

# KENTUCKY BOARD OF ARCHITECTS



**Joey P. Nolasco**  
AIA, CID  
BOA President

**A**s I begin my term as President of the Kentucky Board of Architects, I am humbled to follow in the footsteps of Jill Lewis Smith, AIA, NCARB. Jill's service to the Board and to the Commonwealth has been marked by integrity, vision, and dedication to the public well-being. It is a privilege to continue the work she helped advance, and I am grateful for her contributions as both our board leader and a fellow Kentucky architect.

This is a pivotal moment for our profession. Nationally, questions of education, experience, and competency are reshaping

how the next generation of architects will pursue licensure. The Board is actively engaged in exploring alternate pathways that might broaden access while maintaining our commitment to protecting health, safety, and welfare.

At the same time, the daily responsibilities of licensure and renewal remain central. The FY2025–2026 architect licensing renewal period closed August 31. For those returning to practice, please contact the Board office for reinstatement guidance. Certified Interior Designers should also be mindful of renewal requirements and the importance of maintaining current contact information with the Board. Continuing education remains a cornerstone of our profession.

I encourage architects and Certified Interior Designers to remain connected with the organizations advancing building codes and standards of practice. The Code Administrators Association of Kentucky (CAAK), the International Code Council (ICC), and other providers offer invaluable resources. Please mark your calendars for the 2025 Fall Kentucky Construction Code Forum, October 6–8 at The Campbell House in Lexington. This forum will feature important sessions on the 2024 IBC and IRC, along with opportunities to connect with inspectors, builders, and fellow professionals.

Looking ahead, I want our work as a Board to carry forward the trust Kentuckians place in us and the standards that give our profession its strength. At the same time, I believe we have an opportunity to open new doors for those who aspire to be architects by exploring licensure pathways that broaden access while keeping the public safe. My hope is that, working side by side with architects, Certified Interior Designers, educators, and stakeholders, we will protect our communities, support one another in practice, and shape a built environment in Kentucky that is both safe and inspiring.

*Joey Nolasco*  
President, Kentucky Board of Architects & CID

*Fall 2025*



## FALL 2025

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### UPCOMING EVENTS

**BOA QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING**  
Tuesday, October 21, 2025

**BOA Offices Closed for Veterans Day**  
Tuesday, November 11, 2025

**AIA Women's Leadership Summit**  
Atlanta, GA  
November 3-5, 2025

**CIDQ Annual Business Meeting**  
Denver, CO  
November 6-8, 2025

**BOA Offices Closed for Holidays**  
**Thanksgiving**  
November 27-28, 2025  
**Christmas**  
December 25-26, 2025  
**New Years**  
January 1-2, 2026

**NCARB MBE Workshop**  
Oklahoma City, OK  
March 19, 2026

**NCARB Regional Summit**  
Oklahoma City, OK  
March 19-21, 2026

**NCARB Annual Business Meeting**  
Minneapolis, MN  
June 25-27, 2026



# KY BOARD OF ARCHITECTS JULY BOARD MEETING

The Board met at Gray AES on July 22 in Lexington for its quarterly meeting. The following board members were present. Jill Lewis Smith, President; Joey Nolasco, Secretary; Olivia Davis, Public Member/Treasurer via Zoom; T. Rexford Cecil, Member; Sydney Goetz, Member; M. Chad Beyer, Member (Members Not Present: Jeffrey Johnson, Ex-Officio)

Staff and Guest Present: Cordelia Harbut, Executive Director; Rachael McClain, Executive Administrative Secretary; Yolanda Costner, Administrative Assistant; Kara Legg, Attorney, McBrayer PLLC; Ms. Rebecca Moden, CIDQ CEO attended via Zoom.

Mr. Nolasco requested approval of the April 22 regular board meeting minutes. Ms. Davis then presented the fourth-quarter financial report, highlighting a new milestone reflected in the growth of Kentucky-licensed architects and the corresponding increase in fees collected. Following this, Ms. Harbut delivered the fourth-quarter interim report, outlining her activities from the previous quarter. She reviewed the report's data, noting an overall rise in architect applications and licenses granted.

**AIA KENTUCKY UPDATE:** Mr. Christopher Bowling gave an AIA update. Among other things happening at AIA, he reported the Universal Recognition of Professional Licensure bill will likely be reintroduced in the next general session. He indicated AIA Kentucky is opposed to this bill. He also stated that the first round of ARE grants had provided a total of \$2000.00 for candidates taking the exam. The next round will be offered in October.

