

ASLA and Pennsylvania Licensure



ASLA
PENNSYLVANIA
DELAWARE

History of Landscape Architecture in PA

- ▶ Pennsylvania Landscape Architects Registration Law - Act 535 of 1965.
- ▶ Registration Law established the PA Landscape Registration Board to regulate LA registration in PA.
- ▶ PA LA Registration Law protects public health, safety and welfare (key phrase).
- ▶ PA LA Practice Act - You cannot practice Landscape Architecture or call yourself a Landscape Architect unless you are a registered Landscape Architect!
- ▶ Note: Landscape Architectural Registration is established in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.



Landscape Architect

**Congratulations on
your graduation!**
*(from an accredited
program)*

Now what do you do?



Next Steps....Prepare for LARE!

Landscape **A**rchitect **R**egistration **E**xamination (standard among all states and DC)

(Visit <https://www.asla.org/lareprep.aspx> for more details)

- ▶ Step 1: Learn Licensure Eligibility Requirements
- ▶ Step 2: Understand the LARE/Register for the LARE
- ▶ Step 3: Create a Study Strategy
- ▶ Step 4: Find a LARE Review Session
- ▶ Step 5: Take the Exam

Prepare for LARE, cont'd...

Step 1: Learn Licensure Eligibility Requirements

Each state sets its own requirements for licensure (and may vary for state to state. Some states allow applicants to begin taking the exam after graduation - (not PA!).

Pennsylvania state law asserts that, before taking the LARE, candidates for licensure must obtain two (2) years of experience “**under the supervision of a design professional.** (registered LA is preferred)

If the applicant is not supervised by a registered landscape architect, the applicant shall have their professional work product reviewed by a registered landscape architect every 6 months for 2 consecutive years...”

(Be sure to review the information provided by the state licensure board where you intend to earn your first license).

Prepare for LARE, cont'd...

Step 2: Understand the LARE

The LARE is designed to test your competence and to practice landscape architecture. It is not a design competition! As a professional licensing exam, it tests your **knowledge, skills, and abilities** that directly relate to protecting **public health, safety, and welfare**.

The LARE is divided into four sections. A candidate for licensure must pass all of them in order to qualify to become licensed.

The **Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB)** writes, administers, and grades the LARE. (Find more info at <https://www.clarb.org>).

Prepare for LARE, cont'd...

Step 2 (Continued) Register for the LARE:

- ◆ Join CLARB/Establish a CLARB Council Record <https://www.clarb.org/> (Transcripts, employment verification, professional references) \$155.
- ◆ Apply for a LA license at the PALS (PA Licensing System) web site: <https://www.pals.pa.gov> \$60.
- ◆ Complete PATCH background check. \$22.
- ◆ Transmit CLARB Council Record to PALS.
- ◆ PALS will approve CLARB Council Record.
- ◆ CLARB will send notification of approval to sit for the LARE.

Prepare for LARE, cont'd...

Step 3: Create a Study Strategy

Visit <https://www.asla.org/lareprep.aspx> to check out ASLA's wealth of study resources for all four LARE sections:

- ▶ Section 1: Project and Construction Management
- ▶ Section 2: Inventory and Analysis
- ▶ Section 3: Design
- ▶ Section 4: Grading, Drainage, and Construction Documents

Prepare for LARE, cont'd...

