



Alignment

West Virginia Board of Architects

April 2018

Renewal Begins June 1, 2018

Beginning June 1, 2018, licensed West Virginia architects may renew their licenses by on the Board's website at www.wvbrdarch.org using a credit card for \$75.00. Architects may also submit paper renewal applications with checks as well. Beginning on July 1, the renewal rate increases to \$150.00 and is considered a late renewal.

RENEW June 1 - 30, 2018.



The West Virginia Board of Architects is now located at 405 Capitol Street, Mezzanine Suite 3 in Charleston, WV .

2017–2018 Board Members

- Richard Forren, President, Fairmont
- Edward Tucker, Secretary, Huntington
- Todd Boggess, Member, Princeton
- Adam Krason, Member, Charleston
- Wendy Scatterday, Member, Wheeling
- Jan Fox, Esq., Public Member, Charleston
- Edsel Smith, Public Member, Jane Lew
- Mark Weiler, Assistant Attorney General, Counsel

Please remember

- Update your contact information on the board's website by logging on using your certificate number and the last four digits of your Social Security Number.
- Disclose any discipline since your last renewal when renewing your license in West Virginia.
- Continue earning HSW hours. West Virginia requires 12 hours annually.
- Upcoming Board Meeting:

June 7, 2018
12:00 pm
405 Capitol Street
Charleston, WV
- License Renewals begin June 1, 2018.

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Executive Director

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wvbrdarch.org

New Board Office Location

The West Virginia Board of Architects moved its office from its long-time location in Huntington to Charleston in January 2017. The office is now located in the historic Daniel Boone Hotel, built in 1927 and located at 405 Capitol Street. Board meetings are frequently held in the conference room located on the fourth floor, and the office is located on the mezzanine level. Beyond its convenience, the space is in one of the more architecturally interesting buildings in Charleston and where the Board met in the 1940s.



Architects Protect the Public

by Richard Forren



Over the years, I have talked with so many that say “I always wanted to be an Architect.” It sounds very much like a Seinfeld episode where George Costanza proclaims he “always wanted to pretend to be an Architect.” Perhaps the reason why so many of us have conjured the thought of becoming an architect is that it delves into our subconscious creativity for problem solving. Yes, Architects do design beautiful buildings but their primary responsibility, for which they are licensed, is to protect the Health, Safety, and Welfare of the general public within the built environment.

The West Virginia Board of Architects (WVBOA) was established specifically to safeguard the life, health, property, and public welfare of the people of the state. The board’s primary function is to ensure this protection of the public by establishing standards for architectural practice and by licensing individuals who are qualified to meet those standards. This responsibility entails the oversight of 1,188 registered architects licensed to practice in West Virginia. Of that number, less than 10% (only 116) live and work in the state, which means that greater than 90% reside out of state.

Before you can call yourself an Architect, you must be registered and have a license in the state for which you intend to practice. Within the rules and regulations for each of the 54 states and jurisdictions, the right to call yourself an architect is reserved only for those who have been registered. In many jurisdictions, to include West Virginia, an individual cannot use the terms architect, architecture or architectural when describing themselves or the services they provide without being registered.

Every U.S. state and jurisdiction has licensing boards that set requirements for licensure. The requirements establish a process that is neither quick nor easy but when it comes to safeguarding the public there cannot be short cuts. Not all states have the same requirements but they all include three core components: education, experience,

and examination.

Education is the most important and is ongoing throughout an Architects entire career. Continuing education is a requirement for licensure in every jurisdiction. For initial registration, nearly every state, including West Virginia, requires a degree from a program accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB). Currently, there are no architectural programs within the state that are NAAB accredited. Fairmont State University's Masters of Architecture program is in the process pursuing NAAB accreditation so hopefully they will be the first.

Experience is a requirement no matter where you intend to practice. Earning and documenting professional experience under the supervision of a registered architect is necessary to ensure you're ready to be an architect. The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) is responsible for overseeing the registration of architects. They provide a framework for developing and recording that experience which can begin as soon as you graduate from high school.

The final core component to becoming an architect is completing the Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®). This exam has been developed to ensure that you're ready to practice architecture independently. Over the years, NCARB has developed the ARE with divisions to address all issues so now all states utilize the same exam.

In order to further safeguard the public welfare the West Virginia Board of Architects must also protect state residents against the unauthorized, unqualified, and improper practice of architecture in the state of West Virginia. Regulating those that misrepresent themselves as architects is key among the vigilant duties of the board. The board is made aware of these issues from the general public or other architects by submitting inquiries or complaints.

