

National Architectural Accrediting Board, Inc.

June 1, 2015

On May 6, 2015, the Directors of the National Architectural Accrediting Board, Inc. (NAAB) approved the final edition of *The NAAB Procedures for Accreditation*, 2015 Edition.

This edition governs all visits scheduled for calendar 2016.

The document is now available for download.

In approving the 2015 edition, the directors did not make a final decision on the composition of visiting teams (See Section 5). For visits conducted in 2016, teams will be composed of at least four individuals, each of whom represents one of the four constituent organizations of the NAAB: the AIA, AIAS, ACSA, and NCARB.

However, in 2016, the NAAB will continue to test both the use of three-person teams on visits for continuing accreditation and whether the duration of visits can be reduced.

A final decision on these two matters will be made by the NAAB based on an evaluation of pilot visits conducted in 2015 and 2016. The decision can be expected in July 2016.

The significant differences between the 2015 edition and the 2012 edition are as follows:

New Section 2. This section provides general information about the process and a quick reference to the document. Those items that are common to all accrediting processes are identified in this section.

New Section 4. This section combines what had been two separate sections on candidacy and initial accreditation into one.

Section 5. In addition to considering changes to team composition, the NAAB has redistributed several of the activities associated with a visit so that reports and other documentary evidence are reviewed in advance rather than on site.

New Section 14. This section includes graphic representation of the processes associated with candidacy, initial accreditation, and continuing accreditation.

In order to continue to test and evaluate the composition of teams, the NAAB is seeking programs with visits scheduled for Spring 2016 willing to test either a reduced visit schedule or a three-person team. Any program interested in being part of the test group should contact Cassandra Pair, accreditation manager, at cpair@naab.org.

The mission of the NAAB is leadership in, and the establishment of, educational quality assurance standards to enhance the value, relevance, and effectiveness of the architectural profession.

The National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) is the sole agency authorized to accredit professional degree programs in architecture in the United States.

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