## NATIONAL COMMITTEES

A. NCARB Annual Business Meeting Report – Board members, Smith, Cecil, Davis, Nolasco and Executive Director Harbut attended. Jurisdictions voted on updates to NCARB's mutual recognition agreements with other countries and Resolution 2025 E which will adjust the eligibility requirements for the education alternative to certification pathway, by eliminating the required three-year delay between initial licensure and the eligibility to apply for a NCARB certificate holders with alternative education. They then talked briefly about the workshops they attended and the benefit of attending them.

B. NCARB Licensure Research and Development Task Force – Ms. Davis gave an update on the committee and stated they are moving into the next phase by working with psychometricians that specialize in the operationalizing of some of the paths recommended in the previous phase.

## NEW BUSINESS

A. A motion to select Mr. Beyer as the delegate and Ms. Goetz as the alternate delegate for the CIDQ Annual meeting passed unanimously.

B. A motion to schedule BOA's committee meetings October 9, 2025, passed unanimously.

## FY 2025 STANDING BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Licensure, Certification Committee (L&C): Ms. Smith, Chair, reported on the applications reviewed by the committee this quarter. There were seven applications reviewed by the committee due to issues related to their application or NCARB file. Five applicants were recommended to be licensed, one applicants' application was referred to the investigative committee and another approved pending requested information. The committee also reviewed CEU Issues with renewal applicants.

Investigative Review Committee (IRC): - Ms. Goetz, Chair, reported on IRC's cases. The committee reviewed eight cases for possible violations of the statutes and/or regulations. After reviewing the findings with the Board attorney, the committee make recommendations to the full Board.

*Continued on Page 3*

## BOARD AGENDA JULY 22, 2025

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comments
3. Presentation of Minutes
4. Presentation of Financial Report
5. Presentation of Interim Report
6. AIA Updates
7. National Committee Reports
8. New Business
10. Standing Committee Reports

-Licensure & Certification  
-Investigative Review  
-UK CoD Report  
-Statutes and Regulations  
-Continuing Education  
-AXP/IPAL Report  
-CIDQ Report  
-Financial Report  
-Newsletter Committee

11. Adoption of Regular Meeting Dates
12. BOA Elections
13. Adjournment

Next Board Meeting  
October 21, 2025  
Lexington, KY  
UK College of Design  
Gray Design Building



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

## BOA JULY 2025 REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES

NCIDQ Committee – Mr. Beyer reported that the CID bylaw changes has been approved. He also mentioned that the CIDQ Leadership Development Council was accepting applications.

Finance Committee – Ms. Davis reported that Board staff is beginning to work on the biennium budget with the budget analyst.

Newsletter Committee – Ms. Harbut reported, the Newsletter Committee reviewed the topics for the next edition.

### OLD BUSINESS

A. Titles for Unlicensed Exterior/Interior Designers Ad-hoc Committee – Ms. Smith reported the Committee met and discussed the results from the recent survey and subsequently recommended titles for unlicensed individuals working in the design profession. See the article on page 10 for the recommendations.

B. Executive Committee Response to L&O Committee Board Study – Ms. Smith reported that the Board received a series of questions from Representative Kim Banta in which they had responded. Rep. Banta stated the Licensing and Occupation Committee was studying boards around the state.

C. Alternative Paths to Licensure Ad-hoc Committee – Mr. Nolasco reported the committee met with NCARB to discuss the goals of NCARB's alternative paths initiative. He noted the conversation in conjunction with the informative sessions offered at the Annual Business Meeting, gave the committee more confidence in their direction. It was also noted that the different organizations appeared to be listening without noticeable contention, to figure out their roles within the process.

### BOARD ELECTIONS

The board, at the first meeting of each fiscal year, shall elect a president, secretary, and treasurer (As per KRS 323.180).

- Mr. Nolasco was elected President by acclamation.
- Ms. Goetz was elected Secretary by acclamation.
- Ms. Davis was elected Treasurer by acclamation.

## Updates to NCARB's Architectural Licensure Program

To align the Architectural Experience Program® (AXP®) with the [NCARB Competency Standard](#) and the evolution of NCARB's programs as part of the [Pathways to Practice](#) initiative, NCARB is implementing several changes to the AXP and the Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®).

These updates to NCARB programs will better reflect the capabilities necessary at the point of initial licensure as an architect, as well as address common administrative impediments faced by candidates on the path to licensure—including the experience program's reporting requirement.

