

ARE Cut Score Progress

Two of six ARE 5.0 division cut scores have already been set, with the remaining four scheduled for release in April and May. [READ MORE](#)

March Highlights

Post Regional Summit

Attendees at this year's Regional Summit were able to mentor each other, share best practices, and explore new ideas. [READ MORE](#)

Education Portfolio Launches Soon

The final phase of the new education alternative to certification will soon be available to architects without an architecture-related degree. [READ MORE](#)

Preparing for FY18

NCARB leadership prepares to fill committees, set the budget, and plan initiatives for the upcoming year. [READ MORE](#)

NCARB in the Press



- [The Case for Protecting Architecture Licenses](#)

Recent News



- [Mid-Atlantic Conference Hosts Annual Regional Summit](#)

“Along with our ongoing commitments to members, customers, and external groups, there will be a deeper engagement with educators, recently licensed architects, and those shaping the future of the profession.”

—Message from the CEO, Page 2



Top Blog Posts



- [Trends in Licensure Support at Architecture Firms](#)
- [Architect Spotlight: Matthew Gaul](#)

Message from the CEO

Dear Colleagues –

Many of March’s highpoints were in a listening and reflective setting. We heard “golden nuggets” from the Member Board Executive (MBE) community at their annual workshop preceding the Regional Summit, where diverse approaches to daily licensing challenges and a blend of talented seasoned and newer executives made for a very rich conversation. During the summit, our regions rolled up their sleeves to mentor each other in big and small ways. The absence of a heavy resolution docket allowed discussions to go in new and exploratory directions. The end of the month involved attending two memorials, one for a personal friend and one for a friend of the Council—former Louisiana Member Board Executive Teeny Simmons. Teeny passed away just before Christmas and holds the record for the longest-serving MBE, dedicating over 40 years of time and expertise. But it was her mantra, contained in her high school yearbook and paraphrased here, that was the most remarkable: *Make everyone as happy as they have made you.* Teeny lived by that phrase, and it showed by the outpouring of love and laughter at her memorial. It was a privilege to represent the hundreds of volunteers throughout the United States that could not attend, and to spend the memorial with a very devoted Louisiana Board, staff, and companions.

With the launch of the last element of our reinvented programs just around the corner—the education portfolio, which is an alternative path to certification available to architects without architecture-related degrees—we are also in a reflective mood as we assess indicators of progress and feedback through our outreach and communications efforts. This theme will carry over into the 2017 Annual Business Meeting, held June 22-24 in Boston. We are deep into finalizing workshops, shaping plenary sessions, and making sure that each attendee leaves with additional knowledge and regulatory mentors.

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CEO Outreach



March

Delaware Board of Architects
Dover, DE | March 1

Teeny Simmons Memorial
Baton Rouge, LA | March 17–18

MBE Workshop
Jersey City, NJ | March 9


Maryland Board of Architects
Baltimore, MD | March 22

Regional Summit
Jersey City, NJ | March 10–11

March was also thick with budget preparation and volunteer placement on committees. After working with our First Vice President/President-elect Gregory L. Erny, FAIA, NCARB, the “first draft” of FY18 will be on display for Board comment in April. A glimpse into the new year at NCARB starting July 1 indicates that along with our ongoing commitments to members, customers, and external groups, there will be a deeper engagement with educators, recently licensed architects, and those shaping the future of the profession—all of whom are essential contributors to the future path of NCARB and its Member Boards.

I hope you are all enjoying your own season of reflection and renewal in the midst of a most welcome springtime!

Best wishes,



@leahalissa

Final passing score = officially done with the ARE! Thanks @NCARB for a killer transition plan. Now CSE, then Architect by my birthday.

More CEO Outreach



Upcoming Events

AIA-NCARB Leadership Summit
Washington, DC | April 6

Five Collaterals Meeting
Washington, DC | April 7

**NAAB Team Visit,
University of Maryland**
College Park, MD | April 8–10

**Guam Board of Registration
for Professional Engineers,
Architects and Land Surveyors**
Upper Tumon, GU | April 14

AIA Guam
Hagåtña, GU | April 14

**Hawaii Board of Professional
Engineers, Architects, Surveyors
& Landscape Architects**
Honolulu, HI | April 17

**AIA Hawaii State Council/
AIA Honolulu**
Honolulu, HI | April 17

**NCARB Executive Committee &
Board of Directors Meeting**
Kona, HI | April 18–22

AIA Conference on Architecture
Orlando, FL | April 27–29

Collateral Engagement



Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA)

ACSA Annual Meeting
Detroit, MI | March 24–25

Meeting with ACSA Board of Directors
Detroit, MI | March 26

Strategic Plan

- In the first five months after the launch of the Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®) 5.0, over 200 candidates successfully completed the examination requirement of their path to licensure by transitioning from ARE 4.0 to 5.0. By the end of May, the Board will have determined the cut score for all six new divisions—two of which have already been released. The momentum behind ARE 5.0 is growing as the number of ARE 5.0 candidates increases on a weekly basis, while those who remain in ARE 4.0 will have until June 2018 to take the 4.0 divisions. This transition is representative of our strategic plan goals of **facilitating licensure** and **fostering collaboration**. The vignette-free exam offers a practical and realistic approach to assessing knowledge and comprehension relative to current practice, and the effort to engage candidates with the new exam incorporates many hours of outreach to Member Boards, AIA components, AIAS chapters, and other interested parties through webinars and social media. The pipeline for ARE administrations remains at record levels.
- We are also seeing a surge in interest for NCARB certification from architects without degrees from NAAB-accredited programs, as well as foreign-licensed architects. The early returns indicate that the new alternatives have a much stronger base than the previous Broadly Experience Architect (BEA) and Broadly Experienced Foreign Architect (BEFA) programs. The new programs have eliminated costly committee reviews in favor of streamlined approaches, which reduce both cost and time. We are getting closer to launching the last phase of these revisions. The result: **facilitating reciprocal licensure** for practicing architects.
- Our third goal of **centralizing data** continues to pick up new data-sharing jurisdictions and is being enhanced by proactive engagement between NCARB staff and Member Board Executives following Member Board meetings.

Organizational Development and Office Life

- Our 12 assistant directors across NCARB's seven directorates are immersed in an intensive, on-site, coaching curriculum composed of joint meetings, peer-to-peer mentoring, self-assessment, interviews, and homework. The focus is to encourage trust across departmental boundaries and personal growth in the areas of leadership, collaboration, and self-awareness. The assistant director group initiated the request for this training and the reviews have been quite positive.
- A multi-year effort to completely redesign and overhaul the NCARB website will soon come to a close, and the Marketing & Communications Directorate plans to host a celebration to thank the entire staff for their contributions and support.
- Ten years after the then-named Records Directorate underwent a business process reengineering (BPR) review, the now-named Customer Relations Directorate is preparing for another BPR to update their approaches to reflect the latest science and best practices to support the needs of our customers. Chief Operating Officer Mary de Sousa is finishing up one-on-one interviews with all Customer Relations staff and developing BPR goals with Director Roxanne Alston and her team.



@ddeceder

@NCARB just received my last ARE #Pass today. Transitioned to 5.0. Might be one of the first people to pass the ARE in only 5 tests! #5for5