

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE
STATE BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE, INTERIOR DESIGN AND
RESIDENTIAL DESIGN**

LCB File No. R005-21

July 7, 2021

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AUTHORITY: §§ 1 and 2, NRS 623.140 and 623.190; §§ 3, 4 and 7, NRS 623.140 and 623.192;
§§ 5 and 6, NRS 623.140 and 623.255.

A REGULATION relating to design professionals; revising the qualifications for examination of an applicant for registration as an architect; revising references to certain national programs and organizations related to the practice of architecture or interior design; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:

Existing law requires the State Board of Architecture, Interior Design and Residential Design to adopt regulations relating to the practice of architecture, interior design and residential design. (NRS 623.140)

Existing regulations require, with certain exceptions, an applicant for registration as an architect to have completed or be enrolled in the Intern Development Program of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards. (NAC 623.400) **Section 1** of this regulation instead requires with certain exceptions, an applicant for registration as an architect to have completed or be enrolled in: (1) the Architectural Experience Program of the National Council; or (2) an Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure option that is accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board, Inc. **Section 1** also updates the contact information for the National Council.

Existing regulations require an applicant for registration as an architect to substantiate certain training by showing that it meets the requirements of an intern in the Intern Development Program of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards. (NAC 623.465) **Section 2** of this regulation instead requires an applicant to substantiate certain training by showing that it meets the requirements of a licensure candidate in the Architectural Experience Program of the National Council.

Existing regulations authorize a registrant to obtain continuing education units in certain self-directed educational activities including serving as a mentor or supervisor for the Intern Development Program of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards or the

Interior Design Experience Program of the National Council for Interior Design Qualification. (NAC 623.630, 623.632) **Section 5** of this regulation instead authorizes a registrant to obtain continuing education units by serving as a mentor or supervisor for the Architectural Experience Program of the National Council or the Interior Design Experience Program of the Council for Interior Design Qualification.

Existing regulations related to interior design refer to the National Council for Interior Design Qualification for various purposes. (NAC 623.572, 623.594, 623.632, 623.640, 623.830) **Sections 3-7** of this regulation update the name of the Council. **Section 7** updates the contact information for the Council.

Section 1. NAC 623.400 is hereby amended to read as follows:

623.400 1. The Board hereby adopts the architectural examination prepared by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards as the examination to be used in this State to test applicants for registration as architects.

2. In addition to the qualifications of minimum age and good moral character which are prescribed in subsection 1 of NRS 623.190, to participate in the examination an applicant must, except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, have completed or be enrolled in ~~the Intern Development~~ :

(a) *The Architectural Experience* Program of the National Council as the Program existed at the time of application for registration and have received or be eligible to receive a first professional degree in architecture from a program accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board, Inc. ; *or*

(b) *An Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure option that is accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board, Inc.*

3. An applicant who received 7 years of credits for education and practical training before January 1, 1986, may participate in the examination after the applicant has received a total of 8 years of credits for education and practical training pursuant to NAC 623.445. Of the 8 years

immediately preceding the date on which the application is submitted, the applicant must have had 3 years of experience in the office and under the direct supervision of a registered architect.

4. An applicant who has completed or is enrolled in the ~~[Intern Development]~~ *Architectural Experience* Program must have the National Council transmit adequate evidence thereof to the Board. ~~[If necessary, to evaluate the training received by an applicant who participated or is enrolled in the Program, the Board will require the applicant to substantiate the quality and character of the training during the Program.]~~

5. Requests for information regarding the ~~[Intern Development]~~ *Architectural Experience* Program must be directed to the:

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTURAL

REGISTRATION BOARDS

~~[1801 K Street, N.W., Suite 700K~~

~~Washington, D.C. 20006 1310~~

~~(202) 783-6500]~~

1401 H Street NW, Suite 500

Washington, DC 20005

(202) 879-0520

www.ncarb.org

6. Upon the applicant's successful completion of all parts of the written examination, each applicant must personally appear before the Board to take an oath prescribed by the Board.

