



Dora NEWSLETTER

Department of Regulatory Agencies

Division of Registrations

December 2011

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor
Barbara J. Kelley
Executive
Director
Angeline Kinnaid Linn
Program
Director

BOARD OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

Governor Hickenlooper recently made appointments to the Landscape Architects Board to fill positions expiring on August 4, 2011. Phillip R. Patterson, City of Lafayette Community Development Director, of Longmont was appointed Public Member; and Dean J. R. Pearson, President of Architerra Group, from Littleton was appointed as a Landscape Architect member.

Mr. Patterson's experience as a planner and depth of knowledge at the local level, with an understanding of the minimum standards for Landscape Architects may be beneficial for both consumers and the industry.

Participating in the initial rulemaking process and on the Board's application review committee to review "prior practice" applications has given Mr. Pearson a front row seat to the Board's activities in the early years. He has also been involved in the exam item writing process with the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) as well as with industry and community groups.

Both new Members will bring new skills and perspectives to the Board, but it is with bittersweet feelings that the Board looks ahead. Ted Ciavonne, LA, from Grand Junction, and Heather Jovel-Eversley, Public Member from Denver, completed their terms on August 4, 2011. Both were original members of the "new" board in 2007. Mr. Ciavonne served as the Board Chair for several years. His leadership was appreciated by everyone on the Board and his passion and vision will be missed. Ms. Jovel-Eversley was a vital participant in the Board's deliberations and her service was truly valued. The Board thanks them and wishes them all the best!

CLARB HELPS DEFINE "WELFARE"

In most jurisdictions, including Colorado, the regulation of landscape architecture is predicated on the need to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of its citizens. What exactly "welfare" means and what role landscape architecture plays in public welfare is usually not well understood.

For that reason, the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) commissioned a study to develop a working definition of public welfare and the major ways it is impacted by the practice of landscape architecture. The "Definition of Welfare" Foundation Paper is now available from CLARB. This research identifies the seven principal impacts of landscape architecture on public welfare and helps licensing boards and the public at large understand the relationship between the licensed practice of landscape architecture and public welfare.

Click on www.clarb.org to access information from the main homepage about the "Definition of Welfare" research, including an Executive Summary and how to order a copy of the full report.



**Consumer protection
is our mission**

Board Members

James F. Ramos, LA
Chair
Jennifer D. Staroska-McCoy, LA
Vice Chair
Timothy L. Emick
Landscape Contractor
Phillip R. Patterson
Public Member
Dean J.R. Pearson, LA

Board Staff

Christy Thomas
Enforcement Supervisor
Rita Carey
Compliance Specialist
Marshall Irons
Administrative Assistant
Karry Lenon
Administrative Assistant
John Roberts
Assistant Attorney General

Contact Us

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PROOF OF LAWFUL PRESENCE



Effective January 1, 2007, all persons requesting original licensure, renewal of an active license or reinstatement of an expired license must verify lawful presence in the United States based on the passage of House Bill 06S-1009. This bill applies to all applicants and licensees in the Division of Registrations, with the exception of apprentices, interns, and businesses.

Licenses will not be issued or renewed without completing the Affidavit of Eligibility form.

The good news is that you can complete this affidavit online when you renew using Registrations Online Services!

You must possess at least one secure and verifiable document and include information about that document on the Affidavit itself (or provide the information during online renewal). The list of secure and verifiable documents is available to you when you renew online.

More information regarding this law is available on our website at

www.dora.state.co.us/registrations/Affidavit



CHANGES ARE UNDERWAY TO L.A.R.E.

The Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) has announced changes to the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (L.A.R.E.) that will take effect in September 2012.

Changes to the exam will include:

- ◆ Five to four sections—This modest structural change will better align the content of the L.A.R.E. with current practice, as demonstrated in the 2010 Task Analysis study.
 - Section 1: Project and Construction Management
 - Section 2: Inventory and Analysis
 - Section 3: Design
 - Section 4: Grading, Drainage and Construction Documentation

For additional detail on equivalency between the current and new exam, view the transition chart at www.clarb.org/Candidates/about/Documents/LARE-transition-chart-with-details-final.

- ◆ Full computer based testing—By December 2012, all four sections will be delivered by computer to improve relevance, reliability, and accessibility.

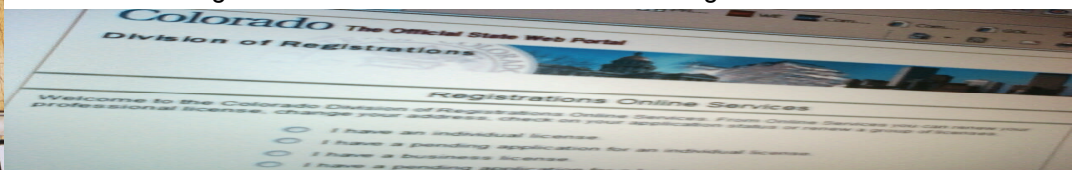
CLARB encourages candidates currently in the exam process to complete all sections of the current exam by the June 2012 administration to ensure that they receive credit for sections they have passed. The above referenced transition chart identifies the ways that the existing exam sections will transition to the new exam. Completing all sections by June 2012 will also result in savings to candidates as well. The per-section cost of the new exam will increase as total costs are spread across four sections instead of five. CLARB staff is also ready to assist candidates through the transition process and to help them develop a plan for completing the exams and obtaining initial licensure prior to the transition.