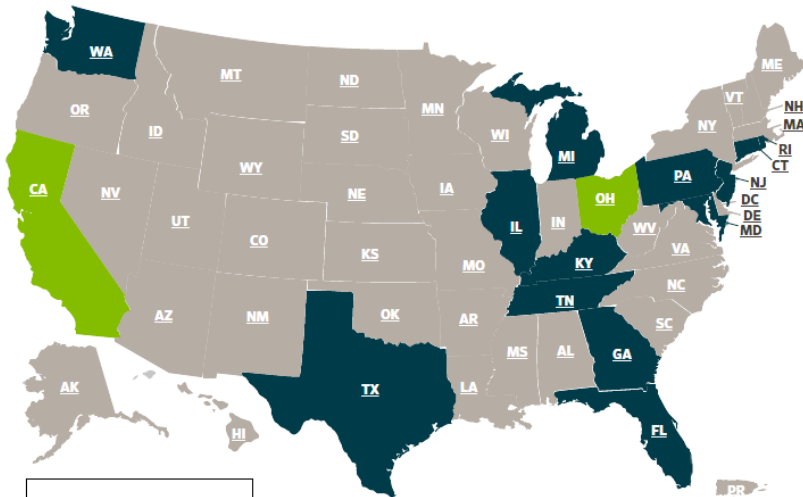
Step 4: Find a LARE Review Session

Become a Landscape Architect

PREPARE FOR L.A.R.E.

■ Upcoming L.A.R.E. Reviews ■ Past L.A.R.E. Reviews ■ No L.A.R.E. Reviews

To Narrow Your Options, Uncheck: Section 1 Section 2 Section 3 Section 4



[L.A.R.E. Prep Webinars](#)

[L.A.R.E. Prep Home](#)

PA-DE ASLA hosts a LARE Review Session at its Annual Conference on Landscape Architecture each spring!

(Hint, hint...)

Prepare for LARE, cont'd...

Step 5: Take the Exam

The LARE is administered three times a year over a two-week period in April, August, and December.

Sections I and II: \$356 each.

Sections III and IV: \$570 each.

Note: Some employers will pay for exams (verify!)

Congratulations! You passed the LARE!

Now what?

- ▶ In Pennsylvania, once you've been granted registration (passed the LARE), you will be issued a permanent certificate of registration.
- ▶ You may begin practicing as a landscape architect (and call yourself a Landscape Architect) when you receive your license from the Board.
- ▶ An approved seal or stamp will be required for the purpose of signing and sealing drawings, preliminary documents, specifications, and contract documents.



Landscape Architect

(Source: <https://www.pacode.com/secure/data/049/chapter15/chap15toc.html>)

Continuing Education (CEU's)

- ▶ In Pennsylvania, during each two-year renewal period (expires May 31st odd years), a licensee shall complete 24 clock hours of continuing education...as a condition of biennial renewal.
- ▶ Pre-Approved Sources of Continuing Education for Landscape Architects (in PA) include:
 - ▶ **The American Society of Landscape Architects and its chapters**
 - ▶ The American Nursery & Landscape Association and its chapters
 - ▶ The American Planning Association and its chapters
 - ▶ The American Institute of Architects and its chapters
 - ▶ The National Society of Professional Engineers and its chapters
 - ▶ The National Recreation and Parks Association and its chapters
 - ▶ The Pennsylvania Society of Land Surveyors
 - ▶ The Urban Land Institute
 - ▶ Accredited landscape architect programs or programs in fields related to landscape architecture in colleges and universities
 - ▶ Agencies of the Commonwealth and Federal government offering training programs in landscape architecture and its related fields
 - ▶ The Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) or its successor

(Source: <https://www.pacode.com/secure/data/049/chapter15/chap15toc.html>)

Continuing Education (CEU's) continued...

- ▶ You will receive a certificate for each CEU earned.
- ▶ Retain CEU certificates for your records in case you are audited by the PA LA Registration Board.
- ▶ Approx. 10% of registered LA's are audited per registration period.
- ▶ Fines of up to \$1,000 may be imposed if you are found in violation.

More about the PA State Board of Landscape Architects

“The State Board of Landscape Architects regulates the licensure and registration of landscape architects in order to safeguard the life, health and property of citizens of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.”

The functions of the Board include the promulgation (formal proclamation) of qualifications for a Landscape Architecture license and the granting, revocation or suspension of a license and registration to practice landscape architecture.”

MUCH MORE (and PA LA Registration Law) can be found at:

<https://www.dos.pa.gov/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardsCommissions/LandscapeArchitects>