" programs, but do not reference the LAAB.

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MA T	Degree ¹⁶ + 2 yrs			6 years	Employment in the practice of LA under the direct supervision of a qualified, licensed LA. Training, practice, & knowledge in allied fields (architecture, engineering, horticulture, or planning) may be submitted for evaluation by the Board, which may consider such related experience germane to the qualifications of the applicant.	N/A	LARE	N/A
MI P	BLA + 3 yrs MLA + 2 yrs			7 years	Documented via at least 5 references, at least 3 from licensees who can indicate a knowledge of the applicant's professional expertise.	N/A	LARE	N/A
MN P	BLA + 4 yrs MLA + 3 yrs	5-yr-degree + 5 yrs 4-yr-degree+ 6 yrs 2 yrs technical college in LA + 9	Any degree+ Non-LAAB grad degree + 5 yrs Accredited A/E degree + 7 Non-accredited A/E degree + 9	13 years	Satisfactory diversified general practice under the supervision of a licensed LA. One full year of experience in government agencies, engineering firms & general contractors (in areas directly related to LA construction) may be substituted for ½ yr of experience, with a maximum credit of 2 yrs. The following cases also receive full credit (work must be directly related to LA and under direct supervision of licensed LA): (1) employment by government/ military, when diversified & comparable to employment in the office of a licensed LA (2) employment by organizations that have employees performing LA services in connection with projects owned or used by that organization; (3) employment/ practice in such fields as interior design, architecture, engineering, city planning & periods of employment with such organizations as VISTA, HUD, Peace Corps, & advocacy planning (maximum of two years credit); or (4) teaching and research in an LAAB-accredited curriculum.	N/A	LARE	Record required for initial licensure and reciprocity
MS P	Degree ¹⁷	Degree + 5 years	Degree + 5 yrs	7 years	Grade and character suitable to the board.	N/A	LARE	Required for initial licensure and reciprocity

¹⁶ Massachusetts statute and regulations refer to "approved" programs, but do not reference the LAAB.

¹⁷ Mississippi statute requires degree in "landscape architecture from a college or university having a minimum four-year curriculum in landscape architecture approved by the board," but does not reference the LAAB.

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MO P	Degree + 3 yrs				Satisfactory training and experience in the practice of landscape architecture.	N/A	LARE	N/A
MT P	Degree + 2 yrs	Degree + 3 yrs	Degree + 4 yrs Assoc. Degree + 6 yrs	8 years	Practical experience must be gained under the direct supervision of a licensed LA.	N/A	LARE	Optional for initial licensure and reciprocity
NE P	Degree ¹⁸ + 4 yrs			8 years	Satisfactory practical experience in landscape architecture satisfactory to the board. Full-time permanent employment in LA under the direction & supervision of a licensed LA or under a special supervisory program of at least one year, monitored by a licensed LA approved by the board.	N/A	LARE	required for initial licensure (record) and reciprocity (certificate)
NV P	Degree + 2 yrs	Associate degree in LA + 4 yrs	Degree in related field + 4 yrs Degree in A/E + 3 yrs	6 years	Full-time employment in the field of LA under the professional counsel, guidance & instruction of a licensed LA who critically examines, evaluates & monitors the applicant's work product for quality & compliance with all applicable laws, codes, ordinances, & regulations.	(Landscape architect Intern) Graduate from a school approved by the board or have completed at least four years of work experience in the practice of LA. Applicants must pass Sections A and B of the LARE. Intern may engage in the practice of landscape architecture only under the direct supervision of a licensee.	LARE; NV exam	Optional for initial licensure and reciprocity

¹⁸ Nebraska statute requires graduation from an college satisfactory to the board. Regulations specify that an "approved school" means a "school of landscape architecture or school of related studies approved by the board," but does not reference the LAAB.