Sec. 2. NAC 623.465 is hereby amended to read as follows:

623.465 The credit to be allowed for the training described in the table in NAC 623.445 is subject to the following conditions:

1. Credit for training may be earned only after at least 2 1/2 credits have been earned for education.
2. After 5 years of education, each applicant must earn at least 1 year of credit for employment in the office of a registered architect.
3. To be allowed credit for a master's or doctoral degree in architecture or for teaching or research in an architectural program, the subjects studied, taught or researched by the applicant must be evaluated by the Board and found to be related directly to architecture. Twenty semester hours or 30 quarter hours of teaching or research is considered to be 1 year.
4. Credits may not be used for both education and training.
5. An applicant, upon request by the Board, must substantiate his or her training by showing that it meets the requirements of ~~[an intern]~~ *a licensure candidate* in the ~~[Intern Development]~~ *Architectural Experience* Program of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards.

Sec. 3. NAC 623.572 is hereby amended to read as follows:

623.572 1. The provisions of this section:

(a) Apply only to an application submitted pursuant to NRS 623.192 by an applicant who has successfully completed a program of interior design which is not accredited by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation.

(b) Do not apply to an applicant who submits to the Board a letter of approval from the ~~[National]~~ Council for Interior Design Qualification or its successor organization indicating that the applicant has successfully completed an alternative program of interior design developed by

the ~~[National]~~ Council and approved by the Board. The Board may issue a certificate of registration to practice as a registered interior designer to such an applicant.

2. Upon the receipt of an application and appropriate supporting information from an applicant specified in paragraph (a) of subsection 1, the Executive Director shall:

(a) Establish a subcommittee of the Board to review the application. If possible, at least one of the members of the subcommittee must be a registered interior designer. A subcommittee established pursuant to this paragraph may be composed of architects or registered interior designers who hold a certificate of registration issued pursuant to chapter 623 of NRS.

(b) Provide each member of the subcommittee with a copy of each pending application and any supporting information.

3. The subcommittee shall:

(a) Meet at least once during each period of 90 days in which any applications are awaiting its review.

(b) Meet in a closed session to consider the qualifications of an applicant.

(c) Weigh the application against the requirements of NAC 623.562 to 623.594, inclusive.

(d) Open its meeting to the public when taking any action.

4. After the subcommittee reviews an application, the subcommittee shall:

(a) Provide the applicant with its preliminary decision concerning the application.

(b) If the subcommittee finds that the application and supporting information:

(1) Are sufficient to determine whether the program of interior design completed by the applicant is substantially equivalent to a program of interior design accredited by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation, recommend to the Board whether to approve pursuant to subparagraph (2) of paragraph (d) of subsection 1 of NRS 623.192 the program of interior design

completed by the applicant. The application will be placed on the agenda for consideration by the Board at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

(2) Are not sufficient to determine whether the program of interior design completed by the applicant is substantially equivalent to a program of interior design accredited by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation, provide the applicant with a written request for the information necessary to make that determination. Within 90 days after receiving such a request, the applicant must provide to the subcommittee an original and three additional copies of the information requested or a written request for additional time to supplement the information supporting the application, or may notify the subcommittee of the applicant's intention not to supplement that supporting information. Within 90 days after the subcommittee receives any supplemental information from an applicant pursuant to this subparagraph, the subcommittee shall forward to the Board its recommendation of whether to approve pursuant to subparagraph (2) of paragraph (d) of subsection 1 of NRS 623.192 the program of interior design completed by the applicant.

5. As used in this section, "application" means an application submitted pursuant to NRS 623.192 by an applicant who has successfully completed a program of interior design which is not accredited by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation.

Sec. 4. NAC 623.594 is hereby amended to read as follows:

623.594 1. The program of interior design completed by an applicant must ensure that its faculty members and instructional personnel are qualified and adequate in number to carry out the objectives of the program.

