



CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD

PUBLIC PROTECTION THROUGH EXAMINATION, LICENSURE, AND REGULATION

Arnold Schwarzenegger
GOVERNOR

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION BULLETIN **New Continuing Education Requirement on Disabled Access**

Senate Bill (SB) 1608 (Chapter 549, Statutes of 2008) requires that all California architects complete coursework on disabled access requirements and provide documentation from the course provider to the California Architects Board (Board) as a condition of license renewal. This bulletin provides details on how the requirement will be implemented.

Basic Requirements

SB 1608 requires that architects, as part of the license renewal requirements: 1) certify on the license renewal application that s/he has completed the required coursework; and 2) provide the Board with documentation from the course provider indicating the course title, subjects covered, name of provider and trainer or educator, date of completion, number of hours completed, and a statement about the trainer or educator's knowledge and experience background. An optional form has been developed to submit with the renewal application to ease in reporting the provider documentation and is available on the Board's Web site (www.cab.ca.gov) or via The American Institute of Architects' (AIA) chapter offices. Other documentation containing the required information will also be accepted in lieu of the reporting form.

Licensees are encouraged to complete these requirements timely in order to avoid a delay in processing their license renewal. Licensees who fail to complete the required coursework cannot renew their license and cannot practice architecture until they have fulfilled these requirements.

Hours of Coursework Required

The amount of coursework hours required to renew a license will be phased in, eventually requiring five hours every renewal cycle (two years) for all licensees. Three factors are used to determine how much coursework is required: 1) license expiration date, 2) submittal date of completed renewal application and payment to the Board; and 3) actual effective date of the license renewal. Below is a breakdown of the coursework hour(s) required applying the applicable factors:

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SACRAMENTO,
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LICENSE RENEWALS
(Postmarked on or Before Expiration Date)

License Expiration Date (Renewal must be postmarked on or before license expiration date)	Coursework Required
1/31/09 - 5/31/09	0 Hour
6/30/09 - 11/30/09	1 Hour
12/31/09 – 12/31/10	2 ½ Hours
1/31/11 or Later	5 Hours

DELINQUENT LICENSE RENEWALS (ONLY)
(Received after Expiration Date) *

Date Delinquent Renewal Received at the Board	Coursework Required
On or Before 6/30/09	0 Hour
7/1/09 - 12/31/09	1 Hour
1/1/10 - 12/31/10	2 ½ Hours
1/1/11 or Later	5 Hours

(*Note: license holders may not legally practice architecture during periods of license expiration.)

Coursework Requirements

The bill specifies that the coursework must include information and practical guidance concerning the requirements imposed by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-336; 42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.), state laws that govern access to public facilities, and federal and state regulations adopted pursuant to those laws. The coursework must also be presented by trainers or educators with knowledge and expertise in disabled access requirements. The Board is not required to approve course providers or courses and does not do so. Coursework on disabled access requirements is available from a variety of sources, such as AIA chapters and local building departments. AIA's list of providers is available on the Internet (www.aia.org/ces_cesdirectories).

Effective Date of License Renewal

Business and Professions Code section 121 stipulates that licensees who have complied with the license renewal requirements (e.g., required signature(s), complete course provider documentation, correct fee, etc.) prior to its expiration may engage in legal practice of their profession until receipt of the renewed license if the delay was not the fault of the licensee (note: this provision does not apply to delinquent or incomplete renewal applications).