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U.S., Australia, and New Zealand Implement New Mutual Recognition Agreement

In August, representatives from NCARB, the Architects Accreditation Council of Australia (AACA), and the New Zealand Registered Architects Board (NZRAB) signed a new Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) that will expand access to opportunities for international architects. The new MRA, which will replace the existing agreement between the three countries, goes into effect on November 6, 2024.

The new agreement addresses common barriers to eligibility for qualified architects interested in pursuing reciprocity, such as extended experience requirements and limited paths to licensure/registration and reciprocity. [Learn more about the updated eligibility requirements for the new agreement.](#)

If you have not already informed NCARB staff about your board's position on accepting the updated MRA, please contact the Council Relations team at council-relations@ncarb.org.

Save the Date: Regional Summit and MBE Workshop

The Regional Leadership Committee (RLC) and Member Board Executives (MBE) Committee invite you to save the date for the upcoming NCARB Regional Summit and MBE Workshop from February 27 – March 1, 2025, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. As in previous years, the MBE Workshop will immediately precede the summit on February 27, with Regional Summit scheduled for February 28 – March 1.

During this meeting, NCARB members from each of the [six regions](#) will meet to conduct regional business, hear updates from NCARB leadership—including proposed resolutions for the 2025 Annual Business Meeting—and learn more about the [Pathways to Practice](#) initiative.

As part of the Council's ongoing commitment to facilitating Member Board participation in collaborative discussions, the Board of Directors will fund representatives to the upcoming MBE Workshop, Regional Summit, and Annual Business Meeting. Registration and funding information will be available in December.

Webinar: NCARB Elections 101

Ahead of the FY26 Elections, the FY25 Credentials Committee is pleased to offer an informational webinar on Wednesday, November 13, at 12:30 p.m. ET for those interested in running for a position on the NCARB Board of Directors. [Register today](#) if you are interested in learning more about what to expect as candidate, opportunities to engage with members, and the election process.

Joining the webinar is not a requirement to run for office. If you are not able to join, a recording will also be available on the [Member Board Community](#). The official call for candidates will be issued in December. The Credentials Committee is excited to share details of the election process and Board of Directors positions with volunteers, Member Board Members, and Member Board Executives who may be interested in serving on the NCARB Board.

For questions related to this effort, please email credentials-committee@ncarb.org.

Legislative Update

Recent Developments: While most state legislatures are still adjourned, and bill pre-files are a few months away, we continue to monitor legislative and regulatory developments nationwide. We'd like to share a few updates with you. Are there legislative or regulatory proposals in your jurisdiction? As always, feel free to contact [Maurice Brown](#) or [Robert Anderson](#).

- **Pennsylvania Senate Bill 1319:** [Senate Bill 1319](#) would provide voluntary certification for interior designers that meet specific requirements. Certified interior designers would be regulated by the Pennsylvania Architects Licensure Board and would provide voluntary registration opportunities for applicants who meet certain criteria. The bill would also require architects to fulfill 24 hours of continuing education in HSW subject areas prior to renewal. This change would align Pennsylvania's continuing education requirements with national guidelines. NCARB submitted testimony educating policymakers on the importance and prevalence of multidisciplinary boards that regulate architecture and interior design and the significance of continuing education requirements that follow national standards. We will update you as this bill proceeds through the legislative process.
- **South Dakota Rolling Clock Retirement:** Earlier this month, the South Dakota Board of Technical Registration held a meeting to discuss and approve regulatory changes that would remove the state's "rolling clock" policy. We are excited by these developments and will continue to work alongside the state board and other stakeholders to finalize these regulatory changes to further streamline licensure. NCARB officially retired the Architect Registration Examination (ARE®) five-year rolling clock requirement in 2023. To date, 53 U.S. state architect licensing boards have retired their state's rolling clock policy.

Advocacy Resources:

ARPL Updates – The Alliance for Responsible Professional Licensing (ARPL) continues to be a unified voice in the regulatory community. We'd like to share some of ARPL's latest news and updates.

- **Media:** ARPL recently published an article on LinkedIn titled "[How Do We Balance Skills, Safety, and Accessibility in the Modern Workforce?](#)" The article addresses the dual challenge of maintaining licensing rigor while tackling workforce shortages.

- **Research:** Benenson Strategy Group, a close market-research partner of ARPL, surveyed 1,200 voters on the public perception of licensing in the context of artificial intelligence. Feedback from voters indicated that professional standards must evolve to include training on new technologies. [Read more about the survey and key findings.](#)

We invite you to use these findings and other resources available on the [ARPL Partner Portal](#) as you continue your various efforts to educate policymakers and advocate for reasonable regulations. As always, feel free to reach out to us with questions or for clarification on any of these resources.

MBC/MBE Leadership Summit Recap

Leadership from the 55 U.S. architectural licensing boards convened for NCARB's 2024 Member Board Chairs and Executives Leadership Summit—a two day-event providing an opportunity to explore the future of licensure. NCARB hosts the summit every other year, bringing together state board leadership to participate in focused and strategic discussions.

Held in Fargo, North Dakota, this year's summit allowed members to engage, share insights, and provide feedback essential for developing the next iteration of NCARB's programs and services. Members and NCARB's Board of Directors explored opportunities to shape the future of licensure for years to come.

"It is critical that our Member Boards are part of the process of shaping NCARB's future programs," said NCARB President Ken Van Tine. "This is an opportunity to share feedback on the current concepts and help shape the next phase as we bring our ideas into focus."

Attendees discussed the newly released *Competency Standard* and how it will inform updates to our existing programs over the next two years. They also had a chance to share feedback on some of the potential draft licensure models being explored by NCARB's Licensure Process Research & Development Task Force. In addition, attendees explored how to communicate changes to their customers, as well as how to prepare their boards and local stakeholders for future updates.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

- **December 13 – 14, 2024:** Committee Summit | Washington, DC
- **February 27, 2025:** MBE Workshop | Philadelphia, PA
- **February 28 – March 1, 2025:** Regional Summit | Philadelphia, PA
- **June 19 – 21, 2025:** Annual Business Meeting | Scottsdale, AZ

Future Events

- **July 22 – 26, 2025:** Licensing Advisors Summit | Minneapolis, MN
- **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

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.

Welcome New Members & Executives

We want to welcome the following new members:

- Barrett Lindsey joined the Arizona board as their new public member.