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NH ¹⁹ P	Degree + 3 yrs	Degree + 5 yrs	Degree in related field + 5 yrs	N/A	Three years of experience must be obtained under the direct supervision of a licensed LA. Teaching qualifies as LA experience. Work as a contractor, defined as the execution of work designed by a LA or the supervision of the construction of such work as a foreman/superintendent is not deemed LA experience. Experience shall be of a grade & character that indicates to the board that the applicant is competent to practice as a LA.	N/A	LARE	Optional for reciprocity
NJ P	Degree ²⁰ + 4 yrs				At least two years' (full-time) experience must be under supervision of licensed landscape architect, architect, professional planner, or professional engineer.	N/A	LARE (must complete in 5 years); NJ exam	Optional for reciprocity
NM P	BLA + 2 yrs MLA + 2 yrs	BLA + 4 yrs MLA + 4 yrs	Related degree + 4 yrs	10 years combination edu/exp	Experience that demonstrates an essential understanding of the practice of LA. At least one year of experience must be under the supervision of a licensed LA.	Meet the educational requirements for initial licensure and pass 2 sections of the LARE.	LARE	Record required for initial licensure; ; optional for reciprocity
NY P	4-yr BLA + 4 yrs 5-yr BLA + 3 yrs 4-yr BLA + MLA + 3 yrs 5-yr BLA + MLA + 2 yrs	Degree + 5 yrs 2-yr LA technical program + 8 yrs	A/E accredited degree + 6 yrs Associates degree + 10 yrs Other degree + 8 yrs	12 years combination edu/exp	Full-time diversified general practice in LA of a scope & nature satisfactory to the board. At least 2 yrs must be directly under supervision of a licensed LA. Experience also includes: (1) employment in a LA capacity under direction of a licensed architect or engineer, if work is LA practice (max 2 yrs); (2) teaching in an accredited LA program (half credit; max 2 yrs); and (3) employment by planning firms, government agencies, design build, landscape contractors, and general contractors in work directly related to LA construction (half credit; max 2 yrs).	N/A	LARE	N/A

¹⁹ New Hampshire enacted legislation in 2006, effective July 1, 2006 and upon promulgation of regulations (March 2007). A grandfather clause provides a one-year window (expires 3/27/2008) for applicants to demonstrate qualifications through knowledge and experience equivalent to regular requirements. Such applicants must also pass the exam.

²⁰ New Jersey authorizes the board to approve programs.

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NC P	Degree + 4 yrs	10 yrs combination edu/exp	10 yrs combination edu/exp	10 yrs combination edu/exp	Full credit is given in the office of an LA in responsible charge after receiving a degree in LA or related field. Experience must be directly related to landscape architecture and under direct supervision of a licensed LA.	N/A	LARE	Optional for reciprocity
ND²¹ P	Degree + 3 yrs	Degree + 1 yr in LAAB program + 3 yrs	A/E degree + 4 yrs Any degree + 6 yrs	8 yrs	Diversified experience directly related to LA under direct supervision of a licensed LA. May substitute up to 2 yrs: (1) diversified exp in LA acting as a principal; (2) exp related to LA under supervision of a licensed architect, engineer or certified planner. May substitute up to 1 yr (half credit): (1) teaching in accredited program; (2) on-site construction, maintenance, installation; (3) non-diversified exp in LA under direct supervision of licensed LA, architect, engineer or certified planner.	N/A	LARE	Required for initial licensure (record) and reciprocity (certificate)
OH P	Degree + 3 yrs (or board-approved internship program)				Practical experience under the direct supervision of a LA, or equivalent experience, as determined by the board. At least 1 yr of experience must be completed after completion of the educational requirements	N/A	LARE	Required for initial licensure (record) and reciprocity (certificate)
OK P	Degree + 3 yrs				Diversified LA experience under the direct supervision and responsible control of a licensed LA. Up to 2 years can be earned for work under the responsible control of an architect, engineer, or planner. Up to one year can be earned (at partial credit) for on site construction, maintenance or installation operations experience.	N/A	LARE (must complete within 5 years); OK plant exam; OK law & regulations exam	Optional for reciprocity
OR P	Degree + 3 yrs	Degree + 4 yrs	A/E degree + 4 yrs	8 years	Experience under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect.	Applicants who have successfully completed two or more sections of the LARE must register with the board as a landscape architect in training.	LARE; oral exam or interview	Certificate optional for reciprocity

²¹ CLARB standards of eligibility are deemed as the eligibility requirements for licensee.

