

Final Board for Architects, Professional Engineers,  
Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers,  
and Landscape Architects Rules and Regulations

**18 VAC 10-20-420. Requirements for certification.**

The education or experience, or both, and examination requirements for certification as a landscape architect are as follows:

1. An applicant who has graduated from an accredited landscape architecture curriculum approved by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board ~~shall be admitted to a CLARB prepared examination or equivalent approved by the board. Upon passing such examination, the applicant shall be certified as a landscape architect, if otherwise qualified; or~~ (LAAB) must meet the following requirements for certification as a landscape architect:
  - a. passed a CLARB-prepared examination; and
  - b. obtained 36 months of experience/training with a minimum of 12 months under the direct control and personal supervision of a licensed or certified landscape architect and the other 24 months under the direct control and personal supervision of either a licensed or certified landscape architect, architect, professional engineer, or land surveyor, in

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accordance with the experience credits portion of the Landscape Architect Equivalency Table. An applicant who has graduated from an accredited landscape architecture curriculum approved by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board shall be admitted to a CLARB-prepared examination prior to completing the 36-month experience requirement, if the applicant is otherwise qualified.

2. An applicant who has obtained eight years of combined education and experience, evaluated in accordance with the Landscape Architect Equivalency Table, shall be admitted to a CLARB prepared examination or equivalent approved by the board. Upon passing such examination, the applicant shall be certified as a landscape architect, if otherwise qualified.

<u>LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT EQUIVALENCY TABLE.</u>					
<u>TABLE OF EQUIVALENTS FOR EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE.</u>					
<u>DESCRIPTIONS</u>	<u>EDUCATION CREDITS</u>			<u>EXPERIENCE CREDITS</u>	
	<u>First Two</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>Succeeding</u> <u>Years</u>	<u>Max Credit</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Credit</u> <u>Allowed</u>	<u>Max Credit</u> <u>Allowed</u>

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A-1 <u>Degree from an LAAB-accredited landscape architectural curriculum</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>5 years</u>		
A-2 <u>Credits toward a degree in landscape architecture from an accredited school of landscape architecture</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>4 years</u>		
A-3 <u>Degree in landscape architecture or credits toward that degree from a non-accredited school of landscape architecture.</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>4 years</u>		
A-4 <u>Degree or credits toward that degree in an allied professional discipline, i.e., architecture, civil engineering, environmental science, approved by the board.</u>	<u>75%</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>3 years</u>		
A-5 <u>Any other bachelor degree or credits toward that degree.</u>	<u>50%</u>	<u>75%</u>	<u>2 years</u>		
A-6 <u>Qualifying experience in landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a landscape architect.</u>				<u>100%</u>	<u>No limit</u>
A-7 <u>Qualifying experience directly related to landscape architecture when under the direct supervision of an architect, professional engineer, or land surveyor.</u>				<u>50%</u>	<u>4 years</u>
<u>EXPLANATION OF REQUIREMENTS</u>					
<u>B-1 Education Credits. Education credits shall be subject to the following conditions:</u>					

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B-1.1. Applicants with a degree specified in A-1 through A-45 will be allowed the credit shown in the Maximum Credit Allowed column, regardless of the length of the degree program.

.2. With a passing grade, 32 semester credit hours or 48 quarter hours is considered to be one year. Fractions greater than one-half year will be counted one-half year and smaller fractions will not be counted.

B-2 Experience Credits. Experience credits shall be subject to the following conditions:

B-2.1. Every applicant without an LAAB accredited degree must earn at least two years of experience credit under category A-6. Every applicant with an LAAB-accredited degree must earn at least one year of experience credit under category A-6.

**18 VAC 10-20-440. Examination.**

- A. All applicants for original certification in Virginia are required to pass the CLARB- prepared examination or equivalent after meeting the education and experience requirements as provided in these regulations.
- B. The Virginia board is a member of the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) and as such is authorized to administer the CLARB examinations.
- C. The CLARB examination will be offered at least once per year at a time designated by the board.
- D. Grading of the examination shall be in accordance with the national grading procedures established by CLARB. The board shall adopt the scoring procedures recommended by CLARB.
- E. Unless otherwise stated, applicants approved to sit for an examination shall register and submit the required examination fee to be received in the board office no later than 75 days before the next administration of the examination. Applicants not properly registered shall not be allowed into the examination site.

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- F. Examinees will be advised only of their passing or failing score and the CLARB minimum passing or failing score. Only the board and its staff shall have access to examination papers, scores and answer sheets.
- G. Upon written request to the board within 30 days of receiving examination results, examinees will be permitted to view individually their own performance problems for failed sections only. Examination appeals are permitted in accordance with the CLARB score verification process.
- H. Should an applicant not pass an examination within three years after being approved, the applicant must reapply and meet all current entry requirements. [If the applicant has not been taking the examination on a continuous basis during the three-year eligibility period, or fails to reapply within 6 months after the end of the three-year eligibility period, or both, then the applicant shall meet the entry requirements current at the time of reapplication.]

**18 VAC 10-20-450. Certification by comity.**

A person holding a current license to engage in the practice of landscape architecture, issued to the applicant by other states, the District of Columbia, or any territory or possession of the United States based on requirements that do not conflict with and are at least as rigorous as these regulations and supporting statutes of this board that were in effect at the time of original licensure, may be licensed without further examination. No person shall be so licensed, however, who has not passed an examination in another jurisdiction that was substantially equivalent to that approved by the board at that time. If the applicant does not meet the requirements for licensure in Virginia that were in effect at the time of original licensure, the applicant shall be required to meet the entry requirements current at the time the completed application for comity is received in the board's office or shall hold a CLARB certificate.

<p><del>LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT EQUIVALENCY TABLE.</del></p> <p><del>TABLE OF EQUIVALENTS FOR EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE.</del></p>
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DESCRIPTIONS	EDUCATION CREDITS			EXPERIENCE CREDITS	
	First Two Years	Succeeding Years	Max Credit Allowed	Credit Allowed	Max Credit Allowed
A-1 Credits toward a degree in landscape architecture from an accredited school of landscape architecture	100%	100%	4 years		
A-2 Degree in landscape architecture or credits toward that degree from a school of landscape architecture.	100%	100%	4 years		
A-3 Degree or credits toward that degree in an allied professional discipline, i.e., architecture, civil engineering, environmental science, approved by the board.	75%	100%	3 years		
A-4 Any other bachelor degree or credits toward that degree.	50%	75%	2 years		
A-5 Qualifying experience in landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a landscape architect.				100%	No limit
A-6 Qualifying experience directly related to landscape architecture when under the direct supervision of an architect, professional engineer, or land surveyor.				50%	4 years
<del>EXPLANATION OF REQUIREMENTS</del>					
B-1 Education Credits. Education credits shall be subject to the following conditions:					
B-1.1. Applicants with a degree specified in A-1 through A-4 will be allowed the credit shown in the Maximum Credit Allowed column.					

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~~regardless of the length of the degree program.~~

~~.2. With a passing grade, 32 semester credit hours or 48 quarter hours is considered to be one year. Fractions greater than one half year will be counted one half year and smaller fractions will not be counted.~~

~~B 2 Experience Credits. Experience credits shall be subject to the following conditions:~~

~~B 2.1. Every applicant must earn at least two years of experience credit under category A 5.~~

*I certify that this regulation is full, true and correctly dated.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Mark N. Courtney, Executive Director*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

*Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation/Board for Architects,  
Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape  
Architects (APELSCIDLA Board)*