#### Updates to the Experience Program

The updates to the AXP are expected to launch on November 18, 2025. These changes include:

Refreshed descriptions of each of the program's six experience areas: The AXP experience areas will no longer be described using a list of 96 tasks; instead, each experience area will be updated to reflect appropriate capabilities described in the Competency Standard for Architects.

Replacing the five-year reporting requirement with a new reporting policy: Under the current requirement, candidates must report all experience within eight months of earning it for 100% credit, and within five years for 50% credit. Under the new policy, candidates will be able to earn 100% credit for experience up to a year old. Experience older than one year will be worth 75% credit, with no limitation on how old that experience can be. When this change is implemented, many candidates will receive additional AXP credit. The changes will retroactively approve an increase in hours that were previously reported for 50% credit to 75% credit.

Expanding the opportunities through which candidates can gain experience for completing professional development courses: Candidates are currently able to earn experience for completing HSW-qualified continuing education programs approved by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) utilizing an AIA transcript. Under the updated Setting O opportunity, candidates will be able to earn continuing education experience for completing programs offered by more providers in addition to the AIA, expanding access to candidates who are not AIA members.

#### Updates to the Exam

NCARB also expects to launch several updates to the ARE in April 2026. These changes include:

Adjustments to several exam objectives: NCARB will make minor adjustments to 12 of the 91 exam objectives identified in the ARE Guidelines. These adjustments are limited to small clarifying updates and—in some cases—narrowing the competency expectations assessed in the exam to align with the Competency Standard for Architects.

Updated case studies: The ARE's scenario-based case studies will be refined for efficiency and effectiveness, with an end goal of improving the exam candidate experience.

More detailed information regarding the ARE changes will be available in fall 2025. The updates to the ARE will not impact the overall division structure, number of items per division, or testing time per division.

## ARCHITECT & CID NEWS

### International Interior Design Association (IIDA) Ohio-Kentucky Chapter

#### 2025 Louisville/Lexington Interior Designer Awards

**Dates:** Thursday, October 23

**Times:** 5:00 PM– 8:30 PM

**Location:** Speed Art Museum,

**Address:** 2035 S 3rd St, Louisville

#### TICKETS

IIDA Members \$45.00

Non-Members \$70.00

IIDA Student Member \$20.00

Ticket sales end at 8:30 pm, October 23.

**To register for events and more information:** [2025 Louisville Lexington Interior Design Awards Event Tickets | IIDA OHKY](#)

### University of Kentucky College of Design Fall 2025 Snapshot

- Total enrollment in the College of Design is **561 students**. [design.uky.edu](#)
- The college reports a **99% retention rate**, the highest among the colleges at UK. [design.uky.edu](#)
- About **50% of students** in the College of Design participated in study abroad programs, more than any other college at the university. [design.uky.edu](#)
- Academic offerings include undergraduate degrees in Architecture, Interiors, and Product Design; graduate degrees in Architecture, Historic Preservation, and Interiors; and certificate programs including Design Build, Universal Design, and Urban & Environmental Design.

## NEWLY ELECTED 2025 BOA LEADERSHIP

We are pleased to announce and extend our sincere congratulations to the newly elected officers of the Kentucky Board of Architects. Please join us in welcoming:



**Joseph (Joey) P. Nolasco, AIA, CID, President of BOA**

"I am honored to begin serving as President of the Kentucky Board of Architects, following the strong leadership of Jill Lewis Smith, AIA, NCARB. This is a pivotal time for our profession, as questions of education, experience, and competency continue to shape how the next generation of architects will enter practice. I am excited about the timing of this presidency and committed to working with my fellow board members, academic partners, and practitioners to thoughtfully assess licensure and alternate pathways. Together, we will continue our long-standing mission of protecting the public while opening doors for aspiring architects to pursue meaningful careers in our state. "

**Olivia N. Davis, BOA Treasurer**

"My reelection as treasurer is an opportunity to continue serving the Commonwealth and further extend my role as the public's representative on the Board of Architects and Certified Interior Designers. As a CPA, public protection is at the core of what I do. The Board's focus on protecting health, safety, and welfare aligns closely with the values of my profession, and I am proud to continue supporting this important mission."



**Sydney J. Goetz, AIA, MHA, Secretary**

"I am honored to be elected as Secretary of the Kentucky Board of Architects. It is a privilege to serve alongside dedicated professionals in overseeing the licensure and certification process that protects the public's health, safety, and welfare—values central to safeguarding Kentucky's built environment. As Secretary, I am committed to integrity, transparency, and collaborative stewardship, ensuring our work continues to uphold the highest standards for architects and interior designers across the Commonwealth."

