

INSPECTIONS, APPEALS, AND LICENSING DEPARTMENT[481]

Regulatory Analysis

Notice of Intended Action to be published: rule 481—1062.1(544A,17A)
“Licensing”

Iowa Code section(s) or chapter(s) authorizing rulemaking: 544A.29 and 272C
State or federal law(s) implemented by the rulemaking: Iowa Code chapters 544A and 272C

Public Hearing

A public hearing at which persons may present their views orally or in writing will be held as follows:

November 3, 2026
4 p.m.

6200 Park Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written or oral comments concerning this Regulatory Analysis, which must be received by the Architectural Examining Board no later than 4:30 p.m. on the date of the public hearing. Comments should be directed to:

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6200 Park Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa
Phone: 515.725.9030
Email: lori.schraderbachar@dia.iowa.gov

Purpose and Summary

This proposed rulemaking updates a publication date for guidelines incorporated by reference.

Analysis of Impact

1. Persons affected by the proposed rulemaking:

- **Classes of persons that will bear the costs of the proposed rulemaking:**

There are no anticipated costs related to this proposed rulemaking other than the costs already incurred by the Board to enforce the rules. Licensed architects will not incur any additional costs other than the cost of licensing.

- **Classes of persons that will benefit from the proposed rulemaking:**

This proposed rulemaking provides clarity for licensure candidates and architects as to the correct version of referenced guidelines.

2. Impact of the proposed rulemaking, economic or otherwise, including the nature and amount of all the different kinds of costs that would be incurred:

- **Quantitative description of impact:**

Members of the public would incur no costs other than fees paid to an architect or architectural firm for projects that are not exempt. The costs vary depending on the size and complexity of the project. Changed guidelines are available online.

- **Qualitative description of impact:**

The Board believes that the benefits achieved justify the costs because this proposed rulemaking provides clarity with regard to referenced publications.

3. Costs to the State:

- **Implementation and enforcement costs borne by the agency or any other agency:**

Costs to the agency are for the staff time needed to manage Board activities, which include oversight of practice standards and requirements. Staff salaries to support the work of the Board are covered by the Licensing and Regulation Fund established in 2023 Iowa Acts, Senate File 557.

- **Anticipated effect on State revenues:**

This proposed rulemaking has no anticipated impact on State revenues. Staff salaries to support the work of the Board are covered by the fund.

4. Comparison of the costs and benefits of the proposed rulemaking to the costs and benefits of inaction:

The Board believes the cost and benefit are worth establishing requirements for architectural licensure to ensure public safety.

5. Determination whether less costly methods or less intrusive methods exist for achieving the purpose of the proposed rulemaking:

The Board does not believe there is a less costly or less intrusive method to achieve the purpose of this proposed rulemaking.

6. Alternative methods considered by the agency:

- **Description of any alternative methods that were seriously considered by the agency:**

The Board has not identified any alternative methods to carry out this proposed rulemaking.

- **Reasons why alternative methods were rejected in favor of the proposed rulemaking:**

The Board has not identified any alternative methods to carry out this proposed rulemaking.

Small Business Impact

If the rulemaking will have a substantial impact on small business, include a discussion of whether it would be feasible and practicable to do any of the following to reduce the impact of the rulemaking on small business:

- Establish less stringent compliance or reporting requirements in the rulemaking for small business.

- Establish less stringent schedules or deadlines in the rulemaking for compliance or reporting requirements for small business.

- Consolidate or simplify the rulemaking's compliance or reporting requirements for small business.

- Establish performance standards to replace design or operational standards in the rulemaking for small business.

- Exempt small business from any or all requirements of the rulemaking.

If legal and feasible, how does the rulemaking use a method discussed above to reduce the substantial impact on small business?

This proposed rulemaking relates to public safety concerns that are present whether the business is a small business or a large organization. This proposed rulemaking is meant to ensure public safety in terms of licensure for architects. While some architects likely are running a small business of their own, some also work for large organizations. To exempt a small business from adhering to this chapter would jeopardize any member of the public who sought services from that small business. The risk to the public is greater than the potential harm or cost to the small business.

Text of Proposed Rulemaking

ITEM 1. Amend rule **481—1062.1(544A,17A)**, definition of “NCARB Certification Guidelines,” as follows:

“NCARB Certification Guidelines” means the edition of a document by the same title published by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards in ~~January~~ September 2026. The document outlines the requirements for licensure as an architect.