



American Society of  
Landscape Architects

## Founded in 1899, the American Society of Landscape Architects

is the national professional association representing landscape architects. Beginning with 11 original members, ASLA has grown to 14,920 members (as of March 31, 2018) and 49 chapters, representing all 50 states, U.S. territories, and 59 countries around the world, plus 82 student chapters and 7 student affiliate chapters. Membership is open to all landscape architects as well as students and others interested in the profession's issues, values, and goals. ASLA promotes the profession and advances its practice through advocacy, education, communication, and fellowship. In addition, stewardship of the land has always served a central role in the mission of the ASLA and is an integral element of all outreach.

### ASLA began with 11 founding members:

Nathan Barrett	John Charles Olmsted
Beatrix Jones Farrand	(the Society's first president)
Daniel W. Langton	Samuel Parsons, Jr.
Charles N. Lowrie	George F. Pentecost, Jr.
Warren H. Manning	Ossian Cole Simonds
Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.	Downing Vaux (son of Calvert Vaux)

### At the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2018, ASLA reported 14,920 members and 49 chapters representing all 50 states and U.S. territories, plus 59 countries around the world.

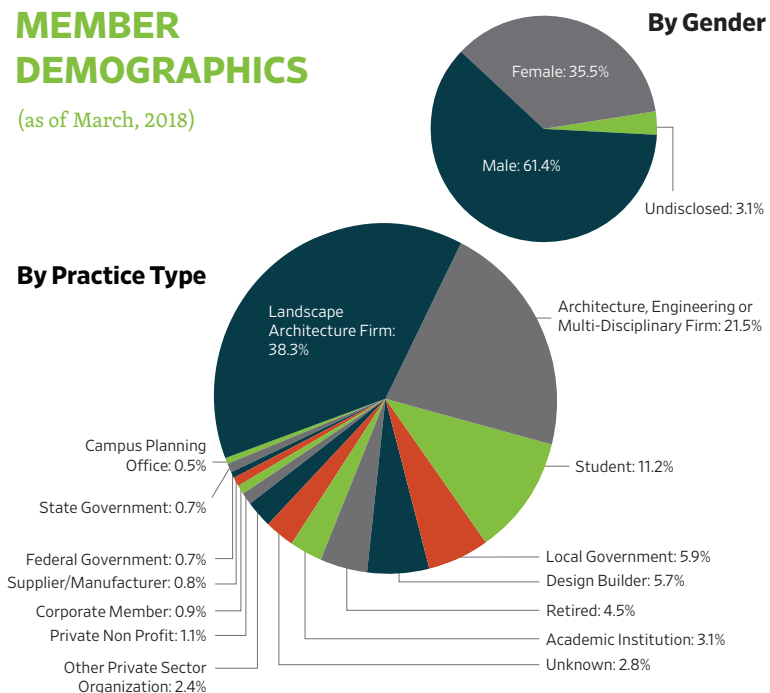
- Approximately 16,740 landscape architects are licensed in the United States. Licensure is required in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Landscape Architecture is one of only around 60 professions to be licensed in all 50 States.
- At the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2018, 5,709 ASLA members worked at landscape architecture firms; 3,212 worked at architecture, engineering, or multi-disciplinary firms; and 850 were employed by design-build firms. A total of 1,077 members worked for federal, state, or local government.

## MEMBERSHIP BY TYPE

Member Type	Q1 2018	Q1 2017	Percentage +/- Q1 18 v. Q1 17
Full Member	10,714	10,694	0.2%
Student & Student Affiliate	1,779	1,842	-3.4%
Associate	1,421	1,682	-15.5%
Affiliate	561	516	8.7%
International	171	173	-1.2%
Corporate	111	109	1.8%
Honorary (living)	163	166	-1.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,920</b>	<b>15,182</b>	<b>-1.7%</b>

## MEMBER DEMOGRAPHICS

(as of March, 2018)



# THE PROFESSION

Landscape architects analyze, plan, design, manage, and nurture the natural and built environments.

## Among the types of projects they produce are:

- Academic campuses
- Conservation
- Corporate and commercial
- Gardens and arboreta
- Green Infrastructure
- Historic preservation and restoration
- Hospitality and resorts
- Institutions
- Interior landscapes
- Land planning
- Landscape art
- Monuments
- Parks and recreation
- Reclamation
- Residential
- Security design
- Stormwater management
- Streetscapes and public spaces
- Therapeutic gardens
- Transportation corridors
- Urban design

## THE SOCIETY

**Vision:** Leading the design and stewardship of land and communities

**Mission:** Landscape architects lead the stewardship, planning, and design of our built and natural environments.

The society's mission is to advance landscape architecture through advocacy, communication, education, and fellowship.

### Values

Dedication/Commitment  
 Excellence  
 Integrity  
 Leadership  
 Stewardship

### Culture

Collaborative  
 Member-Focused  
 Accountable  
 Responsible  
 Volunteer-Supported

LEARN MORE AT

[asla.org](http://asla.org)

Landscape architects are licensed in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

# EDUCATION

Sixty-nine universities currently offer 51 MLA and 44 BLA programs accredited by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB)\*.

There are two undergraduate professional degrees. These usually require four or five years of study in design, construction techniques, art, history, and natural and social sciences:

- Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLA)
- Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture (BSLA).

There are two types of accredited graduate-degree programs:

- The three-year Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) option is for those who hold an undergraduate degree in a field other than landscape architecture and intend to become landscape architecture practitioners.

- A five or five-plus year Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) is for persons who do not have an undergraduate degree.

Other, non-accredited programs are also offered, such as the MA/MS in Landscape Architecture for persons who want to conduct research in landscape architecture but do not seek to be registered professionals, programs by schools that are candidates for accreditation, and certificate programs.

*\*LAAB is a specialized agency that accredits educational programs leading to first professional degrees at the bachelor's and master's levels.*

## Licensure

Landscape architects are licensed in all 50 states plus the District of Columbia. Each state sets its own requirements for licensure and the licensing process is administered by the state licensing board. All states require candidates to pass the Landscape Architect Registration Examination, or LARE, which is administered by the Council of Landscape Architecture Registration Boards (CLARB).

The growing popularity of [landscape architecture] is understandable. Where else could consecutive job assignments find you planning a site for corporate office buildings, then have you managing a large wilderness area, and next creating public parks that won't interfere with the natural environment?"