

Snapshot: Landscape Architecture Laws Eligibility Requirements: Education, Experience & Examination

State*	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	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 exp in LA work ³	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	8 years: BLA + 4 years MLA + 4 years BLA & MLA/ PhD + 3 years 10 years: 3 yrs can be satisfied via coursework in LAAB program w/o degree	8 years: Degree + 5 years Degree & MLA/PhD + 4 years	TBD on case-by-case basis by the Board	7 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. Two years of experience must be obtained under a licensed LA.	N/A	LARE; Board-approved course in artic engineering; Jurisprudence exam (take home)	Optional for Reciprocity
AZ	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.	8 yrs	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 4 yrs of combined edu/exp in work directly related to LA. Must complete the exam designated by the board.	LARE (exempt with LAAB degree + 12 years of LA experience)	Optional for Reciprocity
AR⁴	Degree ⁵ + 2 yr	Degree + 4 yrs	Degree + 4 yrs	8 years	Experience satisfactory to the board Two years of experience must be obtained under a licensed LA.	N/A	LARE	Record required

* All Practice Acts have provisions restricting the use of the title "Landscape Architect" to licensed individuals. Forty-eight states have a Practice Act, with three states (IL, ME, MA) having a Title Act.

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 a record or 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.

³ Experience must have begun by 8/1/2012 to qualify.

⁴ Arkansas statute provides for eligibility for those without an accredited degree, but the board rules to not include these provisions. Contact the [Arkansas Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, and Interior Designers](#) for more information.

⁵ 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.

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CA	Board - approved program + 2 yrs	Degree + 3 yrs Ext.certificate + 4 yrs ⁶ Ass. Degree + 5 yrs	Degree + 5 yrs	N/A – All candidates must have at least 1 yr of edu and 2 yrs of experience	At least one year of experience must be under the direct supervision of a licensed LA after graduation. No experience required for L.A.R.E. Sections 1 and 2.	N/A	LARE; CA supplemental examination	N/A
CO	Degree+ 2 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	Degree + 2 yrs	BLA + 4 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	6 years: Degree + 2 years; 2 years education + 4 years exp	BLA + 4 yrs			Professional experience under the supervision of a licensed LA.	N/A	LARE	N/A
DC								
FL	Degree + 1 yr	Degree + 2 yrs	A/E Degree + 2 yrs Other Degree + 4 yrs	6 years: rules have specific parameters for this work	All experience must be under the supervision of a licensed LA.	N/A	LARE + exam on statute & rules, plant materials, aspects of practice in FL	N/A
GA	4-yr degree ⁷ + 18 months or 5-yr degree only. MLA w/o BLA - determined by board				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

⁶ California allows for partial completion of a degree or certificate to qualify as 1 year of education, with 5 years of experience needed to qualify for licensure.

⁷ 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.

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HI	5 yr degree ⁸ + 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	Approved ⁹ 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.
IL	BLA ¹⁰ + 2 yrs MLA + 1 yr				Experience includes (but is not limited to) performing the duties of a LA in a professional office or government agency under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect, professional engineer or licensed architect. Experience outside of IL must be under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect, professional engineer or licensed architect who is legally authorized to practice in the jurisdiction in which he or she is located. 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 initial license and reciprocity

⁸ Hawaii statutes and regulations refer to programs “approved by the board,” but do not reference LAAB.

⁹ Idaho regulations specify that “approved” programs include those accredited by LAAB and any others deemed approved by the board.

¹⁰ 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.

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IN	Degree + 3 yrs (2 yrs must follow graduation)	Degree + 8 yrs	Degree + 8 yrs		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. Fees much higher w/o CLARB record
IA	4-yr-degree ¹¹ + 3 yrs 5-yr-degree + 2 yrs	4-year-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	4-yr-degree ¹² + 4 yrs 5-yr-degree + 3 yrs	4-yr-degree + 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	Degree ¹³ + 2 yrs				At least two years of experience related to the practice of professional landscape architecture under the supervision of a licensed landscape architect, engineer, or architect, within five years prior to submitting the application for licensure.	N/A	LARE	N/A

¹¹ Iowa statute requires "graduation from a...university offering an accredited...curriculum in landscape architecture," but does not reference the LAAB.

¹² Kansas statute references LAAB for accreditation, but also authorizes the board to approve other programs.

¹³ Kentucky statute requires a degree from an accredited landscape architecture curriculum, but does not reference the LAAB.

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LA	Degree ¹⁴ + 1 yr	Degree + 1 yr	Degree ¹⁵ + 4 yrs	6 years – provide proof of work in certain areas ¹⁶	Practical LA experience under direct supervision of LA, landscape horticulturalist, or design professional in related profession	N/A	LARE; supplemental exam	N/A
ME	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+ 3 yr diversified exp + 5 yrs as principal Other Degree + 4 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: (1) diversified experience in LA lawfully practicing as a principal; (2) diversified exp in LA under direct supervision of a licensed LA; (3) diversified exp 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 exp in LA directly related to onsite construction, maintenance or installation procedures; or (6) 50% of the applicants non-diversified exp in LA under the direct supervision of a LA, civil engineer, architect or urban or regional planner. Each pathway has its own minimum for exp gained under the supervision of a licensed LA.	N/A	LARE; interview required	Certificate optional for reciprocity
MD	Degree + 2 yrs	Degree + 4 yrs	Design-related degree + 4 yrs Other degree + 6 yrs	8 years	All experience must be obtained under the responsible charge of a licensed LA or other authorized individual.	N/A	LARE	N/A

¹⁴ Louisiana regulations refer to “degree in landscape architecture,” but do not reference the LAAB.

