

As part of its efforts to help member boards streamline their operations, NCARB offers two data-entry and record-keeping programs—Direct Eligibility and Direct Registration—that help guide the Boards through the Architect Registration Examination (ARE) eligibility process.

## NCARB Programs Lend a Record-keeping Hand to Member Boards

An ARE candidate's journey can be broadly divided into three stages: eligibility, testing, and registration. While the decision to register a qualified candidate is the sole responsibility of an individual Member Board, verifying one's eligibility and testing status can sometimes be turned over to NCARB. By taking such steps, Member Boards streamline—and potentially simplify—the initial stages of a candidate's path from intern to registered architect.

NCARB established the Direct Eligibility and Direct Registration programs as the vehicles driving its efforts to help Member Boards. Currently, 23 of the 54 U.S. boards of architecture participate in one of the programs.

Direct Eligibility offers a basic set of services for Member Boards while its counterpart, Direct Registration, provides a more comprehensive approach.

### DIRECT ELIGIBILITY

Through the Direct Eligibility program, NCARB staff coordinates the initial candidate eligibility process for participating Member Boards.

An intern becomes an ARE candidate after he/she completes the IDP Training Requirement **and** submits documentation and fees for his/her IDP Council Record. Once this information is verified by NCARB staff, the IDP Council Record usually is sent to the intern's Member Board. The board then keeps track of data entry and record-keeping responsibilities as the intern completes the ARE.

For the Member Boards participating in Direct Eligibility, NCARB staff completes the initial data entry steps, which includes entering an intern's information into Accelerator, the Prometric candidate eligibility database.

Once an eligibility record is established for an intern, record-keeping responsibilities (the so-called testing stage) revert back to the Member Board. The board receives the candidate's completed IDP Council Record from NCARB, and the board remains in contact with the candidate as he/she completes the ARE. The member board then is responsible for registration decisions.

### DIRECT REGISTRATION

The Direct Registration program provides a more comprehensive set of services for participating Member Boards. This program is limited to newly eligible ARE candidates who meet NCARB's education and training requirements.

NCARB staff follows the same initial steps as those described for the Direct Eligibility program. They also maintain record-keeping responsibilities that comprise the testing stage for ARE candidates. These tasks include forwarding ARE score reports to candidates while concurrently maintaining and updating candidates' Council Records and eligibility records in Accelerator.

Once a candidate has successfully completed the ARE, NCARB's Record Services department forwards his/her completed Council Record to the Member Board. At this point, the Member Board is responsible for

verifying all jurisdictional requirements and for making the final registration decision.

### WORKING TOGETHER

An individual's journey from intern to ARE candidate to registered architect can be a smooth process. By working together and sharing data entry and record-keeping responsibilities, NCARB and its Member Boards are streamlining the process through the Direct Eligibility and Direct Registration programs.

#### [Direct Eligibility Member Boards](#)

Alabama  
Arkansas  
Guam  
Hawaii  
Kansas  
Montana  
North Dakota  
Pennsylvania  
Rhode Island

#### [Direct Registration Member Boards](#)

Arizona  
Colorado  
Connecticut  
District of Columbia  
Illinois  
Iowa  
Louisiana  
Massachusetts  
Michigan  
Missouri  
Nevada  
South Dakota  
Utah  
West Virginia