2. The criteria for satisfaction of the standard set forth in subsection 1 are whether:

(a) Faculty members and other instructional personnel of the program represent more than one professional point of view, type of design background and type of design experience;

(b) Faculty members and other instructional personnel of the program have academic or professional experience, or both, appropriate to their areas of responsibility;

(c) Faculty members and other instructional personnel of the program participate in relevant professional or scholarly associations, or both;

(d) Faculty members and other instructional personnel of the program engage in any scholarly research, practice or other creative activities leading to professional growth and the advancement of the profession;

(e) A majority of the faculty members and other instructional personnel of the program who supervise the interior design studio have earned a degree in interior design;

(f) A majority of the faculty members and other instructional personnel of the program who supervise the interior design studio have passed the complete examination of the ~~[National]~~ Council for Interior Design Qualification; and

(g) The number of faculty members and other instructional personnel of the program is sufficient to carry out the objectives of the program.

3. The minimum requirements for satisfaction of the standard set forth in subsection 1 are compliance with at least two of the criteria set forth in subsection 2.

4. As used in this section:

(a) “Faculty members” means permanent employees with teaching responsibilities.

(b) “Instructional personnel” means adjunct or temporary employees with teaching responsibilities, including graduate assistants.

Sec. 5. NAC 623.632 is hereby amended to read as follows:

623.632 1. The self-directed educational activities in which a registrant may earn the continuing education units required by paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NAC 623.630 include, without limitation:

(a) Active participation as an officer or a committee or board member of a professional society, organization, board or commission which is related to the registrant's profession.

(b) Completion of a course of self-study sponsored by a professional association, a course that is architecturally significant, or an organized individual or group study on a topic which is related to the registrant's profession.

(c) Making a professional or technical presentation at a meeting, convention or conference.

(d) Participation in an activity that contributes to the welfare of the community and is related to the registrant's profession.

(e) Publication of material that is related to the registrant's profession in a paper, article or book.

(f) Reading a book or magazine article that is related to the registrant's profession.

(g) Serving as a mentor or supervisor for the ~~[Intern Development]~~ *Architectural Experience* Program of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards or the Interior Design Experience Program of the ~~[National]~~ Council for Interior Design Qualification. A registrant may not claim more than 2 continuing education units annually pursuant to this paragraph.

(h) Teaching or instructing a topic that is related to the registrant's profession. A registrant may not claim continuing education units pursuant to this paragraph more than once for the same or similar presentations, or if the registrant is a part-time or full-time faculty member at a college, university or other educational institution.

(i) Viewing a video presentation that is related to the registrant's profession.

(j) Visiting a site that is architecturally significant to maintain and strengthen competency in the registrant's profession.

2. The Board may require a detailed synopsis or report concerning any continuing education units claimed by a registrant for a self-directed educational activity.

3. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise requires, "self-directed educational activity" means an educational activity which primarily consists of a registrant engaging in an activity concerning a subject relating to public health, safety and welfare which is not systematically presented by another person, including the study of such subjects.

Sec. 6. NAC 623.640 is hereby amended to read as follows:

623.640 1. Each registrant who claims credit for continuing education units earned during a calendar year shall retain records sufficient to support the continuing education units claimed for not less than 3 years after the date of renewal of his or her certificate of registration. The records must include any continuing education units that the registrant has carried forward.

2. The records that must be retained by a registrant include, without limitation:

(a) A log, on a form prescribed by the Board, which shows the type of activity claimed, sponsoring organization, location, duration, name of the instructor or speaker, and continuing education units earned;

(b) Verification of attendance, in the form of a certificate of completion, signed attendance receipt, paid receipt, copy of a list of all persons who attended the activity signed by the person in charge of the activity, or other documentation supporting evidence of attendance; or

(c) Records as maintained by professional repositories which are approved by the Board, including, without limitation, the American Institute of Architects and the **[National]** Council for Interior Design Qualification.

Sec. 7. NAC 623.830 is hereby amended to read as follows:

623.830 The Board adopts by reference the standards of the ~~[National]~~ Council for Interior Design Qualification for the experience required pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 623.192 for a certificate of registration to practice interior design. The standards may be obtained, free of charge, from the ~~[National]~~ Council for Interior Design Qualification, ~~[1602 L Street, N.W., Suite 200, Washington, D.C. 20036-5681,]~~ *225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 210, Alexandria, VA 22314*, telephone (202) 721-0220, or at the Internet address ~~[http://www.neidq.org.]~~ <http://www.cidq.org>.