NOTICE OF INTENT
Office of the Governor
Board of Architectural Examiners

Continuing Education
(LAC 46:I.1315)

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Architectural Examiners, in accordance with the provisions of R.S. 49:950 et seq., and through the authority granted in R.S. 37:144(C), proposes to amend LAC 46:I.1315 pertaining to the continuing education of architects.

R.S. 37:145(B) provides that persons licensed by the board to practice architecture may, by rule of the board, be required to earn annually up to 12 hours of board-approved continuing education pertaining to building-design in connection with public health, safety, and welfare. Section 1315.C defines health, safety, and welfare subjects, and §1315.D requires that architects, unless exempt, complete a minimum of 12 continuing education hours each calendar year in health, safety, and welfare subjects as a condition of renewing registration.

During 2018, the 54 member boards of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) voted to align the health, safety, and welfare subjects with the current experience areas of the Architectural Experience Program (AXP—the program one must complete to meet the experience requirement for licensure) and the practice areas of the Architect Registration Examination (ARE—the examination one must pass to meet the examination requirement for licensure). The board supported this recommendation. The purpose of the proposed amendment to §1315.C is to align the health, safety, and welfare subjects in the continuing education rules with the current experience areas of the Architectural Experience Program (AXP) and the practice areas of the Architect Registration Examination (ARE).

Title 46
PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS
Part I. Architects

Chapter 13. Administration
§1315. Continuing Education

A. - B.3. …

C. Definitions

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Health, Safety, and Welfare Subjects—technical and professional subjects related to the practice of architecture that the board deems appropriate to safeguard the public and that are within the following continuing education subject areas necessary for the proper evaluation, design, construction, and utilization of buildings and the built environment.

a. Practice Management. This category focuses on areas related to the management of architectural practice and the details of running a business.
b. Project Management. This category focuses on areas related to the management of architectural projects through execution.
c. Programming and Analysis. This category focuses on areas related to the evaluation of project requirements, constraints, and opportunities.
d. Project Planning and Design. This category focuses on areas related to the preliminary design of sites and buildings.
e. Project Development and Documentation. This category focuses on areas related to the integration and documentation of building systems, material selection, and material assemblies into a project.
f. Construction and Evaluation. This category focuses on areas related to construction contract administration and post-occupancy evaluation of projects.

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D. - J.2. …

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:144.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Office of the Governor, Board of Architectural Examiners, LR 29:565 (April 2003), amended LR 33:2419 (November 2007), LR 38:1012 (April 2012), LR 40:1693 (September 2014), LR 45:

Family Impact Statement

The proposed Rule is not anticipated to have an impact on family formation, stability, or autonomy as described in R.S. 40:972.
Poverty Impact Statement
The proposed Rule is not anticipated to have an impact on child, individual, or family poverty in relation to individual or community asset development, as described in R.S. 49:973.

Small Business Analysis
The proposed Rule is not anticipated to have an adverse impact on small businesses as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Provider Impact Statement
The proposed Rule is not anticipated to have an impact on providers of services funded by the state as described in HCR 170 of the 2014 Regular Legislative Session.

Public Comments
Interested persons may submit written comments to Katherine E. Hillegas, Executive Director, Board of Architectural Examiners, 9625 Fenway Avenue, Suite B, Baton Rouge, LA 70809. All comments must be submitted by 4:30 p.m., December 10, 2018.

Katherine E. Hillegas
Director

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES
RULE TITLE: Continuing Education

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (Summary)
There are no anticipated implementation costs or savings to state or local governmental units as a result of the proposed rule change.

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to align the Health, Safety, and Welfare (HSW) continuing education subjects with the current experience areas of the Architectural Experience Program (AXP) and the practice areas of the Architect Registration Examination (ARE) which will expand the number of qualifying educational topics. These modifications will not impact the number of HSW continuing education hours required each calendar year.

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS (Summary)
There is no anticipated impact to revenue collections of state or local governmental units as a result of the proposed rule change.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NONGOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)
Approved HSW continuing education providers will now have the opportunity to develop new educational programs, which may allow for additional courses to be provided and the potential for additional revenue. Although the number of required HSW continuing education hours will remain the same, architects may now have the opportunity to earn these hours through different subject matters with course costs and instructional methods varying among providers.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)
There is no anticipated impact on competition and employment as a result of the proposed rule change.

Katherine E. Hillegas
Executive Director
Evan Brasseaux
Staff Director
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Legislative Fiscal Office