



Hi there,

As a reminder, NCARB is expecting to launch minor updates to the Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®) in April 2026. The changes will focus on minor adjustments to a small subset of the exam objectives outlined in the *ARE Guidelines* in order to align them with the [NCARB Competency Standard for Architects](#). NCARB will also make formatting changes to the exam’s case studies to improve the testing experience.

More information about these changes will be available in fall 2025. [Learn more about these changes](#), as well as changes to the Architectural Experience Program® (AXP®).

Updated ARE 5.0 Test Prep Video Series

As of April 2025, there are now only three item types on the exam: multiple choice, check-all-that-apply, and hotspot. This update is now reflected in the [ARE 5.0 Test Prep Video series](#), a resource that offers exclusive insight into each ARE 5.0 division with information on content, sample questions, and suggested references. Start watching to learn more about each exam division.

Watch Test Prep Series

Upcoming PSI Updates for Online Testers

As of October 14, 2025, PSI will no longer support MS Windows 10 & Apple macOS Ventura for online proctored exams, as they will fall below PSI’s minimum technical requirements. To avoid any disruptions, test takers will need to update their operating systems before attempting to test on or after October 14, 2025. Continuing to use unsupported systems can lead to compatibility issues and interruptions during the test session.

Learn More About the Changes

Webinar: What to Know Before You Schedule an Exam

Join NCARB experts for a [live webinar](#) on September 24 at 3 p.m. ET! Senior Programs Manager Nick Respecki, AIA, NCARB, ICE-CCP, and Assistant Vice President of Customer Relations Casandra Walker, MBA, MSHRM, will share strategies for navigating test scheduling, accommodations, rescheduling, and other logistics while preparing for your next ARE 5.0 exam.

Register Now

Online Proctoring Tip: Use a Wired Internet Connection

When you prepare for an online exam appointment with PSI, remember that you **must** connect your computer to the internet using an Ethernet cable. While Wi-Fi may work for everyday tasks, it isn’t stable enough to support the technical demands of the ARE, which requires a minimum three (3) mbps of dedicated bandwidth. A wired connection offers the reliability you need to avoid disruptions during your exam—NCARB will not provide a refund or seat credit for exams disrupted due to internet connectivity issues.

To confirm your internet connection and ensure a smooth test day experience, you should be sure to [complete a system test run](#) **before every scheduled exam appointment**. Technical issues can arise at any time, especially with updates to your computer or testing software, or when testing in a new location.

[Learn more about taking an online-proctored exam in the ARE 5.0 Guidelines.](#)