

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

**TITLE 16. PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL REGULATIONS
DIVISION 2.**

CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED REGULATORY ACTION CONCERNING:
Review of Applications**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Architects Board (Board) is proposing to take the action described in the Informative Digest below, after considering all comments, objections, and recommendations regarding the proposed action.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Board has not scheduled a public hearing on this proposed action. However, the Board will hold a hearing if it receives a written request for a public hearing from any interested person, or his or her authorized representative, no later than 15 days prior to the close of the written comment period. A hearing may be requested by making such request in writing addressed to the individuals listed under "Contact Person" in this notice.

WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD

Written comments relevant to the action proposed, including those sent by mail, facsimile, or e-mail to the addresses listed under "Contact Person" in this Notice, must be **received by the Board at its office no later than by Tuesday, March 17, 2026**, or must be received by the Board at the hearing, should one be scheduled.

AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE

Pursuant to the authority vested by sections 115.4 and 5526 of the Business and Professions Code (BPC), and to implement, interpret, or make specific BPC sections 115.4 and 5550, the Board is considering amending section 111 of title 16 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR).

INFORMATIVE DIGEST / POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW

Currently, Board regulations 16 CCR section 111 clarifies communication timelines for Board applications. These applications include the Application for Eligibility Evaluation (ARE), application for the California Supplemental Examination (CSE), reciprocity application, and application for licensure.

This proposal will update the communication timelines of the Board to align with current practices. Additionally, the proposal will remove the specific names of

applications and refer to the location of the regulations where the application instructions and requirements are listed.

This regulatory proposal will amend 16 CCR section 111. The amendment to the regulation through this proposed rulemaking is as follows:

Amend 16 CCR 111(a) reflect current communication times and practices for ARE and CSE eligibility and moves similar application types to this section for consistency and clarity. This includes the communication times from the previous 111(b)(1) and (b)(2) for the ARE and CSE, and previous 111(c) for reciprocity applications. The language is clarified to indicate the candidate will be notified when they are eligible to test.

Amend 16 CCR 111(b) and delete sections (b)(1) and(b)(2) in order to update the section to refer to when candidates are notified of CSE results. The deleted sections have been combined and moved into (a), and since candidates receive their ARE score results directly through their record with the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) and not from the Board, the portion referring to the Board providing results is being struck. This amendment states that candidates will be notified within 30 days of their CSE results.

Delete 16 CCR 111(b)(3) because it is referring to an obsolete process for applications. Since applications are now valid as long as candidates are active in the examination process (CCR 109), this portion of the text is no longer necessary.

Delete former 16 CCR section 111(c) because a portion of it has been moved to part (a). Additionally, it does not reflect current practice for reciprocity candidates. Currently, reciprocity candidates must take and pass the CSE thus this information has been added to part (b) to provide clarity to candidates.

Amend 16 CCR section 111(c) for numbering consistency, remove the specific call out to the application for licensure, and include references to the licensure application, retired license application, and reinstatement of a retired license application, which all have similar processes and notification timelines.

Anticipated Benefits of Proposal

This proposal will clarify the Board's communication timelines by updating language to align with current practices. The Board is removing named applications and making specific references to the applicable applications within regulation. This may reduce potential confusion as to when candidates will receive Board communications.

This regulatory proposal does not affect the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, or the state's environment.

Evaluation of Consistency and Compatibility with Existing State Regulations

During the process of developing this regulatory proposal, the Board has conducted a

search of any similar regulations on these topics and has concluded that these regulations are neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing state regulations.

DISCLOSURES REGARDING THIS PROPOSED ACTION

FISCAL IMPACT ESTIMATES

Fiscal Impact on Public Agencies Including Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Costs/Savings in Federal Funding to the State: None. The regulations do not result in a fiscal impact to the state. This proposal clarifies the timelines by which the Board must communicate the status of an application or examination result. The Board does not anticipate additional workload or costs resulting from the proposed regulations.

The regulations do not result in costs or savings in federal funding to the state.

Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies: None.

Cost to any Local Agency or School District for which Government Code Sections 17500 - 17630 Require Reimbursement: None.

