

In This Issue

[Draft Resolutions](#)

[New NCARB Expense Reporting Process](#)

[Apply to Serve on an FY26 Committee](#)

[Save the Date: 2025 Annual Business Meeting](#)

[Request for Comments: Updates to the AXP](#)

[Licensing Advisors Community](#)

[Legislative Update](#)

[Advocacy Resources](#)

[Upcoming Meetings and Events](#)

[Board Roster Updates](#)

Draft Resolutions

At the January 2025 NCARB Board of Directors Meeting, the Board voted to move [five draft resolutions](#) to the membership for discussion and feedback:

- New mutual recognition agreement (MRA) with Canada
- New MRA with Costa Rica
- New MRA with South Africa
- Housekeeping updates to the *NCARB Certification Guidelines* related to NCARB programs
- Updates to the *NCARB Certification Guidelines* related to the Education Alternative

These drafts will undergo further discussion by the Board in April. At that time, the Board will review Member Board feedback to determine the language of the final resolutions to put forward for membership votes at the June Annual Business Meeting. Feedback on resolutions may be submitted directly to Secretary Sylvia Kwan at secretary@ncarb.org.

If you have any questions, please contact council-relations@ncarb.org.

New NCARB Expense Reporting Process

We are excited to announce that NCARB will be transitioning to Ramp, a new reimbursement software application, for all funded attendees and NCARB volunteers for approved reimbursable expenses. The update to this process has been designed to simplify the submission process for expenses incurred when attending NCARB events, making the entire process faster and more efficient.

Training will be provided for Member Board Members and Member Board Executives while on-site at the upcoming Regional Summit in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Additional virtual training will be scheduled ahead of the Annual Business Meeting in June.

About Ramp

Ramp is replacing the Excel spreadsheet that had previously been required to submit for reimbursement of expenses incurred while traveling on behalf of the Council. Through the [Ramp mobile application](#), you will be

provided with a temporary virtual credit card that can be added to smartphone payment apps for convenient tap-and-pay functionality. Members will now have the option to pay with the virtual Ramp credit card that will be billed directly to NCARB or use their own payment method and submit for reimbursement through the Ramp app.

For questions related to this effort, please contact council-relations@ncarb.org.

Apply to Serve on an FY26 Committee

Applications are now open for FY26 committee appointments! Returning volunteers, recently licensed architects, and those new to the NCARB community are all encouraged to submit their interest for the FY26 volunteer teams.

Ensuring that Member Boards are fully informed and engaged is more important than ever—and service on a committee is a great way to not only be informed but also to help shape the future of NCARB's programs and policies. If you are interested in serving on an NCARB committee, **please complete the [online committee application form](#) by March 8.**

In late April, all appointed volunteers will receive notification of their selection, as well as information about meeting dates and expected time commitments. Learn more about NCARB volunteers on [ncarb.org](https://www.ncarb.org).

Save the Date: 2025 Annual Business Meeting

Mark your calendar for NCARB's 2025 Annual Business Meeting, held June 19 – 21 in Scottsdale, Arizona!

Where: [The Fairmont Scottsdale Princess](#) | Scottsdale, Arizona

When: June 19 – 21

Registration: Opens in March

At this year's meeting, you will vote on resolutions before the Council, hear important updates from FY25—including the latest information on NCARB's Pathways to Practice initiative—and elect new leadership for the year ahead. You'll also get the chance to network with your fellow licensing board members and participate in valuable workshops that can enhance the work of your board.

Participation from each of our 55 Member Boards is essential! The NCARB Board of Directors has made full funding available for up to four in-person attendees from each Member Board. Funding is available to cover two architect members, one public member, and your board's Member Board Executive. Please liaise with your chair and executive if you'd like to be part of your jurisdiction's funded delegation.

Your presence is important to us—we hope to see you at the 2025 Annual Meeting.

Questions? Please reach out to NCARB's Council Relations team at council-relations@ncarb.org.

Request for Comments: Updates to the AXP

Following review at their January meeting, the Board of Directors is pleased to share proposed changes to the Architectural Experience Program® (AXP®) for your feedback and commentary.

These program updates have been recommended by NCARB's Experience Committee in order to:

1. Align the AXP with NCARB's new *Competency Standard for Architects*
2. Ensure the AXP is accessible to all candidates and free of unnecessary administrative impediments

Changes to the AXP are approved by the Board of Directors and do not require a member vote; however, your feedback is an essential part of determining if the Board of Directors will move forward with the proposed changes to the AXP. This comment period is not a part of the 2025 resolution process.

If approved by NCARB's Board of Directors following the member comment period, these changes would likely go into effect in late 2025/early 2026.

The proposed programmatic changes are confidential until publicly released by NCARB.

Comment Period Materials

The Architectural Experience Program is governed by NCARB's *AXP Guidelines*, which define the program's policies and requirements. To review the changes being proposed, please see the draft [AXP Guidelines](#) on the Member Board Community. This draft document reflects the program updates recommended by the Experience Committee. The gray sidebar included in the document features commentary providing basic insights into changes made throughout the *Guidelines*.

Note: If you do not see a gray sidebar on a given page, no updates have been made to the content on that page.

