



September 26, 2012

To: Registrants and Other Interested Parties

From: Administrative Rules Committee Chair Nichols and Board Administrator Valentine

RULEMAKING TO ADDRESS CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT REGISTRATION EXAMINATION (LARE)

Background: The Board is aware of changes to the structure and administration of the LARE that are being phased in starting with fall and winter 2012 exams. The December 2012 exam administration will mark the first time in many years that OSLAB will not be proctoring exams (previously proctored Sections C and E in December and June of each year). The new exam is computerized and given at test centers. It has changed from a 5-part to a 4-part exam. Full implementation of the new exam occurs in 2013. At that point, all four exam sections will be offered three times a year instead of twice, and all sections will be available at each administration instead of some in March/Sept. and others in June/December.

After obtaining input from its Administrative Rules Committee, Board counsel, and staff, the Board adopted on August 24, 2012 revised rules on a temporary basis to address the LARE changes. The temporary rules are in effect as of September 5, 2012 for a maximum of 180 days. The Board took action to adopt temporary rules in order to ensure the Board has adequate procedures in place to address the remaining 2012 exams and the April 2013 exams. The Board now is soliciting input on whether the temporary rules should be made permanent or if the rules should be further revised prior to adoption as permanent.

Issues addressed in the draft rules include:

- (1) Referring to LARE Sections 1-4 instead of LARE Sections A-E,
- (2) Reflecting that the Board will no longer administer LARE Sections C and E (now called LARE Sections 3 and 4),
- (3) Clarifying procedures for prior approval to sit for LARE Sections 1 and 2 (instead of LARE A, B, and D), application/work experience verification for LARE Sections 3 and 4 (instead of LARE C and E), and work experience with/without LAAB accredited degree,
- (4) Changing deadlines for submittal of prior approval and application requests to the Board, and
- (5) Various housekeeping changes to be made while the rules are otherwise being revised.