

**MICHIGAN ARCHITECT LICENSING GUIDE**

**OVERVIEW:**

The architect license allows a licensee to engage in the unrestricted practice of architecture.

*NOTE: The content contained below is a general overview of licensing requirements. Links to access the Occupational Code and Administrative Rules for this profession can be found at the end of this guide.*

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**LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST**

**APPLICATION AND FEES**

- Online Application for an Architect License - Complete all fields, answer all questions, and upload any supporting documentation.
- Online applications can be completed by visiting [www.michigan.gov/miplus](http://www.michigan.gov/miplus)
- Application Fee + 2 year license fee: (Must be paid by Visa, Mastercard, American Express, or Discover credit or debit card)

Architect New Application: \$100.00

**THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS APPLY TO ALL APPLICANTS**

- Good Moral Character Question – I have the ability and will serve the public in a fair, honest, and open manner. If I have had a judgement of guilt in a criminal proceeding or a civil action against me, I am

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rehabilitated, or the substance of my former offense is not reasonably related to the occupation or profession for which I am seeking a license.

- Social Security Number (SSN) – An individual applying for licensure is required to provide his or her social security number at the time of application. If exempt under law from obtaining an SSN or you do not have an SSN, the SSN affidavit form will be required to be uploaded at the time the application is submitted.

### **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE BY EXAMINATION (These are in addition to the requirements stated above that apply to ALL applicants)**

- NCARB Council Record – You may either contact NCARB to request a transmittal of your NCARB Council Record or arrange to have the required professional education documents submitted to our office. You may contact NCARB at 1-202-879-0520 or by visiting [www.ncarb.org](http://www.ncarb.org).
- Qualifying Education – Provide proof verifying ONE of the following:
  - Official copies of transcripts verifying a first professional degree from an architectural program accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) or the Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB). You may upload official copies of transcripts during Step 3: Supporting Documentation of the online application.
  - An Educational Evaluations Services for Architects-National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (EESA-NCARB) evaluation that states the NCARB Education Standard under the NCARB Education Guidelines is met. Contact NCARB at 1-202-879-0520 or by visiting [www.ncarb.org](http://www.ncarb.org) for information on obtaining an evaluation. You cannot upload copies of evaluations. Evaluations must be received by our office from EESA-NCARB.
  - A National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) evaluation that verifies your education satisfies all the categories, subject areas, and semester credit hour requirements under the NCARB Education Standard found in the NCARB Education Guidelines. Visit [www.naces.org](http://www.naces.org) for a list of NACES members. You cannot upload copies of evaluations. Evaluations must be received by our office from the evaluation service.
- Experience – Provide proof verifying ONE of the following:
  - A valid certificate of completion of any internship program from NCARB.
  - Current and continuous licensure in another state or a province of Canada for at least 5 years.
- Examination - Proof of receiving a passing score on the NCARB Architectural Registration examination must be received by our office from NCARB.

### **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE BY RECIPROCITY (These are in addition to the requirements stated above that apply to All applicants)**

- NCARB Council Record – You may either contact NCARB to request a transmittal of your NCARB Council Record or arrange to have the required professional education documents submitted to our office. You may contact NCARB at 1-202-879-0520 or by visiting [www.ncarb.org](http://www.ncarb.org).

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- Qualifying Education – Provide proof verifying ONE of the following:
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  - A National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) evaluation that verifies your education satisfies all the categories, subject areas, and semester credit hour requirements under the NCARB Education Standard found in the NCARB Education Guidelines. Visit [www.naces.org](http://www.naces.org) for a list of NACES members. You cannot upload copies of evaluations. Evaluations must be received by our office from the evaluation service.
- Experience – Provide proof verifying ONE of the following:
  - A valid certificate of completion of any internship program from NCARB.
  - Current and continuous licensure in another state or a province of Canada for at least 5 years.
- Examination - Proof of receiving a passing score on the NCARB Architectural Registration examination must be received by our office from NCARB.

