1. **Create Record on NCARB.org:**
   - Provide high school graduation date
   - Record application: $100

2. **Document Eligible Experience (Reference AXP Guidelines):**
   - Experience type and setting must be eligible per the AXP
   - (Architectural Experience Program) Guidelines
   - Documented experience must be approved by mentor or supervisor as defined by the guidelines

3. **Maintain Record:**
   - Visit NCARB Getting Started
   - Annual Renewal Fee: $85
   - Maintain NCARB participation and keep your record active

**1. Earn a Professional Degree from a NAAB-Accredited Degree Program:**
   - Check education guidelines for nationally eligible degree programs
   - Complete a NAAB-accredited degree program

**Non-Traditional Education**

1. **Don’t Have a Degree** from a NAAB-accredited degree program?
   - Combine work experience and/or other types of educational experience to fulfill the CAB 5 yr. experience requirement. See:
     - CAB Equivalent Experience List

2. **If Seeking Reciprocity**, be sure to conform to other jurisdictions’ requirements
   - Review NCARB Registration Board for requirements

**Exam: ARE Exams**

1. **Establish Exam Eligibility with the California Architects Board (CAB):**
   - Complete application for eligibility evaluation
   - Enrollment in AXP and proof of five (5) years of experience or the equivalent (NAAB accredited degree)
   - $100 application fee
   - Employment Verification Form and/or school transcripts
   - Send request for testing through My NCARB: CAB will set eligibility information via My Examination

2. Decide whether to continue with ARE 4.0 or transition to ARE 5.0
   - With ARE 5.0 launching November 1, 2016, transitioning from ARE 4.0 to ARE 5.0 isn’t a one-size-fits-all option

**Pros and Cons: ARE 4.0**

**Pros:**
- Familiarity with testing format if exams have already been taken
- 3rd party study material is readily available and tailored to the ARE 4.0 structure
- Local AIA components have resources and support generated for the ARE 4.0 structure

**Cons:**
- ARE 4.0 testing format can be difficult – especially the vignette software
- ARE 4.0 is seven (7) exams
- ARE 4.0 no longer available after June 30, 2018.

**ARE 5.0**

**Pros:**
- ARE 5.0 testing format follows the logical progression of a real life project with easier to use question types and the addition of case studies
- If candidates have eligibilities and have passed CDS and PPP under ARE 4.0, they are positioned to transition strategically and take less divisions overall. Also pass SPD and take even one less division in ARE 5.0.

**Cons:**
- 3rd party study material has not been released at this time
- Local AIA components resources and support may be harder to come by for at least a year
- Testing content and structure is relatively unknown at this time

**Exam: CSE Exam**

1. **Call NCARB** and request transmittal to CAB
2. **A CSE Application** will be mailed to the candidate by CAB once all requirements are met
3. **Take the CSE Exam**
4. **Complete the CAB Application for Licensure**
   - Verify CAB CSE Eligibility
   - Apply for NCARB Certification

More Information and Support:
Visit www.aep.asiac.org/mentoring

Contact a Licensing Advisor: Leanna Libourel, AIA or Amanda Green, Assoc. AIA

AIA California Council