Unfortunately, there are some individuals that misrepresent themselves. For instance, the board has received complaints regarding advertising architectural service from those not licensed and the use of the letters "AIA" after someone's name. According to the American Institute of Architects' legal counsel, this is unauthorized and implies credentialing that does not exist. There are two ways an individual can identify themselves as an architect; the letters "RA" (Registered Architect) or AIA (a designation for architects who are members of the American Institute of Architects) after ones name.

It is very easy to determine if someone is an architect. The WVBOA website, at www.wvbrdarch.org, maintains an updated and accurate list of those who are licensed to practice in the state and call themselves an architect. Simply select the "Find an Architect" menu and search by last name.

The practice of architecture is more than being artistic, developing concepts, sketching on paper, building models, hanging out with groupies, and jetting off to Vegas with the client. It can mean spending hours conducting code reviews, researching materials, and writing specifications, which can sometimes be incredibly mundane and uninspired. But what it means most of all is staying on top of your profession to do everything necessary to protect the Health, Safety, and Welfare of the general public. Every Architect is proud of what they do and takes their responsibility very seriously.

Richard T. Forren, AIA, NCARB, is a senior principal with Omni Associates Architects and president of the WV Board of Architects.



Jason Smith Licensed in WV

The West Virginia Board of Architects welcomes Jason Smith as its newest licensed architect residing and working in West Virginia. Mr. Smith was registered in October 2017 and works for the Mills Group in Wheeling. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Cincinnati and a Master of Architecture from Miami University. Mr. Smith is active on the Wheeling Board of Zoning Appeals and serves as a trustee for Christ United Methodist Church.

Rule Changes Effective July 1, 2017

On July 1, rule revisions submitted by the West Virginia Board of Architects over a year ago took effect. Changing the Board's rules is a long process, which includes many stages with public comment, the Legislative Rule-Making Committee and the West Virginia Legislative Session. The changes, which took effect at the beginning of the new fiscal year, apply to Title 2 Legislative Rule, Board of Architects, Series 1, Registration of Architects. Changes include a ten-year sunset date, parity with NCARB education standards (2.2.9) recognition of experience gained in the Armed Services (5.1.2), collaboration with other jurisdictions (7.3.4), enforcement of continuing education requirements (8.4.3–8.4.4), new language about how architects represent their qualifications (9.3.2), methods of resolution of conflicts with clients (9.3.3.c), and detailed information about the use of a seal or stamp (9.6.2.2). All of the changes may be accessed on the board's website at www.wvbrdarch.org/rules/2-01.pdf.

Upcoming Events:

AIA West Virginia May Chapter Meeting, Luncheon & Seminar
May 18, 2018 - Holiday Inn, South Charleston

License Renewal - online or by mail
June 1 - 30, 2018

West Virginia Board of Architects Quarterly Meeting
June 7, 2018 - 405 Capitol Street, 4th Floor Conference Room, Charleston

NCARB Annual Business Meeting
June 28-30, 2018 - Westin Book Cadillac, Detroit, Michigan

West Virginia Board of Architects Quarterly Meeting
September 6, 2018 - 405 Capitol Street, 4th Floor Conference Room, Charleston



Scatterday Named First Female Architect On State Board

Wendy Scatterday, AIA was appointed to the West Virginia Board of Architects by Governor Earl Ray Tomblin in December 2016. A Wheeling resident, Ms. Scatterday is the first female professional, licensed architect to be appointed to the Board. "I'm honored to have been chosen by the Governor to serve on West Virginia's Board of Architects," Ms. Scatterday said. "I'm looking forward to working with my esteemed colleagues and fellow West Virginians in service to our citizens as it relates to the professional practice of architecture in our state."

Ms. Scatterday currently serves as the City of Wheeling's Fourth Ward City

Council Representative and is self-employed as an architect. She earned her bachelor's degree in architecture from the University of Tennessee in 1995, and she became a registered architect with the West Virginia Board of Architects in 2000. Ms. Scatterday formerly worked as a project architect with Schamu Machowski Greco Architects. She serves on the boards of Wheeling National Heritage Area Corporation, Greater Wheeling Coalition for the Homeless, West Virginia Department of Commerce Neighborhood Investment Program Advisory, and as co-chair of the AIA West Virginia Design Awards Program.