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR FOREIGN EDUCATED OR TRAINED APPLICANTS WHO  
RECEIVED EDUCATION OR TRAINING OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES  
(These are in addition to the requirements stated above that apply to All applicants)**

- NCARB Council Record – You may either contact NCARB to request a transmittal of your NCARB Council Record or arrange to have the required professional education documents submitted to our office. You may contact NCARB at 1-202-879-0520 or by visiting [www.ncarb.org](http://www.ncarb.org).
- Qualifying Education – Provide proof verifying ONE of the following:
  - Official copies of transcripts verifying a first professional degree from an architectural program accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) or the Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB). You may upload official copies of transcripts during Step 3: Supporting Documentation of the online application.
  - An Educational Evaluations Services for Architects-National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (EESA-NCARB) evaluation that states the NCARB Education Standard under the NCARB Education Guidelines is met. Contact NCARB at 1-202-879-0520 or by visiting [www.ncarb.org](http://www.ncarb.org) for information on obtaining an evaluation. You cannot upload copies of evaluations. Evaluations must be received by our office from EESA-NCARB.

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- A National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) evaluation that verifies your education satisfies all the categories, subject areas, and semester credit hour requirements under the NCARB Education Standard found in the NCARB Education Guidelines. Visit [www.naces.org](http://www.naces.org) for a list of NACES members. You cannot upload copies of evaluations. Evaluations must be received by our office from the evaluation service.
- Experience – Provide proof verifying ONE of the following:
  - A valid certificate of completion of any internship program from NCARB.
  - Current and continuous licensure in another state or a province of Canada for at least 5 years.
- Examination - Proof of receiving a passing score on the NCARB Architectural Registration examination must be received by our office from NCARB.

### **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THOSE APPLYING FOR RELICENSURE (These are in addition to the requirements stated above that apply to All applicants)**

- Online application can be completed by visiting [www.michigan.gov/miplus](http://www.michigan.gov/miplus) and selecting MiPLUS Login. Once logged in, click on the “**Licenses**” tab, select “**Modification**” next to your license number and this will start the relicensure process.
- 2 year Architect Relicensure Application and Fee: \$120.00 (Must be paid by Visa, Mastercard, American Express or Discover credit or debit card)

#### **Applicants for relicensure whose license has lapsed for less than 3 years after the expiration date of the last license must submit the following:**

- Submit proof to the department of the completion of at least 24 hours of continuing education within the 2-year period immediately preceding the date of filing the relicensure application. Any continuing education hours completed MORE than 2 years prior to the date of filing your relicensure application will not be accepted. Continuing education must be in activities and subjects approved under current administrative rules.
- Satisfy the requirements of R 339.15502, which outlines acceptable licensed architect continuing education.

#### **Applicants for relicensure whose license has lapsed for 3 years or more after the expiration date of the last license must submit the following:**

- NCARB Council Record – Proof that you meet current licensure requirements by arranging for the transmission of your NCARB Council Record.
- Submit proof to the department of the completion of at least 24 hours of continuing education within the 2-year period immediately preceding the date of filing the relicensure application. Any continuing education hours completed MORE than 2 years prior to the date of filing your relicensure application will not be accepted. Continuing education must be in activities and subjects approved under current administrative rules.

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- Satisfy the requirements of R 339.15502, which outlines acceptable licensed architect continuing education.

### RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

- Online Application for Michigan Architect Renewal – Must be completed by visiting [www.michigan.gov/miplus](http://www.michigan.gov/miplus) no sooner than 90 days prior to the expiration date of current license.
- Architect Renewal Application Fee: \$70.00 (Must be paid by Visa, Mastercard, American Express or Discover credit or debit card)
- Renewal Cycle: 2 years
- Continuing Education – You must complete the continuing education requirements BEFORE completing the online renewal application. You must have completed 24 hours of continuing education that was completed during the 2-year period immediately preceding the license expiration date. Continuing education must be in activities and subjects approved under current administrative rules.
- Accept Renewal Attestation – By accepting the renewal attestation, you as the licensee are certifying that you have met the continuing education requirements during the renewal period and all information provided on your renewal application is true and complete.

