

# CLARB

## 2023 L.A.R.E. Exam Transition FAQ's

### 1) Why is the L.A.R.E. changing?

Every 5-7 years CLARB conducts a Job Task Analysis survey (JTA) which is a scientific study of the profession of landscape architecture. The study ensures that the content of the L.A.R.E. remains legally defensible and relevant to the practice of landscape architecture. The results of this study are also used to defend the legal scope of landscape architectural practice. Following the study, any necessary changes are identified and then incorporated into the L.A.R.E.

### 2) When was the transition announced?

The transition of the L.A.R.E. was first announced in August 2022 and has been continually communicated to the landscape architecture community since the announcement.

### 3) When is the last time I can take the L.A.R.E. in its current blueprint?

The current L.A.R.E. blueprint will be offered in April and August 2023.

Section 4 of the current L.A.R.E. blueprint will also be offered in October 2023 for candidates who have passed Section 1 but not Section 4. Registration for all administrations including the October 2023 administration is available on the CLARB website [here](#). Registration for April is currently open.

### 4) When will be the first time to take the L.A.R.E. in its new blueprint?

The first administration of the NEW L.A.R.E. blueprint will be in December 2023. Registration for December 2023 will open in September 2023.

### 5) When will the new L.A.R.E. Orientation be available with the updated exam blueprint?

The new L.A.R.E. Orientation will be available when registration opens in September 2023 for the December 2023 administration.

### 6) Will CLARB be providing feedback with the new blueprint of the L.A.R.E. or just the same scaled score?

With the new blueprint in December 2023, CLARB will provide feedback on how candidates performed on the sub-domains of the exam. This feedback will only be provided to candidates who failed the exam. For example, on the new Construction Documentation and Administration section of the L.A.R.E., feedback will be provided at the three subdomains – Construction Plans and Details; Construction Specification and Bidding; and Construction Administration.

**7) Why do we have to transition? Why can't you offer both versions of the L.A.R.E. blueprint?**

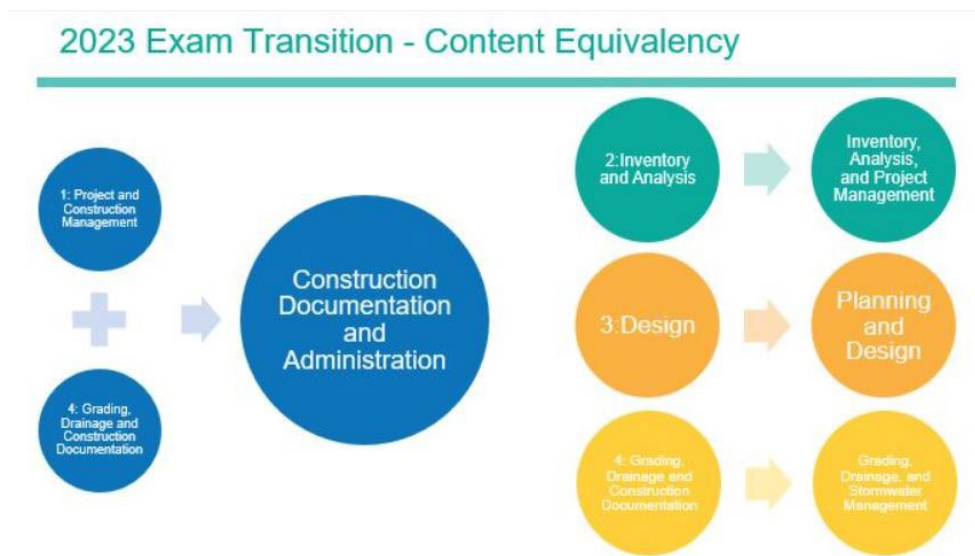
For the L.A.R.E. to remain defensible, it must reflect current landscape architecture practice. The results of the most recent JTA identified changes to the L.A.R.E. that were necessary for the L.A.R.E. to remain relevant and defensible. A timeline was identified for implementing those changes and a transition was scheduled and communicated.

**8) Why can't the transition be longer?**

Defensibility of the L.A.R.E. and reasonable timing were taken into consideration when developing the transition timeline. A full year, including three full administrations of the L.A.R.E. were identified and communicated to allow candidates currently in the pipeline time to move through the exam appropriately. The L.A.R.E. will also be transitioned to the new blueprint to allow candidates to transition the new exam and complete the L.A.R.E. either before the change or following the change.

**9) What happens if I don't complete the exam before the end of the transition?**

Candidates who do not complete the exam in its current form will be transitioned to the new L.A.R.E. blueprint with appropriate credit given for sections passed .



**10) How will I know which sections of the new exam I need to take?**

Any candidate who does not complete the L.A.R.E. before the transition will be able to review which sections, they need to complete either via the CLARB website or by contacting CLARB.

**11) Why is the October 2023 administration limited to candidates who passed Section 1?**

Section 1 of the L.A.R.E. is the only section that transitions in combination with another section (Section 4). Candidates who have passed Section 1 but not Section 4 will not receive any credit for the Section 1 when transitioning to the new L.A.R.E. blueprint.

**12) If I take Section 4 of the L.A.R.E. during the August 2023 administration, will I know my results in time to sign up for the October 2023 administration?**

Yes, CLARB will be provided results of the August 2023 Section 4 exams prior to the deadline to register for the October 2023 administration.

**13) Why is only Section 4 of the L.A.R.E. available during the October 2023 administration?**

The October administration is an additional administration not typically available to candidates during the year. To ensure that we have the proper staffing and center support available to candidates needing to complete Section 4 of the L.A.R.E. CLARB has decided to limit this additional administration to Section 4 only. This provides an opportunity for candidates who will lose credit for exam content (Section 1), one last opportunity to complete Section 4 of the exam to ensure their Section 1 exam transitions to the new blueprint.

**14) I heard CLARB is offering a free exam in the new blueprint. How do I get a free exam?**

CLARB will be providing candidates who passed Section 1 of the L.A.R.E. prior to October 2022 and who have not passed Section 4 of the L.A.R.E. by the December 2023 transition, one free attempt on the additional section they will be required to take, Construction Documentation and Administration.

To qualify, candidates must meet the following criteria:

- 1) Passed Section 1 of the L.A.R.E. prior to October 2022, AND

- 2) Attempted to complete Section 4 of the L.A.R.E. during the exam transition – meaning you took Section 4 at least once between December 2022 and October 2023, AND
- 3) Have not passed Section 4 of the L.A.R.E. by the December 2023 transition.

Finally, candidates who qualify for the free Construction Documentation and Administration exam must take the exam in either the December 2023 or April 2024 administration. Candidates will be contacted by CLARB following the August 2023 administration if they do not test during the October 2023 administration and following the October 2023 administration.