



## CHAPTER ADVOCACY UPDATE 1.14.25

### **Re: Update regarding Rulemaking for the Landscape Architecture Registration Act and Continuing Education requirements**

Fellow ILASLA Members and Advocates,

ILASLA and ASLA have been in coordination with the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) regarding proposed amendments / rulemaking relevant to the Landscape Architecture Registration Act since it was reinstated. After a long delay, the Governor's office approved the proposed rules in December which have since been published in the December 27<sup>th</sup> Illinois Register. We are presently within the First Notice/Public Comment period for the proposed rulemaking through to Feb. 10, 2025. If you would like to review the proposed amendments / rulemaking in full, here is a link to [the December 27, 2024 Illinois Register](#):

The proposed amendments / rules relevant to the Landscape Architecture Registration Act are on pages 7-22 of 336. Language specific to Continuing Education (CE) is on pages 15-20.

All Illinois registered landscape architects should note that the CE requirement is applicable to the upcoming August 2025 renewal period. This is in alignment with the previous letters sent to ILASLA members over the past two years.

As a reminder, and as spelled out in the proposed amendments / rulemaking noted above, every applicant for renewal of landscape architect registration shall complete 24 hours of continuing education ("CE") relevant to landscape architecture. A minimum of 16 core hours are required, which must be relevant to safeguarding public health, safety, and welfare ("HSW"). The 16 hours shall include (1) a minimum of one-hour of sexual harassment prevention training and (2) a minimum of one-hour programs, courses, or activities in the area of professional conduct and/or ethics (see link at the end of the letter). The remaining 8 CE hours are elective.

The Division may conduct random audits to verify compliance. Failure to comply may result in non-renewal of the landscape architect's registration, other disciplinary action, or both.

It is the responsibility of the registrant to maintain a record of CE for six years that includes:

- 1) The name and address of the sponsor or provider, the number of hours attended in each program, the date and place of the program, and a certificate of attendance; or

2) A log of activities that includes the date and number of hours claimed as CE, a brief statement of the subject matter, printed program schedules, registration receipts, or other proof of participation.

Landscape Architects who initially registered within this current biennial renewal window (9/1/23 – 8/31/25) are not required to report CE hours during this period but will be subject to the CE requirements for all subsequent biennial renewal periods.

For additional details – please refer to the full text of pages 15-20 via the link provided above. If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback to be relayed back to the IDFPR please let us know. There is also the option for persons who wish to comment on this proposed rulemaking to submit written comments before February 10th to:

Department of Financial and Professional Regulation  
Attention: Craig Cellini  
320 West Washington, 2nd Floor  
Springfield, IL 62786  
(217) 785-0810  
Fax: (217) 557-4451  
[Craig.Cellini@illinois.gov](mailto:Craig.Cellini@illinois.gov)

It is also worthwhile to note that IDFPR will be increasing their fees for renewal, registration, etc. The fee increases are to address solvency issues as fees have not been addressed by the Department in over 20 years. All design professions will be seeing the same fee increases for sake of consistency and by recommend the Department's fiscal office. IDFPR will send a formal update regarding fee increases upon final approval of the rulemaking.

Sincerely,

Stacey Libra, President, [president@il-asla.org](mailto:president@il-asla.org)  
Susan Ragaishis, Executive Director, [susan@il-asla.org](mailto:susan@il-asla.org)  
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Additional Letters to Members regarding the Title and Practice Acts, including a link to the Act, are [here](#)

A minimum of one-hour programs, courses, or activities in the area of professional conduct and/or ethics are required to meet CE requirements. ASLA has provided ethics courses through ISDM. LA CES approved courses in ethics [can be found here](#).