Mandate Imposed on Local Agencies or School Districts: None.

Significant Effect on Housing Costs: None.

BUSINESS IMPACT ESTIMATES

The Board has made the initial determination that the proposed regulatory action would have no significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

This initial determination is based on the following facts:

The regulations do not result in additional workload or costs to businesses because this proposal is simply updating the Board's application processing times and communications timeframes to reflect current practices which will not result in any significant impacts since this is already being done.

Cost Impact on Representative Private Person or Business

The Board is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

RESULTS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT / ANALYSIS:

Impact on Jobs / Businesses

The Board has determined that this regulatory proposal will not have any impact on the following:

- 1) The creation or elimination of jobs within California,
- 2) The creation of new businesses or elimination of existing businesses within the state, or
- 3) The expansion of businesses currently doing business within the state.

This proposal would not have any of the above-referenced impacts as explained in the “Business Impact Estimates” section of this notice.

Benefits of Regulation

This regulatory proposal does not affect the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, or the state’s environment as this proposal is not related to any of those issues.

Business Reporting Requirements

The regulatory action does not require businesses to file a report with the Board.

Effect on Small Business

The Board does not maintain data to define if any of its licensees are a “small business” as defined in Government Code section 11342.610. However, in the event a licensee is affiliated with a small business, the regulations do not result in additional workload or costs and are not anticipated to result in any negative impacts to small businesses.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

In accordance with Government Code section 11346.5, subdivision (a)(13), the Board must determine that no reasonable alternative it considered to the regulation or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed; would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposal described in this Notice; or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

Any interested person may submit written comments relevant to the above determinations at the Board’s office at 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105, Sacramento, California 95834 during the written comment period, or at the hearing if one is scheduled or requested.

AVAILABILITY OF STATEMENT OF REASONS AND RULEMAKING FILE

The Board has compiled a record for this regulatory action, which includes the Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR), proposed regulatory text, and all the information on which this proposal is based. This material is contained in the rulemaking file and is available for public inspection upon request to the contact persons named in this notice.

TEXT OF PROPOSAL

Copies of the exact language of the proposed regulations, and any document incorporated by reference, and of the initial statement of reasons, and all of the information upon which the proposal is based, may be obtained upon request from the Board at 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105, Sacramento, California 95834.

AVAILABILITY OF CHANGED OR MODIFIED TEXT

After considering all timely and relevant comments, the Board, upon its own motion or at the request of any interested party, may thereafter adopt the proposals substantially as described below or may modify such proposals if such modifications are sufficiently related to the original text. With the exception of technical or grammatical changes, the full text of any modified proposal, with the modifications clearly indicated, will be available for review and written comment for 15 days prior to its adoption from the person designated in this Notice as the Contact Person and will be mailed to those persons who submit written comments or oral testimony related to this proposal or who have requested notification of any changes to the proposal.

AVAILABILITY AND LOCATION OF THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS AND RULEMAKING FILE

All the information upon which the proposed regulations are based is contained in the rulemaking file which is available for public inspection by contacting the person named below.

You may obtain a copy of the Final Statement of Reasons once it has been prepared by making a written request to the Contact Person named below or by accessing the website listed below.

CONTACT PERSONS

Inquiries or comments concerning the proposed rulemaking action may be addressed to:

Name:	Timothy Rodda
Address:	2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834
Telephone No.:	279.895.1246
E-Mail Address:	timothy.rodda@dca.ca.gov

The backup contact person is:

Name:	Laura Zuniga
Address:	2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834
Telephone No.:	916.471.0760

E-Mail Address: laura.zuniga@dca.ca.gov

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS ON THE INTERNET:

Materials regarding this proposal can be found at

https://www.cab.ca.gov/resrcs/laws_regs/prop_reg.shtml

Copies of the Notice of Proposed Action, the Initial Statement of Reasons, and the text of the regulations with modifications noted, as well as the Final Statement of Reasons when completed, and modified text, if any, can be accessed through the Board's website at https://www.cab.ca.gov/resrcs/laws_reqs/prop_reg.shtml.