We are confident that their leadership, dedication, and expertise will serve the Board—and the architectural community of Kentucky—with distinction. As stewards of the profession, their guidance will be instrumental in advancing our mission, upholding professional standards, and supporting the continued growth and excellence of architecture across the Commonwealth.

We thank them for their willingness to serve and look forward to the positive impact they will make in the years ahead.

# NEW ARCHITECTS

Congratulations to all our new licensees and certificate holders, and we look forward to their contributions to the profession. They have demonstrated the education, experience, and commitment required to meet the high standards of licensure and certification in Kentucky. Their achievements not only reflect personal milestones but also contribute to the advancement and integrity of the built environment throughout our state.

LICENSE NO.	ARCHITECT	EDUCATION	EMPLOYER
9419	Omolade A Akinyemiju	University of KY, Masters of Architecture	JKS Architecture Hopkinsville KY
9435	Joshua Powell	University of KY, Masters of Architecture	Jerry Herndon Architects\Affinity Design Group
9443	Dylan C Brewer	University of KY, Masters of Architecture	Miranda Construction Louisville KY
9444	Laura C Kennedy	Tulane, Masters of Architecture	K. Norman Berry Associates Architects, Louisville KY

## Improve Your Small Architecture or Interior Design Business

Running a small architecture or interior design studio is as exciting as it is demanding. You're not just a designer—you're also the marketer, project manager, salesperson, and often, the bookkeeper. Whether you're just starting out or looking to grow your firm, there's always room to refine your strategy.

### Find Your Niche and Own It

Stop trying to be everything to everyone. Focus on a niche—whether it's eco-friendly homes, modern renovations, or boutique offices—and tailor your messaging and visuals to reflect it. *The more specific your expertise, the more valuable you appear.*

### Upgrade Your Portfolio

Your portfolio should be clear, curated, and updated. Feature 4–6 of your best projects with strong visuals, short descriptions, and testimonials if possible. *Bonus: Before/after shots and mood boards tell a compelling story.*

### Refresh Your Website

Think of it as your online showroom. It should reflect your style, load quickly, and guide visitors to take action—like contacting you or viewing your work. *Don't forget mobile optimization and SEO basics.*

### Streamline Your Workflow

Use tools like Trello, Notion, or Dubsado to organize projects, track timelines, and automate client communication. Less admin = more design time.

### Deliver a Top-Tier Client Experience

From onboarding to final walkthroughs, clear communication and professional processes go a long way. Happy clients bring referrals. *Consider using a welcome packet or design guide to set expectations early.*



# ARCHITECTS & CID STATS

## FY24-FY25

### End of fiscal year Update:

### Licensing & Certification Highlights



As the Board closed out the fourth quarter, it is pleased to share a snapshot of the continued growth and strength of our design professions across the Commonwealth.

**Kentucky Resident Architects:**  
Fourth Quarter FY2025: 707  
Fourth Quarter FY 2024: 689

**Total Architects Licensed in KY:**  
Fourth Quarter FY2025: 3028  
Fourth Quarter FY2024: 2957

### Kentucky Licensed Granted by Completion of ARE:

FY 2025 4th Quarter: 6  
FY 2024 4th Quarter: 4  
FY 2025 Total: 21  
FY 2024 Total: 17

### Kentucky Certified Interior Designers:

Fourth Quarter FY 2025: 144  
Fourth Quarter FY 2024: 145

**TOTAL CIDS Certified in KY:**  
Fourth Quarter FY 2025: 171  
Fourth Quarter FY 2024: 172

## UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

It is the licensee and/or certificate holder's responsibility to insure that all contact information is current with the Board office. A Change of Address Form is available under the Forms tab on the Board website [BOA \(ky.gov\)](https://boa.ky.gov).

