



Alignment

West Virginia Board of Architects

May 2020

Renewal Begins June 1, 2020

Beginning June 1, 2020, licensed West Virginia architects may renew their licenses on the Board's website at www.brdarch.wv.gov 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.

Governor Justice Proclaims May Building Safety Month

Architects, Fire Marshal and Fire Commission Unite In Public Protection



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 based on the calendar year.
 - Upcoming Board Meeting:
June 11, 2020
12:00 pm
405 Capitol Street
Charleston, WV
- This meeting may be held virtually. If you are interested in participating, contact the Board Office.
- License Renewals begin June 1, 2020.
 - Rule Changes Effective July 1, 2020. See article below.

2020–2021 Board Members

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

Emily Papadopoulos
Executive Director

Emily.B.Papadopoulos@wv.gov

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brdarch.wv.gov

Meet Two New West Virginia Architects

Meet architects Meghann Gregory and Barrow Koslosky, the two newest West Virginians to gain the title "architects." Welcome to the practice of architecture in West Virginia!



Gregory is employed with Desmone Architects in Morgantown, WV and earned an accredited Master of Architecture from the University of Tennessee. Gregory was registered as an architect in West Virginia on October 9, 2019.



Koslosky is employed by the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources in South Charleston, WV as a construction project manager and in-house architect as the DNR targets statewide ADA upgrades. He earned an accredited Master of Architecture from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Koslosky was registered as an architect in West Virginia on March 10, 2020.

2020 Audit Begins Following Renewal

The Annual Audit of registered architects will launch soon. Each year, architects registered in West Virginia attest to completing 12 continuing education hours in subjects



designated as health, safety, and welfare. The completion of 12 HSW hours is a condition of renewal and a requirement to promote public safety. For the renewal in June for the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year, architects will be attesting that they completed 12 hours during the 2019 *calendar* year. Hours completed in calendar year 2020 will be applied toward the renewal of registrations in June of 2021. If you have questions about the continuing education requirement, contact the Board Office.



Initial Fee Waivers Now Available for Military Families and Low-Income Individuals

As a result of the West Virginia Legislature's passage of Senate Bill 396, The West Virginia Board of Architects passed rule changes that waive the initial licensing fees for low-income individuals and military families. Changes to Title 2, Legislative Rule, Series 3, Fees for Registration of Architects provide the details to apply for the fee waiver. Applications to obtain a fee waiver for initial licensing fees are available from the Board Office and will be posted on the website soon. In addition, an eligibility calculator for the low-income waiver will also be posted.

Rule Changes Effective July 1, 2020

On July 1, rule revisions submitted by the West Virginia Board of Architects over a year ago take 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 take effect at the beginning of the new fiscal year, apply to Title 2 Legislative Rule, Board of Architects, Series 1, Registration of Architects and Title 2 Legislative Rule, Board of Architects, Series 3, Fees for Registration of Architects. The changes made by the Board resulted primarily from Legislation passed by the West Virginia Legislature but also include changes proposed by the Board to update the rules based a recently complete rule review.

Changes to the Registration Rule

Changes are primarily updates to reflect changes in the national Architect Registration Exam (ARE) and the national

Upcoming Events

Holiday

May 25, 2020 - Memorial Day
Office Closed

License Renewal - online or by mail
June 1 - 30, 2020

Primary Election in West Virginia

June 9, 2020
Office Closed

West Virginia Board of Architects Quarterly Meeting

June 11, 2020 - 405 Capitol Street, 4th Floor Conference Room, Charleston
This meeting may be held virtually. Contact the office for access information.

NCARB Annual Business Meeting

June 18, 2020 - Region 2 Meeting
June 19, 2020 - Annual Business Meeting
These meetings will be held virtually.

Late Renewals Begin

July 1, 2020
Late Renewals continue through December 31, 2020.

Architect Experience Program (AXP), as administered by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB), of which the West Virginia Board of Architects is a member. Further changes clarify rules that have been confusing to applicants. Additionally, the Board is limiting the time allowed for a late renewal of registration from 12 months to six in the interest of curbing illegal practice with an inactive registration and stressing the importance of timely continuing education. Further changes were made to accommodate the requirements of 30-1-24, passed during the Extraordinary Session, to prevent applicants from being disqualified for a prior criminal conviction not bearing a rational nexus to the profession.

Changes to the Fee Rule/Schedule

WV Senate Bill 396 provided for waivers of initial licensing fees for low income individuals and military families. Changes in the fee rule detail the process for these individuals to apply for waivers, providing increased access to professional licensing. Further changes in the fee rule limit the amount of time an architect can allow a license to be inactive and still execute a late renewal from 12 months to six months. The Board also established a \$25.00 fee for paper verification of certification. Free License Look-ups are still available on the Board's website.

All of the changes may be accessed on the board's website at <https://brdarch.wv.gov/rulesandlaws/Pages/default.aspx>

The final file of the rule changes with strike-throughs and underlined additions removed will be uploaded to the website by July 1, 2020.

Current WV Data

- Number of Active Architects: 1,335
- Number of Active In WV: 118
- Number of Active Out of State: 1,215
- Number of Candidate Admissions to ARE: 20
- Number of New Registrations During 2020 to Date: 46
- Number of New Registrations for 2019: 126

Data from May 19, 2020.

COVID-19 Information

- The Board modified office hours in compliance with the Governor's Safer at Home Order. The best way to reach staff quickly is via email at Emily.B.Papadopoulos@wv.gov.
 - Information including virus data from West Virginia is available at <https://dhhr.wv.gov/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx>
 - Plans for West Virginia Strong - The Comeback is available at https://coronavirus.wvgovstatus.com/WV_Strong_The_Comeback.pdf
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