

OHIO LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS BOARD

General information (ARC)

Duties

The Landscape Architect Board is charged under RC 4703.33 with ensuring the competency of landscape architects by setting standards for the education, experience, service, conduct and practice to be followed by landscape architects. The Board adopts rules, establishes practices, investigates complaints and violations of its rules and requirements, and educates the public as to the profession.

Membership *(Current members, chairperson and other officers, and selection process.)*

The Board consists of 5 members: 3 licensed landscape architects, one public member, and one allied design professional member. Board members are chosen by the governor's office and serve for a term of 5 years beginning on November 11th. The current members are Patrick Beam (landscape architect member), Timothy Schmalenberger (landscape architect member), John Reiner (landscape architect member and Board Secretary), Christopher Fleming (design professional member), and Gwen Eberly (public member and Board President).

Budget *(Current budget, description of budgeting process, sources of funding, and expected increases or decreases in budget or funding in future years.)*

The Ohio Landscape Architects Board shares the budget and administrative staff of the Ohio Architects Board. The combined budget for FY23 is \$662,991 and is completely self-funded by licensing fees. No GRF fees are used. The Board anticipates a moderate increased budget request for FY24-FY25 due to inflation and rising administrative costs.

Workload *(Assess current, past, and anticipated workload. Has the workload increased or decreased significantly in the preceding six years?)*

The Board staff workload remains relatively consistent over the past six years. While the number of applications and licensees have increased slightly since 2016, the increased automation provided by the elicense system has kept the workload manageable.

Increased proactive enforcement, which remains part of the Board's strategic initiatives, may increase workload by up to 10%, but remains within our current staffing capabilities.

Staffing *(How many staff are currently employed by the Board? What are their roles? Are staffing levels proportionate to the Board's current and anticipated workload?)*

Currently there are four staff members shared by the Architects Board and the Landscape Architects Board: a Certification/Licensing Examiner, responsible for all initial administrative licensing matters; an investigator, responsible for all investigations and enforcement matters for the Board; a Program Administrator, responsible for fiscal and upper level licensing matters and serves as the deputy Executive Director; and an Executive Director, responsible for all management, education and outreach matters.

Administrative hearings and public complaints *(Describe the Board's processes for administering discipline and addressing complaints. Assess the efficiency of the processes.)*

The Board investigates 100% of all complaints received and determines the proper disciplinary response. The Board also proactively searches the internet for potential violations and conducts random audits of licensees to determine compliance with continuing education requirements. If these proactive efforts find violations of the Board's laws or rules, the Board will determine the proper discipline. If a violation warrants discipline rather than education, the Board complies with the notice and administrative hearing requirements of RC Chapter 119. The Board's processes are efficient and thorough and strike the proper balance between protecting the public without being unduly burdensome upon the landscape architectural industry.

Landscape architect

Survey responses (ARC)

Description
<p>Landscape architecture is the analysis, planning, design, management, and stewardship of the natural and built environment. Landscape architecture includes the preparation and sealing of drawings, construction documents, and specifications and the administration of contracts in accordance with accepted professional standards of public health, safety, and welfare.</p> <p>As architects design and oversee the construction of buildings, landscape architects design and oversee the construction of the environment outside buildings. They design large community projects such as public parks, subdivisions, waterfront projects, playgrounds, campuses, zoos, golf courses, walking trails, and outdoor structures, to name a few. The landscape architect keeps the public safe from hazards, protects natural resources, sustainably manages the natural and built environment, and enhances social, economic, cultural, and physical functioning of the public in the present and in the future.</p>
<p>Type <i>(License, specialty license for medical reimbursement, government certification, registration, bonding or insurance, inspection, or process regulation. See R.C. 4798.01 for relevant definitions.)</i></p>
<p>License; Landscape Architects are required to hold a license pursuant to RC 4703.34</p>

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
Number issued annually	Approximately 35 new landscape architect licenses are issued annually
Number renewed annually	Renewal is a biennial requirement. Approximately 600 landscape architects renew every 2 years

