

Advisory
Use of Titles “Architect” and “Architectural Designer” and Similar Terms
and
Signing Contracts for Architectural Services

November 21, 2022

The Massachusetts Board of Registration of Architects (“Board”) reminds the public that the titles “architect,” “registered architect” and “architectural designer” are subject to the following rules:

1. No person shall use the title “architect,” “registered architect” or “architectural designer” in Massachusetts unless they first obtain a license as an architect from the Board, **except:**
 - a) Individuals who are licensed as architects by other states and hold a certificate of qualification from NCARB (National Council of Architecture Registration Boards) may use the above titles and offer to practice architecture in Massachusetts only if their public materials note the state or country in which they are licensed, but they **may not perform** architectural services in Massachusetts unless and until they are licensed by the Board.
 - b) Individuals may use the title “Intern-Architect” if they are enrolled, active, and in good standing in the NCARB Architectural Experience Program (AXP), formerly known as the Intern-Architect Development Program (IDP).

Mass. Gen. L. c. 112, § 60K, Mass. Gen. L. c. 112, § 60L(9); 231 Code Mass. Regs. 4.03(1).

2. The Board also reminds corporations and partnerships that their contracts to perform architectural services must be signed by a licensed architect who is a corporate officer or partner who exercises supervisory control over the services covered by the contract. Mass. Gen. L. c. 112, § 60L(8); 231 Code Mass. Regs. 4.03, 4.04.

Contact the Board with any questions.