

Handout 1 for Agenda Item J
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
TITLE 16. CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD

PROPOSED REGULATORY LANGUAGE
Zero Net Carbon Continuing Education

Proposed amendments to the regulatory language are shown in single underline for new text and ~~single strikethrough~~ for deleted text.

Adopt Section 166 of Article 10 of Division 2 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations to read as follows:

Article 10. Continuing Education

§ 166. Continuing education coursework in zero net carbon design requirement.

(a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) “Trainers or educators with knowledge and expertise in zero net carbon design” means a person with a minimum of three projects within last ten years in the designing of carbon neutral architecture and who meets one of the three additional requirements of subsection (f).

(2) “Zero net carbon design requirement” means architectural designs including resilient designs of new construction and/or existing facilities that produces on-site, or equitably procures from offsite, enough carbon-free renewable energy to meet building operations energy consumption annually over the building project’s life-cycle.

(b) On or after January 1, 2023, as a condition of renewal, a licensee shall complete five hours of continuing education (CE) coursework on the subject of zero net carbon design that meets the criteria specified in this section during each two-year license renewal period prior to the license expiration date, or, if the license is delinquent, during the 24 months immediately preceding the date on which the licensee submits their delinquent renewal application. The board shall consider CE coursework incomplete and the licensee not in compliance with this section if, within 15 days of the board’s notice of audit and written request, the licensee does not make available to the board the proof required by this section. For the purposes of this section “proof” shall mean any of the following:

(1) a certificate of completion described in subsection (i),

(2) attendance or course completion records from the course provider as described in subsection (j), or,

(3) other records of completion that contain the information specified in Section 5600.05 of the code.

(c) All CE course topics, subject matters, and course materials shall be pertinent to the practice of architecture as defined in Section 5500.1 of the code and the provision of an architect's professional services relating to meet zero emissions performance standards, which includes training on any aspect of a building zero net carbon design project's life cycle where defined as the sum of all greenhouse gas emission sources should total zero ("zero net carbon"). totaling zero, or less, over the building project's life cycle. Examples of zero net carbon CE coursework topics or subjects may include any one or combination of the following: highly insulated energy efficient building systems envelope design, deep energy efficient retrofits of existing structures buildings, natural ventilation and daylighting, passive solar harvesting design, advanced energy efficiency strategies, renewable energy strategies, embodied carbon analysis, California Green Building Standards Code ("CALGreen" - Title 24, Part 11, of the California Code of Regulations), renewable energy systems, environmental resilience, sustainability, resilient design and climate justice, electric lighting and daylight design, energy targets for new and renovated buildings, and current energy standards in California.

(d) In addition to the requirements of subsection (c), CE courses shall meet the following requirements: (1) have curriculum that meets the educational objectives of providing training to licensees on the subject matter listed in subsection (c), (2) have subject areas or modules that are presented in a logically organized manner or sequence to participants; and (3) be presented by trainers or educators who meet the qualifications in subsection (f).

(e) A provider shall only issue a certificate of completion to a participant upon the participant successfully passing a test of the participant's knowledge and understanding of the CE coursework at the end of the period of instruction ("post-course test"). "Successfully passing" shall mean a minimum cumulative passing score of at least eighty percent (80%).

(f) A provider must use trainers or educators who have knowledge and expertise in zero net carbon building design with a minimum of three projects within the last ten years in the designing of carbon neutral and/or high-performance buildings or groups of buildings or structures and meet at least one of the following criteria:

(1) Hold a license or registration issued by a United States jurisdiction as an architect or a professional, civil, mechanical, or structural engineer with a minimum of 5 recent projects or three years of demonstrable direct experience in

the designing of carbon neutral and/or high-performance buildings or groups of buildings and structures.

(2) Have a qualifying faculty appointment at an accredited educational institution, or an educational institution approved by the Bureau for Private Postsecondary Education. To be considered “qualifying” under this subsection, faculty must be directly responsible for the teaching of carbon reduction, carbon neutral, and/or high performance or passive building topics. For the purposes of this section, “accredited” means recognition from an accrediting agency recognized by the Secretary of the United States Department of Education.

(3) Hold a current, unexpired certification from the International Code Council (“ICC”) California Certification Program as one of the following:

(A) CALGreen Inspector/Plans Examiner.

(C) California Commercial Building Inspector.

(D) California Building Plans Examiner.

(g) An architect shall not certify completion of the CE requirement of this section through self-teaching or self-directed activities. Teaching, instructing, or presenting a course on zero net carbon requirements shall not qualify as credit for fulfillment of the CE requirement of this section.

(h) A provider shall maintain for at least three years from the date of course completion records of participant attendance and course completion, including the information specified in section 5600.05(b) of the code, for each CE course participant.

(i) Within five business days from the administration of the post-course test, a provider shall issue a certificate of completion to each participant who successfully passes the test as defined in subsection (e). The certificate of completion shall include the information specified in section 5600.05(b) of the code.

(j) Upon written request by a licensee who is the subject of a CE audit, a provider shall issue within five business days of the date of the request a copy of the records specified in subsection (h). It shall be the responsibility of a licensee to obtain the records from providers if records are requested by the board and make those records available to the board. In addition, the licensee shall cooperate in the audit and investigation of the licensee’s compliance with this section, including taking all steps required by the CE provider to authorize the release of information to the Board, including signing any authorization or consent to release the licensee’s records of completion or coursework to the Board.

(k) A licensee not in compliance with this section shall remedy any deficiency of the CE requirements of this section by completing the coursework prescribed by this section for the prior renewal period during the current renewal period, in addition to completing the CE coursework required in this section for the current renewal period. Before the end of the current renewal period, the licensee shall provide to the board proof, as described in subsection (b), that the deficiency of CE credits has been remedied as prescribed by this section.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 5526 and 5600.05, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 5560, 5578 and 5600.05, Business and Professions Code.