



WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

KRIS WARNER

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION

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Office of West Virginia
Secretary Of State

NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

AGENCY: Architects

TITLE-SERIES: 2-03

RULE TYPE: Legislative Amendment to Existing Rule: Yes Repeal of existing rule: No

RULE NAME: Fees for Registration of Architects

CITE STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 30-1-3

COMMENTS LIMITED TO:

Written

DATE OF PUBLIC HEARING:

LOCATION OF PUBLIC HEARING:

DATE WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD ENDS: 07/12/2025 1:00 PM

COMMENTS MAY BE MAILED OR EMAILED TO:

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PLEASE INDICATE IF THIS FILING INCLUDES:

RELEVANT FEDERAL STATUTES OR REGULATIONS: No

(IF YES, PLEASE UPLOAD IN THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FIELD)

INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE: No

(IF YES, PLEASE UPLOAD IN THE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FIELD)

PROVIDE A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE CONTENT OF THE RULE:

The rule outlines all the fees charged by the West Virginia Board of Architects for registration in the state.

SUMMARIZE IN A CLEAR AND CONCISE MANNER CONTENTS OF CHANGES IN THE RULE AND A STATEMENT OF CIRCUMSTANCES REQUIRING THE RULE:

The Board is modernizing a fee rule with the removal of one word. The former rule anticipated that reciprocal candidates for an architectural registration would come from outside of the state. This is no longer the case with a very mobile workforce.

SUMMARIZE IN A CLEAR AND CONCISE MANNER THE OVERALL ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED RULE:

A. ECONOMIC IMPACT ON REVENUES OF STATE GOVERNMENT:

None. No fee is being changed. The same fees will be charged. The board is not appropriated funds.

B. ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNTS:

No fee changes are being made. The reciprocal fee will remain the same. The board is funded by its licensing fees.

C. ECONOMIC IMPACT OF THE RULE ON THE STATE OR ITS RESIDENTS:

Fees for reciprocal registration will be the same for in-state or out of state residents unless they qualify for a military or low-income individual waiver of fee for initial licensing.

D. FISCAL NOTE DETAIL:

Effect of Proposal	Fiscal Year		
	2025 Increase/Decrease (use "-")	2026 Increase/Decrease (use "-")	Fiscal Year (Upon Full Implementation)
1. Estimated Total Cost	\$0.00		
Personal Services			
Current Expenses			
Repairs and Alterations			
Assets			
Other			
2. Estimated Total Revenues			

E. EXPLANATION OF ABOVE ESTIMATES (INCLUDING LONG-RANGE EFFECT):

We anticipate that we'll continue to receive similar revenue since the fees are not being changed. I have listed revenue from licensing fees for the last two fiscal years. Most of the revenue arrives in June, so the FY2025 actual should be similar to other years by June 30th.

BY CHOOSING 'YES', I ATTEST THAT THE PREVIOUS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

Yes

Emily B Papadopoulos -- By my signature, I certify that I am the person authorized to file legislative rules, in accordance with West Virginia Code §29A-3-11 and §39A-3-2.

**TITLE 2
LEGISLATIVE RULE
BOARD OF ARCHITECTS**

**SERIES 3
FEES FOR REGISTRATION OF ARCHITECTS**

§2-3-1. General.

1.1. Scope. -- This rule sets fees related to the registration of architects as provided in W. Va. Code §§3-1-6 and 30-12-1, et seq.

1.2. Authority. -- W. Va. Code §30-1-6.

1.3. Filing Date. -- ~~April 30, 2025.~~

1.4. Effective Date. -- ~~April 30, 2025.~~

1.5 Sunset Date. - - This rule shall terminate and have no further force and effect on August 1, 2030.

§2-3-2. Definitions.

2.1. Terms defined in W. Va. Code §30-12-2 have the same meanings when used in this rule unless the context or subject matter clearly requires a different interpretation.

2.2. Terms defined in “Title 2 Legislative Rule Board of Architects – Series 1 – Registration of Architect” have the same meanings when used in this rule unless the context or subject matter clearly requires a different interpretation.

2.3 As used in this rule, the following terms have the following meanings unless context or subject matter requires a different interpretation:

2.3.1. Initial – means obtaining a license for the practice of architecture in West Virginia for the first time.

2.3.2. Low income individuals – individuals in the local labor market as defined in W.Va. Code §21-1C-2 of this code whose household adjusted gross income is below 130 percent of the federal poverty line. This term also includes any person enrolled in a state or federal public assistance program including, but not limited to, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program, Medicaid, or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

2.3.2. Military Families – any person who serves as an active member of the armed forces in the United States, the National Guard, or a reserve component as described in 38 U.S.C. §101, honorably discharged veterans of those forces, and their spouses. This term also includes surviving spouses of deceased service members who have not remarried.

§2-3-3. Fees.

3.1. The applicant shall pay with his or her application for registration or reciprocal registration a non-refundable filing fee in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) unless the applicant's request for a waiver of the fee is accepted by the Board pursuant to sections 3.9 or 3.10.

3.2. The applicant shall pay directly to NCARB or its designee all fees related to the cost of the A.R.E. or any division of the A.R.E.

3.3. The applicant for registration or reciprocal registration shall pay the Board fifty dollars (\$50.00) for a printed certification evidencing registration as an architect unless the applicant's request for a waiver of the fee is accepted by the Board pursuant to sections 3.9 or 3.10.

3.4. The applicant shall pay a fee to the Board of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) for the annual renewal of a certificate of registration. An initial certificate of registration expires on June 30th of the year following initial registration, and annual renewals expire on June 30th of each year thereafter.

3.5. The ~~nonresident~~ applicant for reciprocal registration shall pay to the Board, in addition to the filing fee accompanying the application and the fee for the printed certification, two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) for registration unless the applicant's request for a waiver of the fee is accepted by the Board pursuant to section 3.9 or 3.10.

3.6. The applicant shall pay to the Board for the renewal of an inactive certificate of registration one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00), if the inactive certificate of registration is renewed within six months (6) after the renewal date.

3.7. The applicant shall pay to the Board for reinstatement of an inactive certificate of registration two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00), if the inactive certificate of registration is reinstated more than twelve (12) months but not exceeding five years after the renewal date.

3.8. Architects registered in West Virginia who seek a verification of certification for other jurisdictions shall pay to the Board twenty-five (\$25.00) for a verification of certification.

3.9. Low-income individuals, as defined in this rule, may seek a waiver of the initial fees set forth in Sections 3.1, 3.3, and 3.5 for registration as an architect in accordance with W.Va.Code §30-1-23. Waiver requests must be submitted at the time of the application for registration on a form prescribed by the Board and must include all verification documents required by the Board. The Board shall process the request within 30 days.

3.10. Military families, as defined in this rule, may seek a waiver of the initial fees set forth in Sections 3.1, 3.3, and 3.5 for registration as an architect in accordance with W.Va.Code §30-1-23. Waiver requests must be submitted at the time of the application for registration on a form prescribed by the Board and must include all verification documents required by the Board. The Board shall process the request within 30 days.