### KENTUCKY BOARD OF ARCHITECTS and Certified Interior Designers



#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

**INSTRUCTIONS:**  
1. Complete the change form and sign at the bottom of the page.  
2. Mail the original document to Kentucky Board of Architects, 155 E. Main St., Suite 300, Lexington, KY 40501 or Email the form to [BOA.KC@ky.gov](mailto:BOA.KC@ky.gov)

Architect or CID's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

License No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Certificate No.: \_\_\_\_\_ CID Last 4 Digits of Your S.S. No.: \_\_\_\_\_

THIS IS A CHANGE OF ADDRESS FOR: ☐ BUSINESS ☐ HOME ☐ BOTH

PREFERRED CONTACT LOCATION: ☐ Business ☐ Residential

**BUSINESS:** This is my NEW business address and contact information, if applicable

Firm Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ Cellular: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**RESIDENCE:** This is my NEW home address and contact information, if applicable

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cellular: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

EFFECTIVE DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

Licensee or Certificate Holder Only

NOTE: In accordance with applicable Kentucky Statutes and Administrative Regulations it is the licensee's and/or certificate holder's responsibility to notify the Board office of any change of home and/or business addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses or employment within thirty (30) days of the change. Failure to do so may result in an administrative fee to the individual.

RETURN THE COMPLETED CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM TO  
KENTUCKY BOARD OF ARCHITECTS, 155 EAST MAIN STREET, SUITE 300, LEXINGTON, KY 40501 or [BOA.KC@ky.gov](mailto:BOA.KC@ky.gov)  
Kentucky Board of Architects Page 1 of 1 Change of Address Form 2023

## NCARB NEW ADMINISTRATIVE FEES

The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) board approved several fee increases that went into effect on August 1, 2025. This follows a separate round of fee increases for architects and licensure candidates implemented on August 1, 2024. You can review a full list of increased fees on [NCARB's website](#) at [Fees | NCARB - National Council of Architectural Registration Boards](#) and below:

- \* New candidate Record application: \$103 (previously \$100)
- \* Licensure candidate Record renewal: \$103 (previously \$100)
- \* ARE cost per division: \$257 (previously \$250)
- \* Licensure candidate Record reactivation: \$103 (previously \$100) plus the cost of all outstanding renewal fees, up to \$206 (previously \$200)
- \* Annual architect Record and NCARB Certificate holder renewal fees: \$293 (previously \$285)
- \* Reciprocity and international transmittals: \$488 per transmittal (previously \$475)
- \* NCARB Certificate or architect Record application: \$1,381 (previously \$1,345). This application fee does not apply to licensure candidates with an active Record who become NCARB-certified
- \* Architect Record or NCARB Certificate reactivation: \$313 (previously \$305) plus the cost of all outstanding renewal fees, up to \$1,381

### What NCARB's Latest Report Means for Kentucky Architects

Each year, the *NCARB by the Numbers* report provides a comprehensive snapshot of the architecture profession in the United States—from licensure trends and candidate demographics to mobility and firm data. The 2025 edition is no exception, offering critical insights into where the profession is heading—and what it means for architects here in Kentucky.

#### Key National Takeaways:

- **Licensure Pathways Are Steady:** The average time to licensure remains around 12.5 years from the start of an architecture education. However, the number of candidates completing the AXP and ARE is beginning to rise again after a pandemic-era slowdown.
- **Diversity Progress Is Gradual:** While the early pipeline shows improved racial and gender diversity, licensure completion still lags among underrepresented groups.

**Mobility Remains High:** Over 44,000 reciprocal licenses were issued last year—a strong indicator of interstate flexibility for architects.

#### What This Means for Kentucky:

- **Opportunity for Leadership in Licensure Support:** With national licensure completion rates rebounding, Kentucky firms and educators have a chance to double down on mentorship and internship development to help accelerate the pipeline locally.
- **Reciprocity Matters:** Kentucky continues to benefit from NCARB's streamlined mobility process. If you're considering work across state lines, now's a good time to ensure your NCARB Record is up-to-date.

**Focus on Inclusion:** The national data offers a reminder that Kentucky can—and should—be part of the solution in making architecture more accessible and equitable. Supporting diverse students, interns, and professionals matters.

#### Looking Ahead

NCARB's data offers not just numbers, but direction. As the profession evolves, we encourage all Kentucky architects to stay informed and engaged. Whether you're mentoring an intern, preparing for reciprocity, or advocating for licensure reform, your role is vital in shaping the future of architecture in our state.

To view the report in its entirety: [NCARB by the Numbers: 2025 Edition](#)

# NCIDQ NEW LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL



M. Chad Beyer  
CID, NCIDQ, LEED AP, GPCP

NCIDQ Launches New Leadership Development Council to Strengthen Member Representation and Governance. A major advancement in NCIDQ's leadership structure is designed to empower NCIDQ members and secure a strong future for the profession of interior design. Following a comprehensive review by the Board Leadership Task Force, NCIDQ has established the **Leadership Development Council (LDC)** — a dedicated body focused on identifying, mentoring, and preparing the next generation of leaders from within our membership.

