



Oklahoma Board of Architects, Landscape Architects and  
Registered Interior Designers

FY20 Annual Report

## **Executive Summary—Year in Review**

- Successful Scholarship Campaign: \$67,400 were given to twenty-one recipients studying architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design from three Oklahoma universities.
- January 11, 2020 was the second annual pinning ceremony for new licensees. Despite weather issues, twenty-three licensees were pinned and approximately one hundred people attended.
- Oklahoma Administrative Code 55:10 (the Board's Rules) was revised and updated during the 57<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session. Most of the revisions consisted of cleaning up and deleting language or Rules that were outdated, inefficient, or unnecessary.
- The Oklahoma Board of Architects' Sunset bill was also passed during the 57<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session, recreating the Board until 2023.
- A Continuing Education event was held in November 2019 and drew more than 200 people to learn about various topics related to health, safety, and welfare.
  - When the April 2020 event was cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions on gatherings, the Board teamed up with Burgess Company to provide 14 free Continuing Education webinars in May and June so that Oklahoma licensees could still receive the credits they needed.
    - For every attendee at each webinar, Burgess Company donated \$10 to be split between the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma and to the Conservation Coalition of Oklahoma.
    - Most of the webinars had around 80 attendees.

## **Purpose and Mission of the Board**

- The Oklahoma Board of Architects, Landscape Architects and Registered Interior Designers was created in 1925 to serve both the professions of architecture, landscape architecture and interior design and the public.
- The Board's mission is to protect the citizens of the State of Oklahoma by establishing standards for professional qualifications, ensuring competence through examinations, setting practice standards, and enforcing the State Architectural and Registered Interior Designers Act.
- The Board is concerned with public safety and welfare above all other concerns and works to ensure that licensees remain up-to-date with regulatory requirements by:
  - Reviewing applications for licensure, registration, and certification.
  - Monitoring and disciplining unlicensed, reckless, dishonest, or fraudulent practice.
  - Reviewing and auditing licensees' continuing education credits to guarantee that they are knowledgeable of best practices in regards to health, safety, and welfare.

## **Board Composition and Membership**

- The Board consists of 11 members, who are residents of Oklahoma, in good standing in their chosen profession, and directly appointed by the Governor, including:
  - 7 persons who are licensed Architects,
  - 2 persons who are licensed Landscape Architects,
  - 1 person who is registered as an interior designer, and

- 1 member of the public.
- The term of office of each Architect, Landscape Architect, and Registered Interior Designer is five years; the public member's term is coterminous with the Governor.
- The Board's FY20 members are:
  - Chair: James Hasenbeck, Architect, term expires 7/1/2021
  - Vice-Chair: Elizabeth Windel, Architect, term expires 1/09/2025
  - Secretary-Treasurer: M. Bradley Gaskins, Architect, term expires 7/1/2024
  - Jim Bruza, Architect, term expires 1/9/2022
  - Scott L. Howard, Landscape Architect, term expires 7/1/2023
  - J. Mark Taylor, Registered Interior Designer, term expires 7/1/2021
  - David Hornbeek, Architect, term expires 1/9/2022
  - Betsy Guthrie-Brunsteter, Architect, term expires 7/1/2024
  - David Blackburn, Public Member, coterminous with the Governor
  - Brian Dougherty, Landscape Architect, term expires 7/1/2021
  - Nathan Baker, Architect, term expires 12/09/2025 (appointed 12/2019)
  - Gary Armbruster, Architect, term expired 1/2020
- Current Board Meeting agendas and minutes can be found at [https://www.ok.gov/Architects/About/Board\\_Meeting\\_Minutes\\_and\\_Agendas.html](https://www.ok.gov/Architects/About/Board_Meeting_Minutes_and_Agendas.html).
- The Board is a member of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards' (NCARB) Region 5 committee. NCARB is a nonprofit organization made up of the architectural regulatory boards of the 50 United States, the District of Columbia, and several U.S. territories.
  - Several of the Board's current members serve on committees for NCARB, including the Examination Committee, Policy Advisory Committee, and Professional Conduct Committee.
- The Board is also a member of
  - The Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB)
  - The Council for Interior Design Qualification (CIDQ), and
  - The Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB).

## OBA Statistics for FY20

- Oklahoma-based Licenses: 1155
- Reciprocal Licenses: 1742
- Total Licenses issued in FY20: 218
- Total Certificates of Authorization or Title: 1029
- Total Certificates of Authorization or Title issued in FY20: 87
- Emeritus: 130
- Disciplinary Cases Pending Investigation: 11
- Disciplinary Cases Closed in FY20: 49