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PA P	Degree + 2 yrs Graduate work can substitute for 1 yr of exp			8 years ²²	Experience under the supervision of a design professional. If not an LA, the applicant must have work product reviewed by a licensed LA every 6 months for 2 consecutive years.	N/A	LARE	Optional for initial licensure and reciprocity
RI P	Degree + 2 yrs	At discretion of the board	At discretion of the board	6 years		N/A	LARE; RI exam	N/A
SC P	Degree + 2 yrs	Graduate + 5 yrs	Degree + 5 yrs		Varied LA experience under the supervision of a licensed LA or other qualified person or experience approved by the board.	N/A	LARE	Optional for initial licensure; Required for reciprocity
SD P	4-yr degree + 4 yrs 5-yr degree + 3 yrs				Based upon CLARB standards	N/A	LARE (must complete within 5 years); SD exam on licensure laws (take home)	Council record required for initial licensure and reciprocity
TN P	Degree + 3 yrs				At least 2 years of the experience must be in an office of a practicing licensed LA. Board may use CLARB standards to determine practical experience.	N/A	LARE	Certificate Required for reciprocity
TX P	Degree ²³ + 2 yrs				Experience under the supervision of a licensed LA or other approved by board.	N/A	LARE (must complete within 5 years)	Required for initial licensure and reciprocity
UT P	Degree			8 years	Experience under the supervision of a licensed LA.	(temporary license) Meet all license requirements except the passing of an exam. Must take and pass the next available exam or the license will automatically expire.	LARE; UT Law and Rule Examination	Required for reciprocity

²² Pennsylvania law allows licensure upon passage of the exam following 8 years of experience. Another provision in the rules allows for a candidate with more extensive experience (10 years + degree or 15 years w/o degree) to apply to the board for licensure.

²³ Degree approved if the landscape architecture program was LAAB-accredited not later than two years after the applicant's graduation.

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VT ²⁴ P	Degree+ 3 yrs			9 years	Diversified experience in landscape architecture under the supervision of a licensed LA, architect, PE, or land surveyor. 2 years must be under the supervision of a licensed LA.	N/A	LARE	Optional for reciprocity
VA P	Degree+ 3 years	Degree + at least 4 yrs	Degree + 6 yrs	8 years	Qualifying LA training & experience under the direct supervision of a LA, which shall be progressive in complexity & based on a knowledge of natural, physical & mathematical sciences, & the principles & methodology of LA. At least one year of experience must be under the supervision of a licensed LA (two yrs for those without accredited degree). Experience under supervision of an architect, PE, or land surveyor is computed as 50% of the actual time and can only qualify for up to 4 yrs of this requirement.	N/A	LARE (must complete within 3 years)	N/A
WA P	Degree + 3 yrs	8 yrs combination edu/exp	8 yrs combo edu/exp	8 years	Credit for practical training will be based upon a verifiable demonstration of competency and progressive responsibility in the analysis, synthesis and evaluation of landscape architecture concepts and data demonstrating their experience in a position of making independent judgments and decisions. At least 6 years must be under a licensed landscape architect	N/A	LARE; Review of WA laws & regs	Optional for reciprocity
WV P	BLA + 2 yrs MLA + 1 yr			10 years.	Experience under the supervision of a landscape architect, or a person having similar qualifications acceptable to the board.	N/A	LARE; WV Exam	Certificate optional for initial licensure and reciprocity
WI P	Degree + 2 yrs	International programs evaluated by board			Practical experience in landscape architecture of a character satisfactory to the board.	N/A	LARE	Optional for reciprocity

²⁴ An applicant may submit experience accrued for a period of three years in the practice of landscape architecture in order to meet the experience requirements if the experience was obtained in Vermont on or before December 31, 2011. Evidence of experience shall be reviewed and approved by the director.

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WY P	Degree + 3 yrs			6 years	Diversified practical experience in landscape architecture under the supervision of a licensed LA. Partial credit will be given for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ experience under an allied professional ■ teaching in an accredited LA program ■ on-site construction, maintenance or installation procedures ■ non-diversified LA experience 	N/A	LARE	Record required for initial licensure; Certificate optional for reciprocity