

Examination for Architects in Canada/L'Examen des architectes du Canada (ExAC)

INTERN ARCHITECTS ARE ASKING QUESTIONS

DO NOT LISTEN TO RUMOURS - Get the right answers

During the past few weeks, the OAA has been receiving numerous calls about “the rumours” regarding the new Canadian examination and the ARE. There are still a lot of details that will continue to be developed regarding the examination including reciprocity, costs, etc. With many of the issues still under discussion, answers can be given that are correct for today, but these may change. We realize this may be frustrating for Interns who are trying to plan their futures, so as soon as new information is available, we will continue to update Interns and OAA Members on the program’s development.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q. Will I be given credit for any ARE divisions that I have completed, if I switch to the ExAC?

A: No, not at this time.

This is currently being reviewed by the AAA, OAA, and OAAQ. Information about potential equivalencies will be shared as soon as the assessment is complete. At this time, it is uncertain whether equivalencies can be reached because of the vast differences between the ExAC and the ARE.

Q: If I have started to write the ARE, or if I am about to begin, should I continue or wait for the ExAC?

A: You have two options to consider:

You may choose to continue to write the ARE or you may choose to wait to write the ExAC.

At the present time the AAA, OAA and OAAQ will continue to recognize the ARE as meeting the examination criteria for licensure. If you have successfully completed at least one ARE 3.1 division by May 2008 you will have until June 2009 to complete writing the ARE 3.1. If you have not successfully completed any division of the ARE 3.1 by May 2008 you will be automatically transferred into the new ARE 4.0. [Click here](#) for detailed information regarding changes to the ARE.

Your first opportunity to write the ExAC will be late June 2008, or you can wait for a subsequent annual opportunity.

Current Comparison

	<i>Write the ExAC?</i>	<i>Write the ARE?</i>
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<i>Exam Knowledge</i>	<i>Practical: Canadian Practice based</i>	<i>Theoretical: Architectural School knowledge</i>
<i>Eligibility - experience</i>	<i>Experience required (# of hours to be determined)</i>	<i>No experience required</i>
<i>Date and Time</i>	<i>Begin late June 2008, or wait until 2009 (one annual opportunity)</i> <i>Offered once a year on 2 consecutive days</i>	<i>You may start taking the ARE at any time</i> <i>(once you have received your authorization to test from US test consultants)</i>
<i>Location</i>	<i>Locations to be determined</i>	<i>Test Centres across Canada and the US</i>
<i>Exam Sections</i>	<i>Four sections</i> <i>All sections of the exam to be taken in two consecutive days in a morning and afternoon sessions</i>	<i>ARE 3.1 – 9 divisions (available until 06/ 09)</i> <i>ARE 4.0 – 7 divisions</i> <i>For more details on changes to the ARE click here</i>
<i>Type of Exam</i>	<i>Pencil and paper</i>	<i>Computer administered</i>
<i>Cost</i>	<i>Are being determined</i>	<i>For ARE cost information click here</i>
<i>Languages</i>	<i>English/French</i>	<i>English/French until June 2008</i> <i>English only after June 2008</i>
<i>Successful Completion</i>	<i>Eligible to apply for Licence in Ontario, Alberta and Quebec*</i>	<i>Eligible to apply for Licence in Canada and the USA</i>

Information as of November 8, 2007

Items currently under discussion:

***Canadian Reciprocity**

Discussions are underway with all Canadian Regulatory bodies in an effort to see the ExAC implemented Canada-wide so that reciprocity across all Canadian provinces and territory is maintained.

Registration/licensure in the US and US Inter-Recognition

At this time the US-based NCARB ARE continues to be required for an NCARB certificate in order to be licensed in the US.

Future plans may see the Canadian jurisdictions renegotiating the terms of the US Inter-Recognition Agreement (which defines the terms of registration for architects from the US coming to Canada and Canadian architects going to the US) to include the Canadian examination.

If a decision is reached in the future to no longer accept the ARE, adequate notice

will be given to Interns, and others who may be affected, in order to allow individuals to make the decisions necessary to continue towards licensure.

Q: If I have successfully completed the NCARB examinations will I have to write the ExAC to be licensed in Canada?

A: No, not at this time.

This is an important question. It is on the priority list for future consideration by the three provincial regulatory bodies.