



PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE: RECIPROCITY (2002, R2018, R2023)

Policy Statement

The American Society of Landscape Architects believes requirements for reciprocal licensure should easily and efficiently facilitate the interstate practice of professional landscape architecture and protect public health, safety, and welfare. ASLA supports the use of uniform criteria for licensure to help facilitate reciprocity, while recognizing states may have additional requirements based upon unique environmental conditions related to public health and safety. ASLA recognizes CLARB's Council Record or Certificate can increase licensing board efficiency, however ASLA supports multiple means for an individual to obtain a reciprocal license without the requirement of a CLARB Council Record or CLARB Certificate.

Justification

Streamlined processes for licensure mobility and reciprocity is imperative as many landscape architects regularly work across state lines and hold multiple state licenses.

Issue

Reciprocal licensing among the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories benefits consumers and helps standardize the ability to practice landscape architecture across all jurisdictions in the interest of protecting public health, safety, and welfare.¹ The use of uniform criteria for landscape architectural licensing—in the areas of education, professional experience, and examination—simplifies reciprocal licensure by enabling regulating authorities to efficiently evaluate the qualifications of landscape architects applying for reciprocity, thereby avoiding delay and expense. CLARB provides services, such as the CLARB Model Law and Regulations, CLARB Council Record, and CLARB Certificate to promote efficiency in the reciprocal licensure process for all stakeholders.

In establishing criteria for reciprocity, regulating authorities recognize the validity of individual state variations and balance uniformity and flexibility in the interest of facilitating reciprocity while promoting public health, safety, and welfare. States have and may continue to establish state-specific requirements for licensing in response to specific public health and safety issues in that state, such as biodiversity, seismicity, natural disasters (such as frequent seasonal fires), climatic conditions, littoral conditions, etc.

Regulating authorities recognize certain jurisdictions may have differing pathways to professional licensure. Adoption of uniform licensure criteria for education, experience, and examination reduces regulatory burdens and keeps jurisdictional differences to a minimum.

Note

This policy is one of an integrated group of policies on licensing issues.

¹ ASLA recognizes states may use different terms in statute that all speak to mobility of the profession, e.g. reciprocity, endorsement, comity etc...