



# Landscape Architecture Licensure Laws

## ASLA Summary of Provisions

### Vermont

Vermont Statutes, Title 26, Chapter 46.

**Type of Law:** Practice/title. Sunset date: 7/1/2014.

#### Office of Professional Regulation

The Office of Professional Regulation (under the Secretary of State) administers regulation of landscape architecture in Vermont. Two landscape architects are appointed by the Secretary of State as advisors. Disciplinary matters are referred to an administrative law officer.

#### Definitions

**Landscape architect:** A person who complies with all provisions of Chapter 46 and is licensed to engage in the practice of landscape architecture.

**Practice of landscape architecture:** Any service where landscape architectural education, training, experience and the application of mathematical, physical, and social science principles are applied in consultation, evaluation, planning, and design, including the preparation and filing of drawings, plans, specifications and other contract documents and the administration of contracts relative to projects principally directed at the functional and aesthetic development, use, or preservation of land that directly affects the health, safety and welfare of the public. These services include the implementation of land development concepts and natural resource management plans through the design or grading of: land forms; on-site, surface, and storm water drainage; soil conservation and erosion control; small water features; pedestrian, bicycle, and local motor vehicular circulation systems; and related construction details.

#### Exemptions

**Interprofessional practice:** This chapter shall not be construed to limit or restrict in any manner the right of a practitioner of another profession or occupation from carrying on in the usual manner any of the functions of that profession or occupation as their experience, education, and training allow them to practice. Specifies that the law does not prevent the practice of architecture, land surveying, engineering, and other licensed professions.

**Exempt practice:**

- The preparation of construction documents showing plantings, other horticulture-related elements, or landscape materials unrelated to horticulture
- The design of irrigation systems
- landscape design, garden design, planning, forestry, and forestry management

**Exempt persons:**

- Drafters, clerks, project managers, superintendents, students, and other employees or interns from acting under the instructions, control, or supervision of their employers
- The construction, alteration, or supervision of sites by contractors or superintendents employed by contractors or the preparation of shop drawings in connection with the construction, alteration, or supervision
- Owners or contractors from engaging persons who are not landscape architects to observe and supervise site construction of a project
- Individuals from making plans, drawings, or specifications for any property owned by them and for their own personal use
- Officers or employees of the federal government from working in connection with their employment

Note: Bracketed [ ] material is drawn from regulations.

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American Society of Landscape Architects

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SOCIETY OF  
LANDSCAPE  
ARCHITECTS  
636 EYE STREET, NW  
WASHINGTON, DC  
20001-3736

[www.asla.org](http://www.asla.org)  
1.888.999.ASLA  
T 202.898.2444  
F 202.898.1185



This does not permit an unlicensed person to use the title landscape architect or any title, sign, card, or device to indicate that the person is a landscape architect.

#### **Eligibility Requirements – Initial Licensure**

Applicants must have graduated from an LAAB-approved landscape architecture program, followed by at least three years of diversified experience in landscape architecture under the supervision of a licensed landscape architect. Applicants must also pass the examination administered by CLARB. The director may accept experience received under the supervision of a licensed architect, professional engineer, or land surveyor for one year of the experience. All applicants shall have at least two years of experience under the supervision of a licensed landscape architect.

Alternatively, applicants who have completed nine or more years of diversified experience in landscape architecture under the supervision of a licensed landscape architect and who have passed an examination administered by CLARB may be granted a license. Experience received under the supervision of a licensed architect, professional engineer, or land surveyor may be substituted for no more than three years of this requirement. Credits from a landscape architecture program accredited by the LAAB may be substituted for up to no more than three years of this requirement.

An applicant may submit experience accrued for a period of three years in the practice of landscape architecture in order to meet the experience requirements if the experience was obtained in Vermont on or before December 31, 2011. Evidence of experience shall be reviewed and approved by the director.

**Fee:** [Application and initial license, \$100; Renewal, \$200.]

#### **Eligibility Requirements – Reciprocal Licensure**

Licensure in a jurisdiction issued on the basis of an examination administered by CLARB, by the appropriate regulatory authority of a state, territory, or possession of the United States, the District of Columbia, or another country based on requirements and qualifications shown by the application to be equal to or greater than the requirements of Vermont. Such individuals may be examined on landscape architecture matters peculiar to Vermont and granted a license at the discretion of the director. A valid CLARB certificate must be accepted as proof of qualification.

**Fee:** [Application and initial license, \$100; Renewal, \$200.]

#### **Practice Entities**

No provisions.

#### **Seal Requirements**

Plans and specifications prepared by or under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect shall be stamped with the licensed landscape architect's seal.

#### **Enforcement**

Prohibitions/penalties: Licensees may be disciplined for the following: Stamping or sealing documents if the license has expired, has been suspended or revoked; engage in unprofessional conduct; or otherwise violate the licensure law.

Prohibitions/penalties for unlicensed practice: No person shall: practice or attempt to practice landscape architecture without first obtaining a valid license; hold him/herself as being able to practice landscape architecture without a valid license; or use the title 'landscape architect', 'landscape architecture', or 'landscape architectural' in connection with the person's name without being licensed. Penalties include a

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civil penalty of not more than \$1,000 for unlicensed practice, plus a maximum fine of \$5,000 and/or imprisonment of up to one year.

**Mandatory Continuing Education**

Vermont does not require continuing education for landscape architects.

**Last updated March 29, 2011**

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20001-3736

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