

# National Architectural Accrediting Board, Inc.

**June 10, 2015**

*Washington, DC.* The National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), Inc. continues to follow reports regarding the American Board of Architecture (ABA).

The American Board of Architecture is described as an alternative to accreditation and registration in the U.S.

The NAAB seeks to provide students, parents, U.S. registration boards, schools of architecture, and the general public with objective, comparative information about the differences between the two organizations.

To that end, the attached table has been prepared by the NAAB. It has been reviewed by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture and the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards.

The table is accurate as of June 9, 2015. The NAAB welcomes corrections of fact.

Please contact [info@naab.org](mailto:info@naab.org) with corrections.

Questions about the NAAB should also be directed to [info@naab.org](mailto:info@naab.org).

Questions about the ABA should be directed to [commissioner@adroitsschool.org](mailto:commissioner@adroitsschool.org)



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**Vision:** The NAAB aspires to be the leader in establishing educational quality assurance standards to enhance the value, relevance, and effectiveness of the architectural profession.

**Mission:** The NAAB develops and maintains a system of accreditation in professional architecture education that is responsive to the needs of society and allows institutions with varying resources and circumstances to evolve according to their individual needs.

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Side by Side Comparison  
National Architectural Accrediting Board and American Board of Architecture

	<u>NATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL ACCREDITING BOARD</u>	<u>AMERICAN BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE</u>
Year Founded	1940	2014
Year Incorporated	1967	2014
U.S. IRS Tax-Exempt	Yes. 501 (c)(3) (EIN: 52-0075386)	Yes. 501 (c)(6) (EIN unknown)
Legally recognized entity permitted to accredit professional degree programs	Yes	Yes
Recognized by U.S. Department of Education <sup>1</sup>	No <sup>2</sup>	No
Professional programs accredited as of March 31, 2015	154	1 pilot
Institutions with accredited professional programs	123	1 pilot
Total students enrolled in accredited programs in AY 2013-2014	24,989	Undisclosed
Number of U.S. jurisdictions that require the accredited degree program to meet the education requirement for initial registration	37 <sup>3</sup>	0
Number of U.S. jurisdictions that accept the accredited degree program as meeting or exceeding the minimum educational requirement for licensure	54 <sup>4</sup>	14 <sup>5</sup>
Number of U.S. jurisdictions that officially and specifically recognize the accrediting agency	54	0 <sup>6</sup>
Accredited degree program meets the education requirement for a National Council of Architectural Registration Boards Certificate	Yes	No
Number of members on Board of Directors	13	Undisclosed
Composition of Board	Educators Practitioners Members/former members of U.S. architecture registration boards Students/emerging professionals Members of the public	Undisclosed
Names of directors listed on website	Yes	No
IRS Form 990 publicly available	Yes	Unknown

<sup>1</sup> Recognition by the U.S. Department of Education does not confer authority to accredit institutions, schools, or programs of study.

<sup>2</sup> Recognition by the U.S. Department of Education under the terms of 34 CFR part 602, Subpart B does not apply to many professional accrediting boards and thus is not relevant.

<sup>3</sup> Based on results of 2014 NCARB Member Board Requirements survey.

<sup>4</sup> Of the 17 jurisdictions that do not require a NAAB accredited professional degree program, all have provisions for additional, pre-licensure work experience for individuals with other-than-a-degree from a program accredited by the NAAB that exceed the duration of IDP; thus applicants for licensure with a degree from a program accredited by the NAAB often achieve initial licensure more quickly in those jurisdictions.

<sup>5</sup> Based on the American Board of Architecture website.

<sup>6</sup> Official recognition of the accrediting agency by name in the law or regulations of the 17 jurisdictions is not required for acceptance as most of those 17 jurisdictions define educational experience by degree type rather than by accrediting agency (e.g., four-year pre-professional degree in architecture).

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	<a href="http://www.naab.org/about/NAAB_990">http://www.naab.org/about/NAAB_990</a>	
Process for developing conditions for accreditation publicly defined	Yes <a href="http://www.naab.org/accreditation/2013_Accreditation_Review">http://www.naab.org/accreditation/2013_Accreditation_Review</a>	No
Process for developing procedures for accreditation publicly defined	Yes <a href="http://www.naab.org/accreditation/2015%20Procedures.aspx">http://www.naab.org/accreditation/2015%20Procedures.aspx</a>	No
Procedures for accreditation include definition of conflict of interest and process for disclosure	Yes	Unknown
Visiting Team Reports published publicly after accreditation decisions are made	Yes <a href="http://www.naab.org/f/documents/home.aspx?path=Public+Documents">http://www.naab.org/f/documents/home.aspx?path=Public+Documents</a>	No
Term of accreditation made public	Yes	No
Conditions for accreditation include public information requirements for accredited programs	Yes	Unknown
Conditions for accreditation support development of innovative curriculum	Yes	Unknown
Conditions for accreditation support development of innovative program delivery	Yes	Unknown
Conditions for accreditation support development of additional paths to licensure, including an integrated path to licensure track	Yes <sup>7</sup>	Yes <sup>8</sup>
Accredits degree programs that are recognized by NCARB for its Integrated Path to Licensure pilot program	Yes	No
Member, <a href="#">Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors</a>	Yes	Unknown <sup>9</sup>
Member, <a href="#">International Network of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education</a>	Yes	Unknown <sup>10</sup>
Member, <a href="#">Canberra Accord</a> regarding substantial equivalency of accreditation/validation/ recognition systems	Yes	No

<sup>7</sup> NCARB has established a pilot program for schools with NAAB-accredited programs, local firms, and U.S. State Licensing Boards to work together to create an “integrated path to licensure” track as an additional path towards licensure in that jurisdiction.

<sup>8</sup> ABA has accredited one pilot program, which is structured to promote licensure upon graduation; that program is not eligible for inclusion in the NCARB Integrated Path to Licensure pilot program.

<sup>9</sup> Not identified as a member on the ASPA website

<sup>10</sup> Not identified as a member on the INQAHE website