This innovative council opens new pathways for emerging leaders to actively participate in strategic decision-making and organizational governance. The LDC complements the existing Board and Assembly of Delegates, ensuring diverse voices and fresh perspectives guide NCIDQ's direction. Here are a few highlights:

## **Bylaw Amendments Approved**

On May 31, 2025, the Board Leadership Task Force's proposed bylaw language was unanimously passed by the Board. Applications for the new Leadership Development Council (LDC) are now open, with Assembly of Delegates voting set for August 2025.

## **Leadership Development Council (LDC)**

The LDC is a brand-new governance body emerging from the Board Leadership Task Force recommendations. It aims to identify, mentor, and prepare future leaders from within the current membership and member boards to ensure streamlined succession and organizational continuity.

## **New Board Members (2025)**

The Board welcomed several fresh faces:

- President-Elect: Carol Erklouts
- New Directors: Melanie Doss, Amanda Rienth
- New Public Member: David Cox (a distinguished former CEO of NCEES)

## **CEO Change**

In early 2025, the long-serving CEO Thom Banks retired. The new CEO, Rebecca Moden, began her leadership in Q2 2025.

## **What This Means for Members**

Expanded Leadership Pipeline:

- 1.The LDC opens clear pathways for members and member-board representatives to gain leadership exposure and influence. Those selected will be involved in strategic planning discussions and will be groomed for future Board service.
- 2.Improved Representation & Governance: The updated board structure—with new members and a public member—brings broader perspectives into leadership, better aligning CIDQ governance with the profession's evolving landscape. This promotes transparency and responsiveness to member needs.
- 3.Strategic Stability & Forward Focus: With the new CEO at the helm and a bolstered leadership model, CIDQ is focusing on building continuity and strategic direction. Members can expect an enhanced governance process underpinned by the LDC's development and ongoing structural modernization.

Invitation to Engage

Members are encouraged to participate:

- Submit applications or nominations for the LDC if eligible.
- Engage with Assembly feedback processes.
- Offer input on the evolving leadership model.



# PROFESSIONAL ENRICHMENT

## MASTER/JOURNEYMAN TRAINING

The **Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc.** of Indiana/Kentucky Chapter are offering continuing education on Master/Journeyman Electrical classes. The focus of the class is discussion of the most recent changes to the National Electrical Code which varies from residential and commercial to industrial.

- \*All classes will be held on Saturday.
- \*The cost of the Saturday class is \$70.00.
- \*Doors open at 7:30 a.m. and class sessions will be 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- \*Lunch will be provided for all classes.

Participants may sign up for the classes by contacting Holly Baker at (270)792-1128 or via email at [holly@abcindianakentucky.org](mailto:holly@abcindianakentucky.org). Louisville classes will be held at 1810 Taylor Avenue. Lexington classes will be held at 157 Venture Court.

For more info : [CEU Courses — ABC Indiana/Kentucky](#)

<u>LOUISVILLE CLASSES</u>	<u>LEXINGTON CLASSES</u>
October 25	October 11
November 15	November 8
December 13	December 6

### Architect

#### Continuing Education For Calendar Year 2026

Twelve Continuing Education Hours (CEH) are required as a condition for the annual license renewal.

The CEH requirement for the annual renewal shall be earned during the period beginning January 1 and ending December 31 of the previous calendar year.

A minimum of 12 CEHs shall consist of structured educational activities on relevant topics addressing health, safety, and welfare (HSW) subjects as referenced in [201 KAR 19:087, Section 1\(3\)](#).

### CID

#### Continuing Education Sept. 1-Nov. 30, 2025

During the period beginning October 1, 2025, and ending September 30, 2026, a minimum of twelve (12) hours of continuing education are required.

Eight (8) shall be structured activities composed of one (1) or more of the following topics: life safety codes, barrier-free codes, building structural systems, lighting, electrical systems, and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system. For more information, please review [201 KAR 19:445](#)



## **KY Board of Architects Announces Title Guidance for Unlicensed Design Professionals**

The Kentucky Board of Architects extends its appreciation to everyone who participated in the May survey on appropriate titles for unlicensed design professionals. The survey was distributed to more than 3,400 individuals, including licensed and retired architects, Certified Interior Designers (CIDs), plan reviewers, and design students. It achieved a 21% response rate.