Understanding the Proposed Changes

While small changes have been recommended throughout the *AXP Guidelines*, there are two primary changes for member comment:

1. **Competency Standard Alignment:** The descriptions of each AXP experience area have been modified to reflect the competencies defined in the [NCARB Competency Standard for Architects](#), replacing the current 96 AXP tasks. Note: This change does not impact the required hours or structure of the AXP.
2. **Reporting Requirement Modification:** In alignment with NCARB's efforts to remove time-bound restrictions not tied to competency, the reporting requirement has been modified to allow experience to qualify for 100% AXP credit if reported within one year of earning it, and 75% credit if reported at any point thereafter.

Comment Period Timeline

Per NCARB policy, these proposed changes are available for member comment for 120 days. **The comment period will close on May 30, 2025. To submit your feedback, please email council-relations@ncarb.org.** NCARB's Board of Directors will review feedback from membership prior to acting on the proposed updates to the AXP.

Once approved by the Board of Directors, NCARB will provide public notice of upcoming changes to the AXP.

Questions about these proposed changes? Email council-relations@ncarb.org.

Licensing Advisors Community

NCARB continues to recognize the importance of engaging the [Architect Licensing Advisors Community](#), ensuring those providing information to licensure candidates have the most up-to-date information on NCARB programs. We encourage each Member Board to have a designated licensing advisor to ensure that they are plugged into this additional resource and community. Most often, licensing advisors are Member Board Executives or other licensing board staff members.

- Licensing advisors are volunteers who support candidates and architects as they navigate the path to licensure and reciprocity.
- As licensing advisors in their board positions, the MBE and/or board staff can further facilitate the flow of information to students, candidates, and architects.
- There are several resources and training opportunities available to licensing advisors, including the online [Licensing Advisors Community](#) and the 2025 Licensing Advisors Summit, which will be held July 24 – 26 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

To learn more about the Licensing Advisors Community and being designated as a licensing advisor, please contact council-relations@ncarb.org.

Legislative Update

Recent Developments

Most state legislatures are underway for the 2025 legislative session. We would like to share a few updates with you.

- **Alaska:** [Senate Bill 54](#) would provide voluntary registration for interior designers in Alaska. If enacted, Alaska's State Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors would oversee the voluntary registration and establish corresponding regulations. In addition, the bill proposes extending the board's sunset date from 2025 to 2033. We are actively working alongside the board to provide support and resources where necessary.
- **Nevada:** [Senate Bill 78](#) would modify how state licensing boards in Nevada are structured and overseen. Nevada's Board of Architecture, Interior Design, and Residential Design would be renamed to the Board of Professional Design and Environmental Specialist. The bill would also modify the composition of the board, altering representation from the regulated professions. While the bill proposes notable changes, it does not modify the rigorous standards and requirements applicants need to satisfy to obtain licensure. We are in regular communication with the board and the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Nevada chapter. The Alliance for Responsible Professional Licensing (ARPL) is also actively supporting local efforts by drafting resources educating stakeholders on the unintended consequences of this reform attempt.
- **West Virginia:** [Senate Bill 458](#) intends to establish "universal licensure" in West Virginia. It would modify the West Virginia Board of Architect's reciprocity processes alongside other state licensing boards. Applicants would still have to meet specific requirements to obtain licensure. This bill is similar to other universal licensure bills we've noticed this session and in the past. We are currently working alongside the board, AIA West Virginia, and our ARPL partners to educate policymakers on the existing reciprocity paths and the unintended consequences of this new proposal.

If there are any legislative or regulatory proposals in your jurisdiction, please contact [Maurice Brown](#) or [Per Bjornstad](#).

Advocacy Resources

- **[Alliance for Responsible Professional Licensing \(ARPL\) Op-Ed](#):** ARPL recently published an op-ed emphasizing the need for smart approaches to state licensing board reform. We've noticed several proposals this session that seek to modify state licensing boards' composition, membership, structure, and oversight. For legislators, it's important to be aware of common pitfalls to avoid when introducing and supporting these types of proposals. [Read the full op-ed](#).
- **Boards Advocacy & 2025 Legislative Update Webinar:** ARPL hosted a webinar on February 11 to discuss new ARPL resources and share information on emerging licensing policy trends in early 2025. [View a recording of the full webinar](#), cohosted by Maurice Brown (NCARB) and Zach Druga (the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards). For login support, please contact council-relations@ncarb.org.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

- **June 19 – 21, 2025:** Annual Business Meeting | Scottsdale, AZ
- **July 24 – 26, 2025:** Licensing Advisors Summit | Minneapolis, MN

Future Events

- **March 19, 2026:** MBE Workshop | Oklahoma City, OK
- **March 20 – 21, 2026:** Regional Summit | Oklahoma City, OK
- **June 25 – 27, 2026:** Annual Business Meeting | Minneapolis, MN
- **June 24 – 26, 2027:** Annual Business Meeting | Pittsburgh, PA

Board Roster Updates

To keep our Member Board records current, we have reached out to Member Board Executives for updates on board and staff rosters. If you have not done so already, please share your board's current roster, including the names of your board members, their term dates, and a list of your board staff. Please specify the type of access required for your staff to ensure they have the appropriate permissions. We appreciate your collaboration in helping us provide you and our customers with the highest quality and most accurate service.

If you have any questions regarding board roster updates or need to share your board/staff roster, please email Maleece Wallace at mwallace@ncarb.org.

- **Chelsea Bourbeau** joined the New Hampshire board as their new Member Board Executive.
- **Jason Zuckerman** joined the Louisiana board as their new architect member.
- **Anuya Sant** joined the Wisconsin board as their new architect member.
- **Chantell Cornett** joined the Arizona board as their new public member.