

Frequently Asked Questions Examination Candidates and Applicants for Initial Registration

What is the Oregon State Landscape Architect Board (OSLAB)?

OSLAB is the State of Oregon's professional licensure board for Landscape Architects. Its role is to regulate the landscape architecture profession in Oregon, including determination of whether applicants for registration meet Oregon's minimum standards for education, examination, and work experience. OSLAB offers three types of registrations: Landscape Architect-in-Training, Landscape Architect, and Landscape Architecture Business.

What is the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB)?

CLARB is a non-profit organization, and boards of registration for Landscape Architects from across the United States and Canada are members of the organization. OSLAB is a member of CLARB. CLARB prepares, administers, and scores the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE). OSLAB requires passage of the LARE for the Landscape Architect registration. Passage of two sections of the LARE is required for the Landscape Architect-in-Training registration.

What is the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE)?

The LARE is the national examination that boards of registration for Landscape Architects rely on to test individuals for minimum competency in landscape architecture practice. The LARE is a four-part computerized examination designed to determine whether applicants for landscape architectural registration possess sufficient knowledge, skills and abilities to provide landscape architectural services without endangering the health, safety and welfare of the public. The LARE is made up of the following sections:

- Inventory, Analysis, and Project Management
- Planning and Design
- Construction Documentation and Administration
- Grading, Drainage and Stormwater Management

How do I register for the LARE

Oregon examination candidates go directly to CLARB to start the examination registration process. Visit the CLARB website (<https://www.clarb.org/exam/examination-process>) for details on the registration process.

NOTE: As of December 2025, OSLAB no longer requires any examination candidates to obtain preapproval to start the examination process.

When is the LARE offered?

The LARE is currently offered three times per calendar year, with examination periods in spring, summer, and late fall. Visit the CLARB website for the current examination schedule and associated dates for registration: https://www.clarb.org/resources/event-calendar/?_event_type=l-a-r-e.

Can I register for multiple sections of the LARE?

Yes, you may register to take multiple sections of the LARE within one administration. Whether you register for one or more sections is dependent on your assessment of being prepared. There is a fee for each section that may also be a consideration in your determination of how much to space the sections out.

What information does CLARB require from candidates registering for the LARE?

All candidates must provide CLARB with their education history, including official transcripts, before registering for any sections of the LARE. Candidates are strongly encouraged to provide work experience history as well, at least for past positions. This allows more time to get work experience verified in the CLARB system.

Since a complete Council Record requires current employment to be updated and verified within the last 3 months before transmittal to a registration board, candidates scheduled to take their last section of the LARE are encouraged to work with CLARB to get work experience information updated BEFORE exam results are scheduled to be released. Otherwise, a candidate may face delay after completing the LARE before the Council Record can be transmitted to OSLAB in support of application for registration.

How much does it cost to take the LARE?

For examination and Council Record fees, visit the CLARB website at: <https://www.clarb.org/resources/fees/>

OSLAB does not charge or collect examination or Council Record fees.

How long do I have to complete the LARE?

There is no specific time limit set by either CLARB or OSLAB on how long a candidate takes to complete the 4 sections of the LARE. Any candidate who ultimately decides to seek registration in a jurisdiction other than Oregon is advised to check with the registration board for that jurisdiction to see if there are any time limits applied in that jurisdiction. Also, a candidate may face challenges if the LARE changes in structure or content before it is completed. The LARE is continually reviewed to ensure the content remains relevant and occasionally exam sections are restructured.

Where can I learn more about the LARE and the examination process?

Candidates are strongly encouraged to visit the CLARB website to access various resources provided by CLARB to assist with preparation for the LARE. These resources include YouTube videos, the LARE Orientation Guide, a recommended reading list, and related materials. Go to <https://www.clarb.org/exam/how-to-prepare/>

When can I apply for Landscape Architect registration with OSLAB?

You can apply for registration with OSLAB when you have passed all four sections of the LARE and you *ALSO* meet Oregon’s registration standards for qualifying education and work experience.

Education Standards are found in the following Board rules:

- OAR 804-010-0000 Education Qualifications
- OAR 804-010-0010 Equivalent Education and Experience
- OAR 804-010-0020 Experience in Lieu of Education

Work Experience Standard is found in the following Board rule:

- OAR 804-022-0005 Initial Landscape Architect Registration

Board rules can be accessed at the Laws and Rules page of the OSLAB website:

<https://www.oregon.gov/landarch/Pages/LawsRules.aspx>

The Board offers 8 pathways to registration, and all pathways require a total of 8 years of qualifying experience from education and experience. For the accredited landscape architecture degree pathway, 3 years must come from qualifying work experience. The amount of total work experience needed for other pathways depends on the education completed as laid out in Board rule. Those without an accredited landscape architecture degree are not precluded from seeking registration but will need to have additional work experience to qualify for registration. For the no degree pathway, all 8 years must come from qualifying work experience.

What information does OSLAB require when applying for registration as a Landscape Architect?