After reviewing the legal interpretation of KRS 323.230 and carefully considering the input received, the Board unanimously voted to approve a set of titles for unlicensed design professionals. This action is intended to provide firms and individuals with clear guidance on appropriate titling while maintaining compliance with the Kentucky Statute.

It is important to note that the approved titles do not represent an exhaustive list. Other titles may be used, provided they fall within the legal parameters of KRS 323.230. The Board's decision reflects its ongoing commitment to upholding statutory requirements while supporting clarity and consistency in professional practice.

See the suggested titles below.

A person currently attending an architecture school while working:

- Intern
- Architecture Student Intern
- Student of Architecture at (program or university name)
- Architecture Intern
- Designer
- Student Intern in Architecture

A person who has graduated from an architecture school:

- Designer
- Architecture Intern
- Project Manager

A person who is working in the field of architecture and may not have attended an architecture school:

- Designer
- Draftsperson
- Design Staff
- Project Coordinator
- CAD Technician



# ARCHITECTS AND CIDS WORKING TOGETHER

## USACE Louisville District

At the US Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District, Architects and Interior Designers play a vital role in supporting the design and construction of a diverse portfolio of facilities for the federal government. Their expertise contributes to a wide range of missions, including military installations, civil works projects focused on water resources infrastructure, and facilities for other federal agencies such as the Department of Veterans Affairs, Department of Agriculture, and Department of Energy. Through thoughtful design and collaboration,

these professionals create functional, efficient, and sustainable environments tailored to the unique needs of each mission.



**COLLECTIVE TRAINING ENLISTED BARRACKS**  
Fort McCoy, Wisconsin  
DESIGNED BY USACE LOUISVILLE DISTRICT

Most of Louisville District's Architects and Interior Designers work closely with our in-house engineers as the Designer of Record on federal projects, emphasizing sustainable and high-performance buildings for the Army, Air Force, Navy, VA, USDA, and more. Our local architectural team leads multi-discipline design efforts, preparing drawings, specifications, and analyses for new construction, renovations, and adaptive reuse facilities nationwide.

Architects at USACE also serve in other roles such as Project Managers, supporting construction phase services as Construction Representatives, overseeing Architect-Engineer contracts and as Contracting Officer's Representatives. Interior Designers hold similar positions and additionally lead space planning, finish selection, and procurement of Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment.

USACE Louisville District Project highlight: Army Reserve Training Complex at Ft. McCoy, Wisconsin:

A USACE Louisville District Design Team comprised entirely of in-house staff completed the Design-Bid-Build deliverables for seven facilities so far adding to the existing Army Reserve training campus for the 88th Readiness Division at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. With a combined cost of \$64,200,000, the new facilities serve those in transit to and from deployments and for annual training purposes, where servicemen and servicewomen could stay anywhere from a few days to a couple of weeks.

USACE Louisville District is the National Program Manager for the Army Reserve Military Construction Program since 2004.



*All photos submitted by the US Army Corps of Engineers.*



## WARNING: FRAUD & MISUSE OF ARCHITECT SEALS

### **Urgent Warning: A Widespread Threat of Fraudulent Architectural Seals**

The Kentucky Board of Architects (BOA) and other state licensing agencies are issuing a critical warning about a troubling, growing trend: the use of architectural plans bearing forged stamps and signatures. This is not an isolated problem; it is a nationwide issue, with scams being reported throughout the US. The surge of fraud stems from online platforms such as **Fiverr, Upwork, and Freelancer**. This activity poses severe legal and professional risks and, most importantly, a direct threat to public safety.

### **How the Fraud Occurs**

Scammers, often posing as licensed professionals on freelance platforms previously mentioned, sell architectural plans to unsuspecting contractors and clients. These plans may contain forged signatures and counterfeit seals of real, licensed architects. The unauthorized use of these seals is a serious breach of professional and legal standards, undermining the credibility of code enforcement and the integrity of the entire building process.

### **Kentucky Architects Experience Stolen Stamps and Signatures**

While fraud and theft are not new issues, the digital age has provided a more accessible way for offenders to commit these crimes. This was recently seen in Kentucky, when three cases emerged involving individuals using freelance marketplaces to advertise and sell plans with fraudulently spoofed digital stamps and signatures of a legitimate licensed architect. All cases involved the online platform, Fiverr.com, which is based out of Tel Aviv, Israel. The unsuspected business owner or contractor purchased plans from a “so-called licensed architect” online to only find out later when they called the architect who’s stamp and signature was on the plan, that the licensed architect knew nothing about the plans. None of the plans in these cases ever proceeded to construction; however, in two of the three cases, the scammer received payment for the plans.