### HELPFUL RESOURCES AND FORMS

- By visiting [www.michigan.gov/occupationallicense](http://www.michigan.gov/occupationallicense) and clicking on the architect link you can access the following helpful resources and forms:

#### Resources:

- [Michigan Occupational Code](#)
- [Administrative Rules for Architects](#)
- Track continuing education using CE Broker – The Bureau of Professional Licensing (BPL) has partnered with CE Broker to help licensed professionals keep track of their continuing education (CE) credits. Additional information can be found on our [website](#).

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### 1. Do I need to contact the department to take the NCARB exam?

No. Exam related questions should be directed to NCARB, the exam administrator. You can contact NCARB at (202) 879-0520 or by visiting [www.ncarb.org](http://www.ncarb.org).

#### 2. Will I receive a seal? What are the seal requirements?

No. The department does not provide seals. The seal must contain your 10-digit architect license number, full name as shown on your architect license, and indicate “State of Michigan” as well as “Licensed

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Architect” in the legend surrounding the seal. Review [R 339.15404](#) for the sample seal design and requirements.

Additional requirements pertaining to use of the seal, acceptability of electronic seals, and use of signatures can be found under [Article 20](#) of the Michigan Occupational Code under [MCL 339.2007](#) and [MCL 339.2008](#).

## **3. How do I change my name or address?**

Name and address changes must be completed through your MiPLUS account by submitting a modification. You are required to upload supporting documentation such as a driver’s license, marriage certificate, divorce decree, or court order for all name changes.

When updating your name and/or address in MiPLUS you can also request to have a license mailed to you with the updated information. There is a \$10.00 fee per license to have it mailed.

## **4. I have not completed my continuing education, and my license is about to expire. What should I do?**

Administrative Rule [R 339.15501](#) requires an applicant who has been licensed during the 2-year period immediately preceding the expiration date to obtain qualifying continuing education during the 2-year period immediately preceding the expiration date. If you have not met the continuing education requirements before the expiration date of the license, you will need to apply for relicensure.

## **5. Is there a grace period for my renewal?**

Yes, there is a 60-day grace period in which you may renew your license without having to go through the relicensure process. However, if you renew during the 60-day grace period, there is an additional \$20.00 late fee.

## **6. How do I apply for a retired or emeritus license? Do I need to notify the department if I am retiring and no longer wish to practice?**

The Michigan Occupational Code does not authorize the department to grant retired or emeritus status. Licensee can either renew the license at the time of renewal or allow the license to lapse by electing not to renew the license. Licensee’s do not need to notify the department if they do not intend to renew the license. If the license has lapsed and you wish to make the license active again, you will need to apply for relicensure.

## **7. Do I need a license or approval from the department if my firm seeks to engage in the practice of architecture?**

Firms seeking to engage in the practice of architecture must apply for firm approval at [www.michigan.gov/miplus](http://www.michigan.gov/miplus). Approval by the department is required under [MCL 339.2010](#); however, there is no firm license under the Michigan Occupational Code.

## **8. Two-thirds (2/3) of my firm’s principals are licensed architects in other states but not Michigan. Can I obtain firm approval from the department?**

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No. The department does not consider requests for firm approval if 2/3 of the firm's principals do not hold Michigan licenses under [Article 20](#) of the Michigan Occupational Code.

## 9. How do I verify my Michigan Architect license?

Certified license verification requests must be submitted through the MiPLUS system. There is a \$15.00 fee for certification processing for each address you list. Please note, if you submit both a USPS mailing address and an email address for the same recipient, you will be charged \$30.00 since you have requested your certification to go to two different addresses. Normal processing time for verifications being sent by email is the same day, verifications being mailed are sent the next business day.

Licenses may also be verified online on the Bureaus License Verification website free of charge. You may need to confirm with the recipient if verifying a license on this website is acceptable or if a certified license verification is needed.

## 10. How do I file a complaint against an occupational professional?

Information on how to File a Complaint with the Bureau of Professional Licensing can be found on the Bureau of Professional Licensing's website at [www.michigan.gov/bpl](http://www.michigan.gov/bpl).