

Equivalent Education and Training Standards for Architects

Table “A”

Education and training equivalent requirements for licensing: September 2012. This edition supersedes all previous tables of equivalents.

This is a State of Oklahoma program to lead national and/or international applicants into meeting licensing and acceptable training standards through equivalent and/or alternative standards and methods. These Tables for education and training along with the Board's current Rules will be used to meet these goals. The standard is a five year professional education from an NAAB accredited degree in architecture and completion of the NCARB Intern Development Program (IDP) plus the passage of the NCARB examinations and examinations required by the Board's Rules. Education and training may be gained in a variety of ways. This Table identifies and explains those education and training equivalents and alternatives.

A person seeking licensure is requiring to have five years of professional education or an NAAB accredited degree in architecture and complete a national and/or international diverse training program or equivalent practical training acceptable to the Board in its sole discretion. Education and training may be gained in a variety of ways.

Experience Description

	<u>Education Credits</u>				
	First 2 years	Succeeding Years	Max. Credited Allowed	Credit Allowed	Max. Credit Allowed
A-1 First professional degree in architecture, or credits toward the first professional degree, where the degree program has been accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) not later than two years after termination of enrollment	75%	100%	5 years		
A-2 First professional degree in architecture, or credits toward that degree, where the degree program has not been accredited by NAAB within two (2) years of graduation	75%	75%	4 years		
A-3 A foreign bachelor degree in architecture or credits toward that degree accredited by a national or internationally recognized accrediting council or entity acceptable to the Board as equivalent to A-1 in its sole discretion	75%	100%	5 years		
A-4 Any other pre-professional related bachelor degree or credits toward that degree			3 years		
A-5 Diversified experience directly related to architectural work as an employee in the office of a licensed architect	50%	50%	5 years	100%	no limit
A-6 Diversified experience, practicing as a principal, with a verified record of substantial practice, directly related to architectural work	50%	50%	5 years	100%	no limit
A-7 Diversified experience as an employee of an organization (other than offices of licensed architects) when the experience is related to architectural work and is under the direct supervision of a licensed architect	50%	50%	4 years	100%	2 years
A-8 Experience as an employee of an organization (other than offices of licensed architects) when the experience is in a foreign country or on a military installation and directly related to architectural work but is not under direct supervision of a licensed architect in good standing in the United States or Canada, but rather a foreign credential entity or the military. And equates to A-5 by the Board in its sole discretion	50%	50%	5 years	100%	no limit
A-9 Experience, other than A-5, A-6, A-7 or A-8 experience, directly related to on-site building construction operation or experience involving physical analyses of existing buildings		0		50%	6 months
A-10 Non-Diversified experience in architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed architect or engineer		0		50%	6 months
A-11 A Master or Doctoral degree in architecture (except where the degree is the first professional degree) where it is a second		0		100%	1 year

accredited professional degree

A-12 Full Time teaching or research in an NAAB accredited architectural program

0

100%

1 year

A-13 Other Education or Training Experience (see B-5.2)

A candidate for licensure must hold an NAAB accredited degree in architecture or meet the alternate education criteria adopted here, unless the candidate had been licensed by a member board or had accumulated at least five years of education credits in accordance with this policy.

Explanation of Requirements

B-1 Licensing Standards

B-1.1 To be granted licensure, an applicant must:

- .1 Be at least 21 years of age;
- .2 Hold a high school diploma or equivalent;
- .3 Be of good character as verified by employers, architects, NCARB member boards or foreign accrediting entities;
- .4 Hold an NAAB accredited degree in architecture or have at least 5 years of education credits using these standards and the Board's current Rules;
- .5 Have at least 3 years of diversified acceptable training credits;
- .6 Hold a current registration to practice architecture issued by an NCARB member board or foreign accrediting entity;
- .7 Have passed the NCARB Architect Registration Examination (ARE), the NCARB Professional Examination (and the Qualifying Test or the Equivalency Examination when applicable by NCARB standards) or the NCARB 7-part, 36-hour Examination; provided such examinations and the grading procedures applied were in accordance with NCARB standards current at the time the applicant sat for the examinations or
- .8 Have passed an acceptable foreign examination comparable to the United States examinations at the sole discretion of the Board.

