FAQ - ARCH

Q - Will Pennsylvania accept a "buff" file from NCARB?

A - No.

Q - Can I be licensed without an NAAB degree?

A - No.

Q - Can I be licensed without IDP?

A - No.

Q - Do I need an architect to prepare drawings for my house?

A - The Architect Licensure Law does not prohibit the preparation of any drawings or other design documents for detached one-family or two-family dwellings not more than three stories in height and their accessory structures.

Q - Does Pennsylvania require registration of architectural firms?

A - Yes.

Q - Does Pennsylvania allow "design-build" entities?

A - Yes, if it is a project delivery method whereby a design-build entity signs a single contract to provide a combination of architectural and construction services with an architectural firm authorized to practice architecture in Pennsylvania independently contracts with a design-build entity and is responsible for all material aspects of the practice of architecture AND at the time a design-build entity offers a written design-build proposal for a specific project, the design-build entity shall give a written disclosure to the client stating an architect will be engaged by and will be contractually responsible to the design-build entity offering design-build services and will not be responsible to the client AND the design-build entity shall agree that the architect will have direct supervision of the architectural work AND the contract between the design-build entity and the client shall set forth the name of the architectural firm which will be contractually responsible to the design-build entity for providing architectural services.

Q. Does Pennsylvania accept reciprocal applications?

A. In most cases. If NCARB certified, contact NCARB. If not NCARB certified, NAAB degree is required if licensed after July 1, 1989 and IDP is required if licensed after June 1992.