

Landscape Architect New Legislation Questions & Answers

What does the new law do?

Here's a general summary of the changes effective 7/1/10:

- The law changes from regulating only the use of the title “landscape architect” and the use of the terms “landscape architecture” and “landscape architectural” to **regulating the practice** of landscape architecture as well.
- Candidates for licensure will be able to call themselves **intern landscape architects** while working under the direct supervision of a licensed LA after graduating from an accredited degree program.
- The **board name changes** to the Board of Licensure for Landscape Architects.
- The **licensing requirements will be slightly different**. The Board will clarify the changes in rule.
- Licensees will be able to place their license in **inactive status** for up to five years with no penalty.
- The new legislation **adds a continuing education requirement** for licensees. The Board will develop rules establishing a continuing education program in the near future.
- Newly licensed landscape architects will use the language “**Licensed Landscape Architect**” **on their stamp**. Current licensees can choose to update their stamps.
- **Increased fees** for licensing applications and renewals.

Why are our fees increasing?

Regulating the practice of a profession instead of simply the title use requires more Board and staff time. The Board anticipates increased workload for reviewing disciplinary cases, developing and administering the continuing education component, and rule writing.

Who sets the fees?

The Director of the Department of Licensing sets the fees and will be proposing the following:

	Proposed Fee	Former fee
Application fee	\$250	\$50
Reciprocity application fee	\$450	\$200
Initial registration	\$450	\$200
Renewal	\$450	\$200
Late renewal w/penalty	\$600	\$300
Duplicate license	\$25	\$25
Replacement wall certificate	\$20	\$20

How does the change to a practice act impact me as a licensee?

It doesn't. As a licensee, the professional landscape architecture work you do was already regulated. However, the law will require non-licensees who were practicing landscape architecture without using the title to either change their activity or obtain a license.

What will be the continuing education requirements?

The Board hasn't determined the requirements yet, but will develop them over the next year.

How will I report my continuing education?

The details haven't been determined, but it is likely you will report your continuing education with your license renewal every two years.

What is the timeline for these changes?

The fees will increase in the next few months to provide funding for the other changes. The other changes will be effective July 1, 2010.

How do I find out more information?

Visit the landscape architect website

<http://www.dol.wa.gov/business/landscapearchitects/index.html> for updates, or contact the board staff at landscape@dol.wa.gov or 360-664-1497.