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
Have there been significant increases or decreases in active registrations, certifications or licenses in the preceding six years?	Landscape Architect licensure has remained mostly consistent over the past 6 years with a slight increase.
Education or training requirements	Landscape Architects are required to complete a landscape architecture degree program accredited by the national Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (“LAAB”)
Experience requirements	3 years of experience working in the landscape architecture field, 2 years of which are under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect.
Examination requirements (<i>Who administers the exam? How is the exam and administrator selected? What fees are charged? Does the Board receive any proceeds of those fees? If so, how are the proceeds used?</i>)	Successful completion of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (“LARE”). The examination is national and a requirement of every U.S. state as well as several Canadian provinces. The exam is written and administered by the Council of Landscape Architect Registration Boards (“CLARB”) and is proctored by Prometric. CLARB charges either \$375 or \$590 each of the 4 sections of the LARE, and none of these fees are received by the Board. CLARB uses the fees to pay for the costs associated with drafting and administering the examination.
Continuing education requirements (<i>Including a description of the curriculum and the process of setting it.</i>)	24 hours of continuing education during each 2-year renewal period; 16 of these hours must be in the topics of Health, Safety and Welfare. Classes are offered by certain providers approved by the Board, and many are free.
Initial fee	License by examination: \$50. License by reciprocity: \$250
Duration	Up to 2 years, or until expiration on December 31 st of even-numbered years (e.g., 12/31/2020, 12/31/2022)

If the regulation is a registration, certification, or license requirement, please complete the following:	
Renewal fee <i>(If different from initial fee, please explain why.)</i>	\$125. The initial license fee structure is reduced for first-time licensees (who are typically recent graduates) and increased for reciprocal candidates (who are typically established professionals) and does not necessarily reflect the actual cost of application review and approval. The renewal fees reflect the ongoing costs of enforcement and administration of the Board activities.
Does the Board recognize uniform licensure requirements or allow for reciprocity?	The Board allows for reciprocal licensure; Approximately 80% of all new licenses granted are reciprocal applicants.
Are there any similar national registrations, certifications, or licenses? Could they be used as a substitute for the state regulation?	No
Are there any circumstances in which an individual may practice elements of the occupation without being regulated by the Board?	Yes; there is some overlap between the practice of architecture and landscape architecture, and architects may practice landscape architecture that is incidental to the practice of architecture pursuant to RC 4703.32. Moreover, those working toward licensure may work under the supervision of a licensed landscape architect.
Is the Board permitted to exercise discretion in determining whether to register, certify, or license an individual?	The licensing requirements for education, experience, and examination are objective and allow for very little discretionary decisions by the Board. Very rarely discretionary review of experience may be required.
Other information <i>(Significant attributes or prerequisites to licensure not addressed in this chart.)</i>	N/A

Oversight and disciplinary authority of the Board respecting individuals engaged in the occupation.

The Board has oversight and disciplinary authority over all licensed landscape architects to ensure compliance with its laws and rules, to protect the health, safety and welfare of Ohio citizens and the built and natural environment. The Board investigates all complaints regarding landscape architects, including complaints of competency, professionalism, and ethics. The Board also conducts random audits of the continuing education of licensees to ensure their competency. The Board is authorized to discipline licensees for violations of its laws and rules, including its code of ethics, through fines, suspension, or revocation of licenses. The Board may also seek injunctive or criminal action against those engaged in the unlicensed practice of landscape architecture, pursuant to RC 4703.46.

How much revenue is derived from fees charged by the Board to individuals engaged in the occupation (such as license and renewal fees)? How is that revenue used?

Approximately \$100,000 biennial revenue is derived from individual licensing fees charged by the Landscape Architects Board. The revenue is used to support the administrative, licensing, enforcement, and educational activities of the Board.

Describe any federal regulations that apply to the occupation. Does federal law require the state to regulate the occupation?

There are no federal regulations that apply to the occupation of Landscape Architecture, and no federal laws require state regulation.

What is the harm that the regulation seeks to prevent? (See, R.C. 4798.02(B).)