## Architectural Licensure and Practice

- Oklahoma offers two paths to licensure for architects, landscape architects, and registered interior designers: one for initial licensure applicants, whose base state is Oklahoma, and one for applicants who are already licensed in another U.S. jurisdiction (known as reciprocal licensure).
- **Initial Licensure:** Applicants must meet the requirements for education, examination, and experience as follows:
  - *Education:* The applicant must hold a degree from a National Architecture Accrediting Board-accredited university or college, or have at least five years of education credits using equivalent standards outlined in the Board's current Rules, found in section 55:10-5-4.1;
  - *Examination:* The applicant must have passed all sections of the NCARB Architect Registration Examination (ARE) and must have passed the Oklahoma Act and Rules exam; and
  - *Experience:* The applicant must successfully complete at least 5,600 hours of NCARB's Architectural Experience Program (AXP).
- **Reciprocal Licensure:** Applicants must already be licensed in another U.S. jurisdiction and meet the requirements as follows:
  - The applicant must meet all of Oklahoma's requirements for education, examination, and experience, including passing the Oklahoma Act and Rules exam.
  - The applicant must not have violated any statutes, laws, or regulations in Oklahoma, or any other U.S. jurisdiction, which would call into question their ability to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.
- **Practice Requirements:** A firm, which is seeking to provide architectural services as a corporation, limited liability company/partnership, or a professional limited liability company/partnership, must obtain a Certificate of Authority from the Board.
- **Renewal Requirements:** Oklahoma-licensed architects, landscape architects, registered interior designers, and firms must renew their license or Certificate of Authority every two years.
  - *Continuing Education:* each renewal period, a licensee must present a record of 24 completed Continuing Education units, all of which must be "HSW" (health, safety, and welfare).
  - Upon renewal, each licensee will complete a renewal form, updating current contact information, answering a series of questions regarding continuing education, current good standing in base state, and any professional disciplinary action or investigation.

## **Landscape Architectural Licensure and Practice**

- Oklahoma offers two paths to licensure for architects, landscape architects, and registered interior designers: one for initial licensure applicants, whose base state is Oklahoma, and one for applicants who are already licensed in another U.S. jurisdiction (known as reciprocal licensure).
- **Initial Licensure:** Applicants must meet the requirements for education, examination, and experience as follows:
  - *Education:* The applicant must hold a degree from a Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB)-accredited university or college, or have at least five years

- of education credits using equivalent standards outlined in the Board's current Rules, found in section 55:10-5-4.2;
  - *Examination:* The applicant must have successfully passed the Landscape Architect Registration Exam (LARE), as well as the Oklahoma Plant Materials exam and the Oklahoma Act and Rules exam; and
  - *Experience:* The applicant must earn at least three years of training experience following the completion of the education program, or as established by CLARB.
- **Reciprocal Licensure:** Applicants must be already licensed in another U.S. jurisdiction and meet the following requirements:
  - The applicant must meet all of Oklahoma's requirements for education, examination, and experience, including passing the Oklahoma Plant Materials exam Oklahoma Act and Rules exam.
  - The applicant must not have violated any statutes, laws, or regulations in Oklahoma, or any other U.S. jurisdiction, which would call into question their ability to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.
- **Practice Requirements:** A firm, which is seeking to provide landscape architectural services as a corporation, limited liability company/partnership, or a professional limited liability company/partnership, must obtain a Certificate of Authority from the Board.
- **Renewal Requirements:** Oklahoma-licensed architects, landscape architects, registered interior designers, and firms must renew their license or Certificate of Authority every two years.
  - *Continuing Education:* each renewal period, a licensee must present a record of 24 completed Continuing Education units, all of which must be "HSW" (health, safety, and welfare).
  - Upon renewal, each licensee will complete a renewal form, updating current contact information, answering a series of questions regarding continuing education, current good standing in base state, and any professional disciplinary action or investigation.

## Interior Design Registration

- Oklahoma offers two paths to licensure for architects, landscape architects, and registered interior designers: one for initial licensure applicants, whose base state is Oklahoma, and one for applicants who are already licensed in another U.S. jurisdiction (known as reciprocal licensure).
- **Initial Registration:** All applicants must meet the requirements for education, experience, and examination as follows:
  - *Education:* Applicants must hold a degree in interior design from a program accredited by the Council of Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA), or obtain an equivalent education to an accredited professional degree in interior design;
  - *Experience:* Applicants must obtain two years or 3,520 hours of training under an Oklahoma Registered Interior Designer, a CIDQ Registered Interior Designer, or a licensed Architect offering service as registered interior design or meet equivalent training, as outlined in the Board's current Act, section 55:10-5-10.
  - *Examination:* An applicant must successfully complete the CIDQ examination.
  - For applicants with fifteen years of interior design experience prior to July 1, 2007, see 59 OS § 46.40.

- **Reciprocal Licensure:** An applicant may seek registration in Oklahoma if they have been issued a valid registration from another U.S. jurisdiction, provided the requirements for registration are equivalent to the requirements of this state.
- **Practice Requirements:** A firm, which is seeking to provide registered interior design services as a corporation, limited liability company/partnership, or a professional limited liability company/partnership, must obtain a Certificate of Title from the Board.
- **Renewal Requirements:** Oklahoma-licensed architects, landscape architects, registered interior designers, and firms must renew their license or Certificate of Authority every two years.
  - *Continuing Education:* each renewal period, a licensee must present a record of 24 completed Continuing Education units, all of which must be “HSW” (health, safety, and welfare).
- Upon renewal, each licensee will complete a renewal form, updating current contact information, answering a series of questions regarding continuing education, current good standing in base state, and any professional disciplinary action or investigation.

## **Recent Updates and Improvements**

- The Board office has been undergoing a change in its database platform. The former database was outdated and could not support online payments so the Board decided to transition to a new regulatory database, which will allow greater information storage for licensees, greater interaction for Board members, and the ability to receive applications and payments online.