

STATEMENT OF SCOPE

Examining Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers, Professional Land Surveyors and Registered Interior Designers

Rule No.: A-E 3 and 12

Relating to: Architects Continuing Education Requirements

Rule Type: Permanent

1. Finding/nature of emergency (Emergency Rule only): N/A

2. Detailed description of the objective of the proposed rule:

The objective of the proposed rule is to discuss and consider adding new material to subject matter required as part of continuing education for registered architects, which may include revisions to chs. A-E 3 and 12.

3. Description of the existing policies relevant to the rule, new policies proposed to be included in the rule, and an analysis of policy alternatives:

Chapter A-E 3, Wis. Admin. Code, contains requirements for initial registration of architects in Wisconsin. Chapter A-E 12 contains requirements for continuing education for architects. Under A-E 12, architects' continuing education is generally required to be educational activities designed to advance the professional skills and knowledge of a registrant in the practice of architecture for the improvement of public health, safety and welfare. At least 24 contact hours of continuing education are required each biennium. Currently, the only specific subject matter requirement is that at least 16 of the 24 hours must be on health, safety and welfare topics. These are defined as technical or professional subjects that safeguard the public's health, safety and welfare including building design, landscape design, environmental or land use analysis, life safety, and other listed topics.

The Architects Section and A-E Examining Board would like to discuss and consider updating the requirements for continuing education. One topic they would like to consider is ethics training for architects.

The alternative is not to implement this scope statement and not to have the discussion and consider rule changes. This would not allow the board to update the code for the purpose of improving public health, safety and welfare affected by the architecture industry and to maintain a high standard of ethics in the industry.

4. Detailed explanation of statutory authority for the rule (including the statutory citation and language):

Section 15.08 (5) (b), Stats., provides that an examining board "[s]hall promulgate rules for its own guidance and for the guidance of the trade or profession to which it pertains, and define and enforce professional conduct and unethical practices not inconsistent with the law relating to the particular trade or profession."

Section 227.11 (2) (a), Stats., provides that "[e]ach agency may promulgate rules interpreting the provisions of any statute enforced or administered by the agency, if the agency considers it necessary to effectuate the purpose of the statute, but a rule is not valid if the rule exceeds the bounds of correct interpretation."

Section 443.015 (1), Stats., provides that "[e]ach section of the examining board may establish continuing education requirements for renewal of a credential issued by that section under this chapter."

5. Estimate of amount of time that state employees will spend developing the rule and of other resources necessary to develop the rule:

80 hours.

6. List with description of all entities that may be affected by the proposed rule:

Registered architects in Wisconsin and providers of continuing education for architects.

7. Summary and preliminary comparison with any existing or proposed federal regulation that is intended to address the activities to be regulated by the proposed rule:

None.

8. Anticipated economic impact of implementing the rule (note if the rule is likely to have a significant economic impact on small businesses):

The proposed rule is likely to have minimal to no economic impact on small businesses and the state's economy as a whole.

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Approved for publication:

Approved for implementation:

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