OSLAB requires the following:

- 1) Completed OSLAB application for initial registration. Apply online at <https://oslab.portalus.thentiacloud.net/webs/portal/application/#/login>
- 2) OSLAB application fee (currently \$150.00). This fee is different from fees a candidate paid to CLARB to take LARE exam sections or for the transmittal of the CLARB Council Record.
- 3) Either of the following (candidate’s choice, chose column A or B):

<i>A. CLARB Council Record</i>	<i>B. Directly Submitted Documents</i>
The record contains a verified copy of the transcript(s).	Official university transcript(s), except for candidates qualifying based on work experience in lieu of education
The record contains a work history summary.	Experience record (part of OSLAB application)
The record contains verifications of work experience, at least those that have been	Verifications of work experience using OSLAB form (https://www.oregon.gov/landarch/Pages/Forms.aspx),

completed by both the candidate and supervisor in the CLARB system.	signed by the supervising professional(s) for the required # of years
The record contains the exam scores.	Proof of passing all sections of the LARE (generally provided directly to OSLAB from CLARB)

What do I need to know about using my Council Record for application for registration?

If you plan on using the Council Record to provide the supporting documentation for your application for registration, please be advised to check in with CLARB to determine if your Council Record is complete. CLARB will NOT transmit your Council Record to OSLAB until all categories (Education, Employment, Registration, References, and Examination) are complete as verified by CLARB.

Once you submit a request to CLARB to have your Council Record transmitted to OSLAB, CLARB will review it to make sure it is complete. For a complete Council Record, please note that the typical CLARB processing time for a transmittal is 5-7 business days at a minimum. This processing time can be longer, especially during periods when CLARB is experiencing a high volume of requests. CLARB often experiences a peak in requests for 4 weeks or so after the release of exam results.

Since a complete Council Record requires current employment to be updated and verified within the last 3 months before transmittal, candidates registered to take their last section of the LARE are encouraged to work with CLARB to get work experience information updated BEFORE exam results are scheduled to be released. Otherwise, a candidate may face delay after receiving notice of passing results before the Council Record can be transmitted to OSLAB in support of application for registration. OSLAB cannot do anything to speed up the CLARB transmittal process, nor can OSLAB waive its own deadlines due to a delay in CLARB processing of a Council Record.

Why do I need to submit information to CLARB and OSLAB?

OSLAB does NOT have direct access to Council Records and the associated documentation submitted to CLARB as part of the examination process. OSLAB cannot review the information in a candidate’s Council Record until it is transmitted by CLARB. CLARB will not transmit a Council Record to OSLAB until the candidate requests the transmittal and when thereafter CLARB has deemed the Council Record complete. If a candidate does not want to wait for CLARB to verify completeness and transmit the Council Record, then the candidate will need to send acceptable documentation of education and work experience direct to OSLAB. Otherwise, OSLAB would not have the information required under Oregon statutes and rules to determine compliance with the Oregon standards for registration as a Landscape Architect. LARE results are the only data found in a Council Record that OSLAB has direct access to for Oregon candidates.

What is the OSLAB oral examination?

OSLAB requires all applicants for initial registration as a Landscape Architect to complete an oral examination. The OSLAB oral examination occurs as part of a public board meeting and focuses on understanding of the Oregon statutes and rules that apply to OSLAB registrants. The oral examination is NOT a repeat of knowledge tested on the LARE. The LARE does not test candidates for knowledge about the Oregon statutes and rules applicable to OSLAB registrants. The best way to prepare for the oral examination is to review the statutes and rules, which can be accessed from the OSLAB website. The OSLAB website also includes various information about issues addressed in the statutes and rules.

What is the deadline to submit application to OSLAB for initial registration?

OSLAB must receive applications for initial registration, including associated supporting documentation and fees, at least 15 business days prior to a scheduled quarterly meeting. Applications received later than this will be considered for the next quarterly meeting, which then results in a several month delay. OSLAB recommends submittal of applications at least 30 days prior to a scheduled quarterly meeting to allow time to work with candidates should any questions arise about documentation. Candidates registered to take their last section of the LARE are encouraged to be cognizant of the quarterly meeting schedule and associated OSLAB application deadline. The quarterly meeting schedule is posted on the OSLAB website: <https://www.oregon.gov/landarch/Pages/default.aspx>

What are the OSLAB fees for application for initial registration?

Currently an applicant for initial registration must pay an OSLAB application fee of \$150. This fee can be paid online as part of the application submittal process.

(<https://oslab.portalus.thentiacloud.net/webs/portal/application/#/login>)

When a registration is approved, the \$375 fee for the first year of registration must be paid to finalize the registration. Registration must then be updated annually, with the annual renewal fee currently set at \$375. Registrations are managed via the OSLAB Registrant Portal (<https://oslab.portalus.thentiacloud.net/webs/portal/service/#/login>)

For those unable to pay online, payment to OSLAB can be made by check or money order made payable to OSLAB and sent to the OSLAB office.

Please direct questions not answered by this FAQs document to the OSLAB office at oslab.info@bgelab.oregon.gov or, if more applicable to the question, to the CLARB office at info@clarb.org.