

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA – DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE REGULATIONS**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Architects Board (Board) is proposing to take the action described in the Informative Digest. Any person interested may present statements or arguments orally or in writing relevant to the action proposed at a hearing to be held at:

**California Architects Board
Landscape Architects Technical Committee
2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105
Sacramento, California 95834
Tuesday, September 27, 2016
10:00 a.m.**

Written comments, including those sent by mail, facsimile, or e-mail to the addresses listed under Contact Person in this Notice, must be received by the Board at its office no later than 5:00 p.m. on **September 27, 2016** or must be received by the Board at the hearing. The Board, upon its own motion or at the instance of any interested party, may thereafter adopt the proposal substantially as described below or may modify such proposals if such modifications are sufficiently related to the original text. With the exception of technical or grammatical changes, the full text of any modified proposal will be available for 15 days prior to its adoption from the person designated in this Notice as the contact person and will be mailed to those persons who submit written or oral testimony related to this proposal or who have requested notification of any changes to the proposal.

Authority and Reference: As a result of legislative reorganization, the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC), established on January 1, 1998, replaced the former Board of Landscape Architects and was placed under the purview of the Board. Pursuant to the authority vested by section 5630 of the Business and Professions Code (BPC) and to implement, interpret, or make specific section 5650 of the BPC, the Board is considering changes to Division 26 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) as follows:

INFORMATIVE DIGEST

A. **Informative Digest**

Amend Title 16 CCR Section 2615 – Form of Examinations

BPC section 5650 requires candidates for licensure to have a combination of six years education and training in landscape architecture to qualify for the licensing examination. BPC section 5651 requires candidates to pass a written examination as a means of ascertaining their professional qualifications to practice, prior to receiving a license.

BPC section 5651 allows the Board to waive the written examination for candidates currently licensed in a United States jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico who have passed a

written examination equivalent to that which is required in California at the time of application, have submitted proof of job experience equivalent to that required of Californian applicants at the time of application, and have passed the California Supplemental Examination (CSE) if, at the time of application, it is required of California applicants.

CCR section 2615(c)(1) allows candidates licensed in a United States jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico by having passed a written examination equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California as determined by the Board, to be eligible for licensure upon passing the CSE.

This proposal would amend CCR section 2615(c)(1) by adding the provision that candidates applying for California licensure based on licensure in another jurisdiction must submit verifiable documentation that they possess both education and experience equivalent to that required of California applicants or, if they do not meet the education requirement, that they hold a current license in good standing in another jurisdiction where they have been actively engaged in the profession for at least 10 of the last 15 years.

B. Policy Statement Overview/Anticipated Benefits of Proposal

This proposed regulation expands opportunities to become licensed in California while still protecting the health, safety, and welfare of California consumers because it allows candidates who are licensed and have extensive experience practicing in another jurisdiction but do not meet the education requirements of California candidates to obtain California licensure.

C. Consistency and Compatibility with Existing State Regulations

After conducting a review for any regulations that would relate to or affect this area, the Board has evaluated this regulatory proposal and it is neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing state regulations.

FISCAL IMPACT ESTIMATES

Fiscal Impact on Public Agencies Including Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Cost/Savings in Federal Funding to the State: None

Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies: None

Local Mandate: None

Cost to Any Local Agency or School District for Which Government Code Sections 17500-17630 Require Reimbursement: None

Business Impact:

The Board has made an initial determination that the proposed regulatory action would have no significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

The following studies/relevant data were relied upon in making the above determination: NA

Cost Impact on Representative Private Person or Business:

The Board is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

Effect on Housing Costs: None

EFFECT ON SMALL BUSINESS

The Board has determined that the proposed regulation would not affect small businesses as it only affects landscape architect applicants.

RESULTS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT/ANALYSIS:

Impact on Jobs/Businesses:

The Board has determined that this regulatory proposal will not have any impact on the creation of jobs or new businesses or the elimination of jobs or existing businesses or the expansion of businesses in the State of California.

Benefits of Regulation:

The benefit of the regulation is that it will continue to protect the health, safety, and welfare of California consumers by expanding opportunities for licensure in California to applicants currently licensed in other jurisdictions with extensive experience in landscape architecture but who do not meet the educational requirement of California's laws and regulations.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

The Board must determine that no reasonable alternative it considered to the regulation or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposal described in this Notice, or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

Any interested person may present statements or arguments orally or in writing relevant to the above determinations at the above-mentioned hearing.

INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS AND INFORMATION

The Board has prepared an initial statement of the reasons for the proposed action and has available all the information upon which the proposal is based.

TEXT OF PROPOSAL

Copies of the exact language of the proposed regulations, and any document incorporated by reference, and of the initial statement of reasons, and all of the information upon which the proposal is based, may be obtained at the hearing or prior to the hearing upon request from the California Architects Board, Landscape Architects Technical Committee at 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105, Sacramento, California 95834 or by telephoning the contact person listed below.

AVAILABILITY AND LOCATION OF THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS AND RULEMAKING FILE

All the information upon which the proposed regulations are based is contained in the rulemaking file which is available for public inspection by contacting the person named below.

You may obtain a copy of the final statement of reasons once it has been prepared, by making a written request to the contact person named below (or by accessing the website listed below).

CONTACT PERSON

Inquiries or comments concerning the proposed rulemaking action may be addressed to:

Name: Kourtney Nation
Address: 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105
Sacramento, CA 95834
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The backup contact person is:

Name: Trish Rodriguez
Address: 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105
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Website Access: Materials regarding this proposal can be found at www.latc.ca.gov.