

# Architecture Columns

Newsletter of the  
North Carolina  
Board of Architecture  
February 13, 2013

special edition



This edition of Architecture Columns is written especially for individuals who are about to begin taking the Architectural Registration Exam or who are currently in the process of taking the exam. Architects are urged to pass this on to interns, candidates and those they mentor within their firm. Testing eligibility, scheduling of exams, receipt of scores, and potentially licensure will be effected by events discussed in this newsletter. If you have any questions about this information please email the Board staff at [ncba@ncbarch.org](mailto:ncba@ncbarch.org)

## 2013 ARE Blackout: Begins July 1, 2013

As announced in September 2011, Alpine Testing Solutions, Inc. will take over content and candidate management for the ARE, and Prometric will continue to be the Council's site management consultant beginning 1 July 2013.

In order to facilitate the migration of data to the new consultant, there will be an **estimated eight-week blackout** for candidates. This means:

- No exam appointments may be scheduled for on or after 1 July 2013 until the blackout ends in late-August 2013.
- There will be no exams administered beginning 1 July 2013 until the blackout ends.
- The last day to take an exam before the blackout will be 30 June 2013.
- The last batch of exams taken on or before 30 June 2013 will be scored by Prometric prior to the data migration to the new consultant.
- The last day to contact Prometric to receive authorization to test or candidate ID numbers will be 30 June 2013. Staff at the Board office will not have access to the candidate database during the blackout so it will not be able to enter or create exam eligibilities or update your name or address information during this time.

There will be no changes to exam content post-blackout.

However, the process to schedule an exam appointment and receive score reports will be different.

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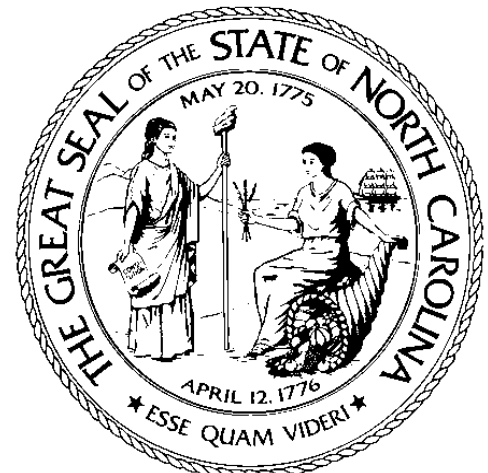
Cathe M. Evans	Executive Director
Julie L. Piatek	Director of Administration
Tyler Barrick	Firm/CE Compliance

### 2013 Meeting Dates

April 12, 2013  
May 10, 2013  
July 12, 2013

127 W. Hargett Street  
Suite 304  
Raleigh, NC 27614  
919-733-9544  
[ncba@ncbarch.org](mailto:ncba@ncbarch.org)  
[www.ncbarch.org](http://www.ncbarch.org)

All Board meetings are open to the public.



# Planning for the Blackout

In spring 2013, NCARB will have several resources available to introduce the new processes for the ARE. In the meantime, here are some things you should do over the next several months:

- \* Review your ARE plan and see if it will be affected by an eight-week blackout. If you don't have an "ARE Plan" - MAKE ONE ASAP!
- \* Find your candidate ID and authorization to test numbers. Both are available on your past ARE score reports. If you can't find a past score report, you will need to ask the Board staff prior to 30 June 2013 to compile this information. This information may be required to gain access to your exam information in My NCARB.
- \* Make sure your NCARB Record is active. An NCARB Record has been required for newly eligible candidates to take the ARE since May 2008. Post-blackout, you will only be able to schedule ARE appointments through your NCARB Record. In addition, all future score reports will be distributed electronically in your Record.
- \* For all candidates, NCARB will grant an automatic **12-week extension** to the rolling clock post-blackout. The NC Board of Architecture will honor this extension. However, it is noted that no other extensions will be permitted.

## Random FACT...

You can follow the Board of Architecture on FaceBook and Twitter. Go to [www.ncbarch.org](http://www.ncbarch.org) and click on the link.

## Reminder: NCARB ARE Policy Changes

### Authorization to Test Policy Change

As of 1 January 2011, **exam candidates must take a division of the ARE (pass or fail) once every five years** to keep their Authorization to Test (ATT) valid.

Authorization will not become inactive if the applicant tests and fails; it will only become inactive if the applicant does not take at least one division every five years. Candidates whose authorizations have become inactive will need to establish new eligibilities under the then current procedures of their registration boards.

### ARE Divisions Passed Prior to 2006 as set forth by NCARB

When the NCARB ARE Rolling Clock was implemented on 1 January 2006, all exam divisions passed prior to 1 January 2006 were exempt from the rolling clock. In June 2009, NCARB's Member Boards voted to have all exempt divisions expire on **1 July 2014** if the candidate hasn't passed all divisions of the ARE.

If you have divisions that are currently exempt because you passed them prior to 1 January 2006, you will need to complete all divisions of the ARE by 1 July 2014 to prevent them from being affected by this policy. If you do not pass all divisions by 1 July 2014, be advised you may be further impacted by the transition to ARE 4.0 and have additional divisions to pass.

The NC Board of Architecture Rules regarding Exam Score Retention are as follows:

### 21 NCAC 02 .0302 EXAMINATION

(b) Retention of credit for purposes of licensure by examination in North Carolina.

- (1) Passing scores received after July 1, 2006 on any part of the ARE remain valid for a period of time established by the exam provider, NCARB.
- (2) As of July 1, 2011, passing scores received on any part of the ARE prior to July 1, 1996 are invalid.
- (3) As of July 1, 2014, passing scores received on any part of the ARE after July 1, 1996 and prior to July 1, 2006 are invalid.