¹⁵ Degree in horticulture/plant science, architecture, civil engineering, environmental design or urban design.

¹⁶ 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.

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MA	Degree ¹⁷ + 2 yrs	Degree + 6 yrs	A/E Degree + 6 yrs Other Degree +6 yrs	6 years	Board policy outlines the definition of diversified experience. Two years of experience must be obtained under a licensed LA with at least 10 years as a licensee. Any additional experience may be obtained under the supervision of a licensed architect, engineer, land surveyor, certified planner, or related government agency.	N/A	LARE	N/A
MI	BLA + 3 yrs MLA + 2 yrs	Department decision		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	4yr BLA + 4 yrs 5yr BLA + 3 yrs MLA/PHD (with related bachelor's degree) + 3 yrs				Varied, progressive, non-repetitive, practical experience at LA work, developing the ability to apply the theoretical knowledge gained during academic training in making sound judgments in solving LA problems. Experience shall include LA elements of programming, site and environmental analysis, code research, design development documents, construction documents, specifications, document checking, bidding and contract negotiation, construction phase including office and construction phase, on-site observation, project management and client contact, office management, and research other than code or project-related research.	N/A	LARE	Record required for initial licensure and reciprocity
MS	Degree ¹⁸	Degree + 7 yrs. (Education can count for up to 2 yrs.)	A/E Degree + 7 yrs. (Education can count for up to 2 yrs.)	7 years	Meets CLARB standards	N/A	LARE	Requires certificate or other proof of eligibility
MO	Degree + 3 yrs				Satisfactory training and experience in the practice of landscape architecture.	N/A	LARE	N/A

¹⁷ Massachusetts statute and regulations refer to "approved" programs, but do not reference the LAAB.

¹⁸ 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." Rules specify a CLARB-recognized body or CLARB-recognized educational evaluation authority.

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MT	Degree + 2 yrs	Degree + 3 yrs	Degree + 4 yrs Assoc. Degree + 6 yrs	8 years	Experience must be gained under the direct supervision of a licensed design professional, with 2/3 of the experience under the direct supervision of a licensed LA. The remainder can be earned under the supervision of a licensed civil engineer, licensed architect, or certified planner. Practical experience is defined as a diversity of experience directly related to landscape architecture.	N/A	LARE	Optional for initial licensure and reciprocity
NE	Degree ¹⁹ + 3 yrs	N/A		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	BLA + 2 yrs MLA + 1 yr	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. 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

¹⁹ 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	Degree + 3 yrs	Degree + 5 yrs	Degree in related field + 5 yrs		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	Degree ²⁰ + 4 yrs	Degree + 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	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	4-yr BLA/MLA + 4 yrs 5-yr BLA/MLA + 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

²⁰ New Jersey authorizes the board to approve programs.

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NC	Degree + 4 yrs (8,000 hours)	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. Applicant may petition board to receive credit for other experience directly related to LA. Experience must be directly related to landscape architecture and under direct supervision of a licensed LA. Part-time work will be given partial credit.	N/A	LARE	Optional for reciprocity
ND²¹	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	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	Certificate required for initial licensure and reciprocity
OK²²	Degree + 3 yrs	Degree + 4 years	Architecture Degree + 7 years Engineering Degree – Experience determined by Board	10 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 credentialed 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 material exam; OK law & regulations exam	Optional for reciprocity

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

²² Oklahoma has established a complicated regulatory structure for equivalencies for education and experience. See [Oklahoma Board of Architects, Landscape Architects and Registered Interior Designers](#) for more information.

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OR	Degree + 3 yrs	Degree + 4 yrs	A/E degree + 4 yrs	11 years	Experience under the direct supervision of a licensed design professional. One year must be under a licensed landscape architect. Up to 2 years of experience may be satisfied under the supervision of a licensed architect or engineer.	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	Optional for initial licensure and reciprocity
PA	Degree + 2 yrs MLA + 1 yr			8 years ²³	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	Degree + 2 yrs	At discretion of the board	At discretion of the board	6 years		N/A	LARE; RI exam	N/A
SC	Degree + 2 yrs	BLA + 4 yrs MLA + 2 yrs	A/E Degree + 5 yrs A/E Masters + 2 yrs (w/BLA accredited)		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	4-yr degree + 4 yrs 5-yr degree + 3 yrs				Experience can be gained through full- and part-time work and the board may require evidence of experience (plans, specifications, etc.). Experience gained prior to fulfilling the education requirement is acceptable, up to 6-months credit. Experience under a design professional licensed in a foreign country can be evaluated by the board.	N/A	LARE; SD exam on licensure laws (take home)	Certificate required for initial licensure and reciprocity
TN	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	Degree ²⁴ + 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

²³ Pennsylvania law allows licensure upon passage of the exam following 8 years of experience.

²⁴ Degree approved if the landscape architecture program was LAAB-accredited not later than two years after the applicant's graduation.

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UT	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	Required for reciprocity
VT²⁵	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	Degree + 3 years	Degree + 4 yrs (minimum of eight years of combined education and work experience)	A/E Degree + 4 yrs (minimum of eight years of combined education and work experience)	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	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	BLA + 2 yrs MLA + 2 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

²⁵ 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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WI	Degree + 2 yrs	Degree + 4 yrs International programs evaluated by board		7 years	Practical experience in landscape architecture of a character satisfactory to the board. Experience only path must include at least 2 yrs course work in LA and 4 yrs LA experience that is satisfactory to the board.	N/A	LARE	Optional for reciprocity
WY	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