

<p>To satisfy the educational requirement for an Alabama landscape architecture license, an applicant must have completed the course of study in and graduated from a college or school of landscape architecture approved by the board (though no approval criteria is specified).</p> <p>The experiential requirements for an Alabama landscape architecture license are on a sliding scale based on the level of education attained. A total of 6 years of combined education and experience are required, and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every one year of study in an approved college or school of landscape architecture is accepted as one year of experience, up to a maximum of five years.</li> <li>• A master's or doctoral degree fulfills the requirements for five years combined education and practical experience.</li> </ul> <p>Alabama is phasing out a pathway to licensure for completion of eight years of practical experience. As it stands, these eight years must have been begun prior to August 1, 2012, so this pathway is not relevant to recent graduates.</p>	<p>For licensing as a landscape architect, the following evidence shall be submitted that the applicant:</p> <p>...</p> <p>Has, before making application to the board, completed the course of study in and been graduated from a college or school of landscape architecture approved by the board.</p> <p>...</p> <p>In lieu of graduation from an accredited college or school of landscape architecture, and the practical experience in addition thereto, an applicant may apply for examination upon presenting evidence of at least eight years of actual practical experience in landscape architectural work of a grade and character satisfactory to the board. To qualify for the exemption from the requirement to obtain a degree in landscape architecture based on eight years of practical experience, an applicant must have begun accepting practical experience prior to August 1, 2012. <a href="#">Ala. Code § 34-17-21</a>.</p>	<p>An applicant must submit evidence that the applicant has completed the course of study in and graduated from a college or school of landscape architecture approved by the Board.</p> <p>...</p> <p>In lieu of graduation from an accredited college or school of landscape architecture, and the practical experience in addition thereto, an applicant may apply for examination upon presenting evidence of at least eight years of actual practical experience in landscape architectural work of a grade and character satisfactory to the Board. To be considered for licensure via practical experience, an applicant must have begun earning acceptable practical experience prior to August 1, 2012. <a href="#">Ala. Admin. Code r. 500-X-2-.03(1)</a>.</p>	<p>The application for examination shall be accompanied by proof of actual practical experience in landscape architectural work of a grade and character satisfactory to the board. Each complete year of study in an approved college or school of landscape architecture shall be accepted in lieu of one year of practical experience, and the applicant shall submit evidence of sufficient additional acceptable experience to total five years of combined education and practical experience. The master's or doctoral degree in landscape architecture shall fulfill the requirements for five years combined education and practical experience. The applicant shall also submit proof of one additional year of practical experience sufficient to total six years of combined education and practical experience. <a href="#">Ala. Code § 34-17-21(2)</a>.</p>	<p>The applicant also must submit evidence of actual practical experience in landscape architectural work of a grade and character satisfactory to the Board. A total six years of combined education and experience must be completed before an applicant may apply for examination. Each year of study in an approved college or school of landscape architecture will be accepted as one year of such combined education and experience for a maximum of five years. A master's or doctoral degree in landscape architecture shall fulfill the requirements for five years combined education and practical experience. <a href="#">Ala. Admin. Code r. 500-X-2-.03(1)</a>.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b><u>Regulatory changes required.</u></b> The Alabama statute requires applicants seeking licensure through a traditional education pathway to graduate from a school of landscape architecture approved by the board. <a href="#">Ala. Code § 34-17-21</a>. The regulations use identical language. <a href="#">Ala. Admin. Code r. 500-X-2-.03(1)</a>. The board has not clarified this requirement through written guidance. However, the board may consider amending its regulations to expressly recognize degrees accredited by LAAC or an international equivalent because the statute gives the board the authority to approve colleges or schools of landscape architecture for the purposes of licensure. <a href="#">Ala. Code § 34-17-21</a>.</li> <li>2. <b><u>Statutory and regulatory changes required.</u></b> Alabama requires six years of combined education and experience, with an accredited bachelor's degree counting for four years, and a master's or doctoral degree counting for five years. <a href="#">Ala. Code § 34-17-21</a>. Thus, while two years of experience is required in addition to a LAAB-accredited bachelor's degree, only <i>one</i> year of experience is required in addition to a LAAB-accredited master's or doctoral degree. The board does not have the authority to amend these rules because the education and experience requirements are statutory. Therefore, to expressly require two years of experience for <i>all</i> applicants would require amending the statute and regulations.</li> <li>3. <b><u>Statutory and regulatory changes required.</u></b> Alabama previously allowed an applicant to apply for licensure with a total of eight years of experience in lieu of an accredited degree, but this approach is being phased out. To qualify for the alternative education option, an applicant must have begun accruing experience prior to August 1, 2012. <a href="#">Ala. Code § 34-17-21</a>. The board does not have the authority to amend its regulations to reinstate the alternative education option because the education requirements are statutory.</li> <li>4. <b><u>Statutory and regulatory changes required.</u></b> See answer to Q3.</li> <li>5. <b><u>No changes required.</u></b> According to the <a href="#">Alabama application for landscape architecture licensure</a>, Alabama accepts reciprocity applications from any applicant who holds a landscape architecture degree from any of the fifty states, D.C., or any territory or possession under the control of the United States, provided the application requirements in the state of initial licensure are equivalent to the requirements in Alabama.</li> </ol>
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