Prospective licensees are also encouraged to begin the exam process as soon as possible as there is ample time to complete all sections of the current exam prior to transitioning to the new exam in late 2012.

CLARB has developed a set of Frequently Asked Questions to help candidates better understand the changes and the transition process. For additional information please contact CLARB at 571-432-0332 or visit their website at www.clarb.org.

HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR MAILING ADDRESS LATELY?

It is imperative that you keep your contact information updated with the Division. The Division mails renewal notices and other information to you at the last address furnished to us. Failure to receive a renewal notice does not relieve you of your obligation to timely renew. Once you have logged into Registrations Online Services, check your mailing address and update it if it is not correct. If you received your renewal notice due to a forwarding order it is important that you change your address on file with us, since we cannot change the information based on the forwarding order.



BOARD STATISTICS

	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11
Licensing				
New Licensees	469	249	56	60
Active Licenses	469	681	719	755
Renewals Mailed/Licenses Renewed	-	528/485	707/675	736/703
Licenses Reinstated	-	6	15	11
Licenses Expired	-	43	33	33
Complaints				
Complaints Received	1	5	3	10
Revocations	-	0	0	0
Suspensions	-	0	0	0
Stipulations	-	0	0	2
Letters of Admonition	-	0	0	0
Other*	-	0	0	3
Dismissals	-	1	2	6

The fiscal year (FY) is July 1-June 30.

*Other includes Fines and Cease and Desist Orders.

REGISTRATIONS ONLINE DOCUMENTS

If you would like to view a board action you may use the **Registrations Online Documents (ROD)**. ROD is a website that makes certain scanned documents related to actions taken on licensees available to the public via the Internet. The document may be found on ROD if a licensee has been disciplined or if the board has taken some other non-disciplinary action against the licensee that restricts or limits the individual's license.

The following documents are available via ROD:

- ◆ All Stipulations, Final Agency Orders, and Suspensions that were in effect in February 2000 plus any that became effective since that date. Child Support Suspensions are not available online but may be obtained by contacting the appropriate board/program.
- ◆ Any document Revoking or agreeing to a Voluntary Relinquishment/Surrender of license, Cease and Desist Orders and Letters of Admonition from January 1, 1999 to the present.
- ◆ All Injunctions.

[Click here](#) for more information about the types of documents provided by this online system and definitions of terms used within the disciplinary documents.

If you are interested in viewing these documents, please visit www.dora.state.co.us/registrations/ROD.

STAY INFORMED!

The Division wants to keep you informed of upcoming renewal, legislation, events, and other information that impacts your profession. In order to do this more efficiently we have implemented "DORA eUpdates" and we look forward to providing more of these in the future. These eUpdates are sent to the email address in our licensing system for each active licensee. To update or add your email address, log into [Registrations Online Services](#).

RENEW YOUR LICENSE ON TIME!

Landscape Architect licenses are set to expire on January 31, 2012

You may renew your license online using Registrations Online Services. Renewals are generally made available 6 to 8 weeks prior to the license expiration date. After that there is a 60-day grace period. That means you typically have a timeframe of 16 weeks within which to renew your license!

Any license not renewed prior to the end of the grace period will be considered expired. Once a license is in expired status, a reinstatement application must be completed and returned to our office with the appropriate fee listed on the form.

If you do not renew your license prior to the end of the grace period and continue to practice, you will be practicing on an expired license and may be subject to disciplinary action. The Division sees a number of situations every year of individuals who have failed to renew their license on time and practiced without a license. The reasons that are offered boil down to some common themes: I forgot; I moved and I forgot to notify the Board so I never got the renewal notice; I thought that my assistant/secretary/spouse/boyfriend, et cetera, handled it; it's the Board's fault because I *did* renew my license...or I *thought* I renewed my license. The result is that depending on how long it takes for the individual to "remember" to renew, the Division often takes disciplinary action against the individual because it is against the law to practice without an active license.

So, here's where we need your help. The steps are as easy as 1-2-3!

1. Go to the Division of Registrations website at www.dora.state.co.us/registrations and click on Registrations Online Services to renew your license.
2. Note the expiration date in your calendar to remind yourself of when it is time to renew your license the next time.
3. Make sure that the address listed on your record is accurate. If it is not, then update your address with the Division. Remember to update your address anytime that you move so that you do not miss out on any important notices from the Division.

Remember, it is each licensee's responsibility to renew his or her license on time. With our online system, you can handle all of this yourself, any time, day or night.

HOW ARE RENEWAL FEES SET?

By law, the Board must operate strictly with funds collected from the persons it regulates, with no support from the State's General Fund. The Colorado Legislature determines the budget for the program. Once the Legislature sets the budget, the money must be raised through fees. The good news is that these fees are evaluated each year. Therefore, they are modified depending on how much money is anticipated to be received through the licensure and renewal processes and what the anticipated expenditures are expected to be. The primary obligation is to protect consumers and the operations of the program are focused to ensure it can work diligently to do so.

