

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA – DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS**

Hearing Date: **May 12, 2014**

Subject Matter of Proposed Regulation: **Application for Examination**

Sections Affected: **California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 16, Division 26, Section 2610**

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 California Architects Board (Board). Business and Professions Code Section 5630 authorizes the Board to adopt, amend, or repeal rules and regulations that are reasonably necessary in order to carry out the provisions under the Landscape Architects Practice Act.

Specific Purpose of each adoption, amendment, or repeal:

1. Problem being addressed:

16 CCR Section 2610 (Application for Examination) requires candidates who wish to register for the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE), the national licensing examination, to file their application with the LATC 70 days prior to their requested examination date. The administration format of the LARE has changed since the 70-day filing deadline was established and the LATC currently needs approximately 45 days to process an application for eligibility. Due to the reduction in lead time required to process applications, requiring applications to be filed with the LATC 70 days prior to their requested examination date is unnecessary and potentially slows the pathway to licensure for candidates.

2. Anticipated benefits from this regulatory action:

This proposal would increase the amount of time that candidates have to apply for the LARE, and change the registration deadline to be consistent with LATC's current application processing timeframe. This proposal also has the potential to expedite the pathway to licensure for prospective licensees.

Factual Basis/Rationale

16 CCR Section 2610 requires candidates who wish to register for the LARE to file their application with the LATC 70 days prior to their requested examination date. This requirement was established in 1998 when the licensing examination was partially administered by the LATC and allowed preparation time before the administration of the examination. In December 2009,

the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) began administering all sections of the LARE, eliminating the need for LATC to have additional preparation time prior to the examination date, and making 70 days an unnecessary amount of lead time to have applications received by. Currently, LATC only needs approximately four to six weeks to process an application for eligibility. This proposal would change the 70-day registration requirement to 45 days.

Underlying Data

None

Business Impact

This regulation will not have a significant adverse economic impact on directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with business in other states, because it affects only candidates for examination and licensure.

Economic Impact Assessment

This regulatory proposal will have the following effects:

- It will not create or eliminate jobs within the State of California because it only affects candidates for examination and licensure.
- It will not create new business or eliminate existing businesses within the State of California because it only affects candidates for examination and licensure.
- It will not affect the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State of California because it only affects candidates for examination and licensure.
- This regulatory proposal does not affect the health and welfare of California residents because the proposed changes will not be of sufficient magnitude to have such an effect.
- This regulatory proposal does not affect worker safety because it is not related to worker safety in any manner.
- This regulatory proposal does not affect the state's environment because it is not related to the environment in any manner.

Specific Technologies or Equipment

This regulation does not mandate the use of specific technologies or equipment.

Consideration of Alternatives

The Board has made an initial determination that no reasonable alternative to the regulatory proposal would be either more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons or would be

more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law than the proposal described in the Notice.

Set forth below are the alternatives which were considered and the reasons each alternative was rejected:

The only alternative considered was to maintain the status quo. This alternative was rejected as the current examination registration deadline is not consistent with current application processing timeframes.