B-1.2 Applicants meeting all the requirements of B-1.1 above, except .7, may nonetheless be granted licensure if the applicant has accumulated ten or more years of excess training credits (earned as described in B-2.1) and has passed an examination given by the Board at their discretion.

B-2 Examination Deficiencies

B-2.1 Prior to July, 1973, the NCARB written examination was a 7-part examination of 36-hour duration, but some NCARB member boards administered examinations of a shorter duration. Compensation for each one-hour deficiency in duration in the 7-part examination may be achieved by one year of excess training credits. Excess training credits may be earned only after initial licensing by accumulating training credits in excess of those required for initial licensing. Applicants who have earned, under A-6, ten or more years of excess training credit (in the manner described in the preceding sentence) and have received their initial license by written examination, regardless of hour duration, are eligible for licensure.

B-2.2 The Board may waive deficiencies in the applicant's examination procedure arising from examination transitions, if, in its judgment, such deficiencies are minor in nature or, if substantial, have been adequately compensated for by some equivalent proof of the applicant's competency.

B-2.3 The transition rules relating to the implementation of any NCARB examinations will be followed by this Board.

B-3 Education Credits

B-3.1 Education Credits shall be subject to the following conditions:

- .1 No education credits may be earned prior to graduation from high school
- .2 Applicants with the degree specified in A-1 through A-4 will be allowed the credit shown in the Maximum Credit Allowed column, regardless of the length of the degree program. Applicants without the degree specified in A-1 or A-2 may not accumulate more than 3 years of education credits in the aggregate from all degree programs.

.3 32 Semester credit hours or 48 quarter credit hours are considered to be 1 year. Fractions of a year of one-half or greater will be considered one-half year, and smaller fractions will not be counted.

.4 Foreign education credits will be granted only under classifications A-3 and A-4, unless the Board determines the degree is equivalent to the NAAB educational requirements. Any cost of translation and evaluation will be borne by the applicant.

B-4 Training Credits

B-4.1 Training credits shall be subjected to the following conditions:

.1 No training credits may be earned prior to accumulating 3 education credits

.2 Every applicant must earn at least one year of training credit under A-5 through A-7 and must earn it after earning 5 years of education credits

.3 To earn credit under A-11 or A-12, an applicant's credit hours must be in subjects evaluated by the Board as directly related to architecture. 20 semester credit hours or 30 quarter credit hours of teaching or equivalent time in research will equal 1 year.

.4 No credit used as an education credit may be used as a training credit

.5 Organizations will be considered to be "offices of licensed architects" if: (a) the architectural practice of the organization in which the applicant works is in the charge of a licensed person practicing as a principal and the applicant works under the direct supervision of a licensed architect; and (b) the organization may engage in construction.

.6 An organization (or affiliate) is engaging in construction if it customarily engages in either of the following activities:

(a) undertakes to provide labor and/or material for all or any significant portion of a construction project, whether on lump sum, cost plus or other basis of compensation, or

(b) agrees to guarantee to an owner the maximum construction cost for all or any significant portion of a construction project.

.7 A person practices as a "principal" by being (a) a licensed architect and (b) the person in charge of the organization's architectural practice, either alone or with other licensed architects, landscape architects and/or engineers.

.8 In evaluation training credits the Board prior to licensing, the Board requires the applicant to substantiate training experience by comparing this experience to the training requirements as indicated in these standards and the Board's current Rules.

B-5 General Evaluation Criteria

B-5.1 To earn full education and/or training credits under A-5, A-6, A-7, A-8, A-9 and A-10 an applicant must work at least 32 hours per week for a minimum period of 6 consecutive weeks. An applicant may earn one-half the credit specified under A-5 for work of at least 15 hours per week in periods of 6 or more consecutive weeks; no credit will be given for part-time work in any category other than A-5 through A-7.

B-5.2 Other education and training may be substituted for the requirements outlined above, only insofar as the Board considers them to be equivalent to the required qualifications.

B-5.3 In evaluation credits, the Board may, prior to licensure, require substantiation of the quality and character of the applicant's experience, notwithstanding the fact that the applicant has complied with the technical education and training requirements set forth above.