Given the scope of these cases and the statutes and regulations the Board of Architects must operate within, the Board had no other legal recourse but to report the fraudulent activity to the Attorney General’s Office. The Board is also trying to increase awareness of these scams by notifying Kentucky architects, local and state plan reviewers, and associations like AIA.

### **The Challenge of Digital Seals and Legal Protections**

As building plans increasingly move to digital formats, the risk of fraud evolves. While convenient, the misuse of digital seals—including forgery, false impersonation, and unlicensed practice—presents new challenges. As Kentucky attempts to find solutions for this crime, some authorities across different jurisdictions and professions are attempting to address the issue. For example:

- **Kentucky Landscape Architects Law** outlines strict rules for electronically generated seals. These seals must be unique, verifiable, and linked to a document in a way that detects and invalidates the seal if any changes are made to the file.
- **Other states, like Delaware**, also have rules for digital safeguards, requiring the inclusion of seal metadata (like signature, date, and expiry) and reinforcement through documentation and change logging.

Although, these regulations are designed to prevent simple image files (JPEGs) of seals from being used fraudulently, they don’t prevent the unsuspecting purchaser of the plans from paying for the plans before finding out they have been scammed.

### **How to Combat Fraud and Protect the Public**

To help prevent fraud and protect public safety, code officials, plan reviewers, and the general public should take the following steps:

**Be Vigilant:** Closely examine all submitted plans for signs of forgery. If a seal or signature looks irregular or inconsistent, a closer inspection is warranted.

**Verify Digital Seals:** Do not rely on simple image files of a seal. Ensure that any digital submissions adhere to the jurisdiction’s rules for proper digital verification and include all required metadata. When purchased online, call the architect to verify the plans.

**Report Suspicious Activity:** Report any concerns immediately to your state’s licensing board. The Kentucky Board of Architects will review and, if warranted, notify the Kentucky Attorney General’s office.

### **Where to Report Fraud and Scams**

If you encounter or have been a victim of this type of fraud, it is crucial to report it to the appropriate authorities.

- **Kentucky Board of Architects:**
- **Email:** BOA.IRC@ky.gov
- **Phone:** 859.246.2069

**Complaint Form:** <https://boa.ky.gov/Forms/Official%20Complaint%20Form.pdf>

- **General Scam Reporting:**

**BBB Scam Tracker:** <https://www.bbb.org/scamtracker/reportscam>

**FTC Report Fraud:** <https://reportfraud.ftc.gov/>

**Kentucky Attorney General:** <https://secure.kentucky.gov/formservices/AttorneyGeneral/ScamReport>

**Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3):** <https://www.ic3.gov/>

By working together and staying informed, we can try to protect the integrity of the building process and safeguard our communities from the dangers posed by fraudulent practices.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### REPORTING CONCERNS TO PROTECT ARE EXAMS

ARE Security Tip Line at [ARESecurity@ncarb.org](mailto:ARESecurity@ncarb.org).



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The Board would like to extend our deepest gratitude to **Jill Lewis Smith, AIA, NCARB** who recently completed her term as **President of the Kentucky Board of Architects**. Her leadership, professionalism, and commitment to the advancement of architecture in the Commonwealth have left a lasting impact.

During her tenure, Jill championed efforts to strengthen licensure pathways, support emerging professionals, and uphold the highest standards of architectural practice in Kentucky. Her steady guidance was especially valuable as the profession navigated both challenges and opportunities in recent years.

Please join us in thanking Jill for her service and dedication. We look forward to her continued contributions to our Board and architectural community.



### IN MEMORIAM

**PAUL N. FELDMAN SR., AIA**

*Honoring a Legacy of Leadership,  
Service, and Architectural Excellence*

*January 27, 1947 - July 15, 2025*

*It is with deep sadness that we share the passing of **Paul N. Feldman Sr., AIA**, a distinguished architect, dedicated leader, and cherished member of Kentucky's architectural community.*

*Paul's legacy is one of enduring service to his clients, his colleagues, and to the profession he loved. Over the course of his remarkable career, he helped shape the built environment across the Commonwealth with thoughtfulness, integrity, and vision. His work not only demonstrated design excellence but also reflected a deep understanding of how architecture can serve communities.*



*The Kentucky Board of Architects was established by an Act of the Kentucky General Assembly in 1930 to protect the public health, safety and welfare by the regulation of architects. It was originally titled the Kentucky Board of Examiners and Registration of Architects.*