



## Landscape Architecture Licensure Laws

### ASLA Summary of Provisions

#### MICHIGAN

Michigan Compiled Laws: Chapter 339, Article 22

Michigan Administrative Code: Landscape Architects General Rules

**Type of Law:** Practice/Title act.

#### Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs

Effective July 15, 2007, the landscape architect board was abolished by executive order due to lack of activity. The board's powers were transferred to the Department of Labor and Economic Growth (now renamed the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs). The practice act enacted in 2009 authorizes the Department to appoint ad hoc committees, as needed, to assist in adopting rules regarding continuing education requirements. The committees must consist of a majority of licensed landscape architects.

#### Definitions

Landscape architect: A person qualified to practice landscape architecture.

Practice of landscape architecture: The performance of professional services such as consultation, investigation, research, planning, design, or responsible field observation in connection with the development of land areas where, and to the extent that the dominant purpose of the services is the preservation, enhancement, or determination of proper land uses, natural land resources, ground cover and planting, naturalistic and aesthetic values, the settings and approaches to structures or other improvements, natural drainage, and the consideration and determination of inherent problems of the land relating to erosion, use and stress, blight, or other hazards. The location and arrangement of tangible objects and features incidental and necessary to the purposes outlined in the law.

The law does not prohibit a licensed landscape architect from performing any of the services covered under the definition of the practice of landscape architecture in connection with the settings, approaches, or environment for buildings, structures or facilities. The law does not authorize a landscape architect to engage in the practice of architecture, engineering or land surveying.

#### Exemptions

Does not prohibit a person from performing or offering services as a landscape designer, landscape gardener, landscape contractor, or landscape nursery operator as long as that person does not use the term 'landscape architect.'

#### Eligibility Requirements – Initial Licensure

[A combination of education and experience totaling seven years, with the following options: (1) a baccalaureate degree from an LAAB-accredited program (4 years); (2) a master's degree in landscape architecture from an LAAB-accredited program, which includes the completion of undergraduate prerequisites (5 years); university-level courses in the subjects included in an LAAB-accredited landscape architecture degree program, even though a degree was not awarded (partial credit depending on the courses); or professional experience in the actual practice of landscape architecture which is documented by not less than 5 references from persons having knowledge of the applicant's experience. No fewer than 3 of the references must be licensees who can indicate a knowledge of the applicant's professional expertise. All applicants must have at least two years of professional experience. All applicants must successfully complete the LARE. CLARB certification will provide automatic qualification for an applicant for licensure.]

[Fee: Application, \$200. Initial license and annual renewal, \$60.]

Note: Bracketed [ ] material is drawn from regulations.



### **Eligibility Requirements – Reciprocal Licensure**

A license to practice in any other state or country whose requirements for licensure are at least substantially equivalent to Michigan's requirements.

[Fee: Application, \$200. Initial license and annual renewal, \$60.]

### **Practice Entities**

No provisions.

### **Seal Requirements**

Plans, specifications, and reports prepared by a licensee or under his or her supervision must be stamped with his or her seal when filed with a public authority, although all documents should be sealed regardless of their destination.

### **Enforcement**

Department powers: Investigating complaints, holding necessary hearings, requesting the attorney general to issue subpoenas, issuing formal complaints, cease and desist orders, notices of summary suspension or citations.

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Prohibitions/penalties: A licensee can be disciplined for; endorsing a document with his or her seal while his or her license is not in full force; endorsing a document the landscape architect did not actually prepare or supervise in the preparation of; committing fraud or deceit in obtaining a license; committing fraud, deceit, or dishonesty in practicing landscape architecture; violating the rules of conduct; lack of good moral character; committing an act of gross negligence; false advertising; committing an act which demonstrates incompetence; violation of any other provision of law or a rule for which a penalty is not otherwise prescribed; failing to comply with a subpoena; failing to respond to a citation; or violation or failure to comply with a final order issued by the board, including a stipulation, settlement agreement, or a citation. Violation of the law or a rule or order shall be assessed one or more of the following penalties: limitation, suspension, revocation, denial of a license or renewal of a license; censure, probation or restitution; or a civil fine to be paid to the department, not to exceed \$10,000.

Prohibitions/penalties for unlicensed practice: Unlicensed practice is a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than \$500, or imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both. A second or any subsequent violation is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$1,000, or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both.

### **Mandatory Continuing Education**

The practice act enacted in 2009 requires continuing education for landscape architects, but regulations have not yet been promulgated to implement the requirements.

**Last updated April 15, 2011**

Note: Bracketed [ ] material is drawn from regulations.