The regulation seeks to prevent harm to the public that would be caused by the incompetent practice of landscape architecture. Competent landscape architects tackle issues involving soil, drainage, site grades, stormwater management, erosion control, retaining walls, energy efficiency, roadways, and pedestrian walkways. Incompetence in these areas could not only sicken or endanger the public but could cause financial damages and community hardships. The regulation ensures that landscape architects have proven the ability to keep the public safe from natural or built hazards, protect and maximize the use of natural systems and resources, and prevent damage to public or private property from changes in the built environment.

Is the regulation effective at preventing the harm described above? Are there other, less restrictive ways to prevent the harm?

Yes; the licensing requirements of RC 4703.33 et seq prevent public harm by ensuring landscape architecture competencies through advanced education, supervised experience, and a rigorous professional examination. The education, experience, and examination required to earn a license ensures that licensed landscape architects can keep the public safe from hazards, protect and maximize the use of natural systems and resources, and prevent damage to public or private property from changes in the built environment.

Are there any changes the Board would like to see implemented?

N/A

Surrounding state comparison (LSC)

Certificate of Qualification to Practice Landscape Architecture						
	Ohio	Indiana	Kentucky	Michigan	Pennsylvania	West Virginia
Type of regulation	Certificate of registration (<i>R.C. 4703.30 to 4703.49</i>).	Certificate of registration (<i>Ind. Code 25-4-2-3</i>).	License (<i>Ky. Rev. Stat. 323A.020</i>).	License (<i>Mich. Comp. Laws 339.2202</i>).	License (<i>63 Pa. Cons. Stat. 903 and 906</i>).	License (<i>W. Va. Code 30-22-1</i>).
Education or training	Professional degree in landscape architecture from a program accredited by the National Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (<i>R.C. 4703.34; O.A.C. 4703:1-2-01</i>).	Graduation from an accredited landscape architecture curriculum or eight years of practical experience prior to 2003 (<i>Ind. Code 25-4-2-3</i>).	Graduation from an accredited landscape architecture curriculum (<i>Ky. Rev. Stat. 323A-040</i>).	Baccalaureate degree from a program approved by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (<i>Mich. Comp. Laws 339.2204; Mich. Admin. Code R. 339.19004 and 339.19008</i>).	Graduation from a college or school of landscape architecture approved by the State Board of Landscape Architects (<i>63 Pa. Cons. Stat. 906; 49 Pa. Code 15.54</i>).	One of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bachelor's degree in landscape architecture from an accredited college or university; or ▪ Graduate degree in landscape architecture from an accredited college or university (<i>W. Va. Code 30-22-9</i>).
Experience	Must be at least 18 years of age.	Must be at least 18 years of age.	Must be at least 21 years of age.	Not less than seven years of	At least two years of practical	Must be at least 18 years of age

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	Three years of practical experience under direct supervision of a registered landscape architect or an internship. <i>(R.C. 4703.34; O.A.C. 4703:1-2-01.)</i>	Three years of experience in landscape architectural work. <i>(Ind. Code 25-4-2-3.)</i>	Two years of experience under the supervision of a licensed landscape architect, engineer, or architect within five years prior to submitting the application for licensure. <i>(Ky. Rev. Stat. 323A-040.)</i>	training, experience, and education total in the actual implementation and practice of landscape architecture. (Satisfactory completion of each year up to five years of an accredited course in landscape architecture accredited by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board is considered as equivalent to one year of experience.) <i>(Mich. Comp. Laws 339.2204; Mich. Admin. Code R. 339.19008.)</i>	experience in landscape architectural work under the supervision of a design professional or if the applicant does not have such a supervisor, they must have their professional work product reviewed by a landscape architect every six months for two consecutive years <i>(63 Pa. Cons. Stat. 906; 49 Pa. Code 15.41).</i> An approved year of study in an approved college or school of landscape architecture may be accepted in lieu of one year of required experience but	and satisfy one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ For an applicant with a bachelor's degree – at least two years of experience in landscape architecture under the supervision of a landscape architect; ▪ For an applicant with a graduate degree – at least one year of experience in landscape architecture under the supervision of a landscape architect; or ▪ An applicant that, after

