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NATIONAL ARCHITECT

A newsletter for
NCARB-certified architects

MARCH 2026



Mid-Year Report From President Ed Marley »

NCARB Fiscal Year 2026 President Edward T. Marley, FAIA, NCARB, LEED AP, shares a mid-year update highlighting the progress made toward the organization's strategic initiatives, including our efforts to develop a future licensure model.

[Hear From FY26 NCARB President](#)

FREE CONTINUING EDUCATION

Preventing Access Failures: 6 Tips for Construction Teams

Construction mistakes happen, and they are often the most expensive aspect of ADA compliance. This new course shows you how to partner with contractors to spot problems early and reduce the risk of noncompliant work. [Earn 0.5 HSW LU »](#)

Integrating Ventilation, Heating, and Cooling Strategies in Building Envelope Design

In part four of the building envelope series, you'll explore how to weave passive and active strategies into the fabric of the building envelope, while optimizing for energy efficiency, occupant comfort, and resilience. [Earn 1.25 HSW LUs | 1 GCBI LU »](#)

WHAT'S NEW AT NCARB

How Will NCARB's Competency Standard Impact the Future of Licensure?

Watch our recent video on assessing competency for licensure, where volunteer members of NCARB's Licensure Process Research & Development Task Force explain the value of the *Competency Standard* and how it relates to the potential assessment methods they are exploring for the next iteration of architectural licensure. [Watch the Video »](#)

Updated ARE Guidelines for April 2026 Exam Changes Now Available

A new version of the *ARE 5.0 Guidelines* is now available. Going into effect April 27, 2026, the new *Guidelines* reflects several upcoming changes to the exam, such as minor adjustments to 12 of the 91 exam objectives, clarifying revisions to several objective descriptions, and formatting changes to case studies. [See New ARE Guidelines »](#)

How AI Is Reshaping the Architecture Industry

As artificial intelligence (AI) systems increasingly inform or generate design outcomes, architects are placed in the position of validating, endorsing, or relying upon the outputs produced by these tools. NCARB's Futures Collaborative, a committee of expert volunteers, shares five key factors architects should consider when assessing the impact AI will have on the role and regulation of the architect. [Learn More »](#)

Architect Janine Stewart on the Spaces That Shape Our Stories

Janine Stewart reflects on how her childhood in Trinidad and Tobago ignited a lifelong passion for human-centered design—and the challenges she navigated on her path to becoming a U.S. architect. [Read Her Story »](#)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Serve on a Licensing Board »

Service on a state licensing board is a rewarding opportunity to contribute to the development of architectural regulatory policies that protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

Fourteen state licensing boards are currently seeking volunteer architects and members of the public. [Learn more about the roles of state licensing boards](#), explore [how to serve](#), or contact us at council-relations@ncarb.org for more information.

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