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					must also then demonstrate acceptable experience of at least six years of combined education and experience. An applicant with eight years of acceptable experience may be exempt from the degree requirement. (63 Pa. Cons. Stat. 906.)	January 1, 2007, has completed at least ten years of experience in landscape architecture under the supervision of a landscape architect. (W. Va. Code 30-22-9 and 30-22-10.)
Exam	Landscape Architect Registration Exam administered by the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (R.C. 4703.33 and 4703.34; O.A.C. 4703:1-2-01).	Landscape Architect Registration Exam administered by the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (Ind. Code 25-4-2-4; 804 Ind. Admin. Code 1.1-6-2).	Landscape Architect Registration Exam administered by the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (Ky. Rev. Stat. 323A-040; 201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 10:040).	Landscape Architect Registration Exam administered by the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (Mich. Comp. Laws 339.2004; Mich.	Landscape Architect Registration Examination prepared by the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (63 Pa. Cons. Stat. 904).	Landscape Architect Registration Examination prepared by the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (W. Va. Code R. 9-1-5).

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				<i>Admin. Code R. 339.19006).</i>		
Continuing education	24 contact hours every two years, of which at least 16 hours be on health, safety, and welfare subjects (<i>R.C. 4703.33 and 4703.36; O.A.C. 4703:1-1-06</i>).	24 hours every two years (<i>Ind. Code 25-4-2-13; 804 Ind. Admin. Code 1.1-8-3</i>).	12 hours each year but cannot exceed 15 hours annually (<i>Ky. Rev. Stat. 323A.100, 323A.210; 201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 10:080</i>).	Not less than 24 hours every two years (<i>Mich. Admin. Code R. 339.19012 and 339.19014</i>).	24 hours every two years (<i>63 Pa. Cons. Stat. 909.1; 49 Pa. Code 15.72</i>).	Eight professional development hour units each year, of which at least six hours be in structured education activities that directly address public health, safety, interest, and welfare issues related to the practice of landscape architecture (<i>W. Va. Code R. 9-2-3</i>).
Initial licensure fee	\$50 (<i>R.C. 4703.37; O.A.C. 4703:1-1-05</i>).	\$150 (<i>Ind. Code 25-4-2-8; 804 Ind. Admin. Code 1.1-3-1.1</i>).	\$250 (<i>Ky. Rev. Stat. 323A-060; 201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 10:050</i>).	\$200 processing fee (<i>Mich. Comp. Laws 338.2215</i>).	\$60 for an applicant who has completed the undergraduate degree and two years of professional experience (<i>63 Pa. Cons. Stat.</i>	\$100 (<i>W. Va. Code 30-22-8; W. Va. Code R. 9-3-4</i>).

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					905; 49 Pa. Code 15.12). \$350 for an applicant who did not complete a degree but who has eight years of professional experience (49 Pa. Code 15.12).	
License duration	From date of issuance to December 31 of the even number year succeeding that date; two years thereafter (O.A.C. 4703:1-1-04).	Two years (<i>Ind. Code 25-4-2-8 and 25-4-2-8.5</i>).	One year (on July 1) (<i>Ky. Rev. Stat. 323A.100</i>).	Two years (<i>Michigan Landscape Architect Licensing Guide (PDF)</i>).	Two years (<i>63 Pa. Cons. Stat. 904; 49 Pa. Code 15.34</i>).	One or two years (<i>W. Va. Code 30-22-12</i>).
Renewal fee	\$125 (<i>R.C. 4703.37; O.A.C. 4703:1-1-05</i>).	\$100 (<i>Ind. Code 25-4-2-8; 804 Ind. Admin. Code 1.1-3-1.1</i>).	Active license: \$250; inactive license: \$150; retired license: \$62.50 (<i>Ky. Rev. Stat. 323A-060; 201 Ky. Admin. Regs. 10:050</i>).	\$60 (<i>Mich. Comp. Laws 338.2215</i>).	\$194 (<i>49 Pa. Code 15.12</i>).	\$100 (<i>W. Va. Code R. 9-3-4</i>).