



WHAT EVERY STUDENT NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT IDP



Why Participate in IDP? Internships? But I'm Still in School How Do I Get Involved?

The objective of the Intern Development Program (IDP) is to **prepare interns for competent practice.**

Why Participate in IDP?

The reasons are simple. IDP can help you:

Life-long career learning begins with internship. IDP will help you become skilled in self-assessment, a tool critical to career success.

- Professionally prepare for the ARE
- Receive relevant and comprehensive preparation for the profession
- Develop skills and competencies that are valuable to a firm
- Gain credit for nontraditional work—a great way to explore careers in architecture
- Document experience and work assessments
- Benefit from the informed counsel of experienced practitioners

Internships? But I'm Still in School

Starting on your internship **before** you graduate is an excellent way to make the transition from school to the profession. Your internship can help you gain skills and increase confidence as a professional.

NCARB conditions specify that no training units may be earned prior to satisfactory completion of:

- Three years in an NAAB- or CACB-accredited professional degree program, the third year of a four-year pre-professional degree program in architecture accepted for direct entry to an NAAB- or CACB-accredited professional degree program;
- One year in an NAAB-or-CACB accredited Master of Architecture degree program for interns with undergraduate degrees in another discipline;
- 96 semester credit hours as evaluated by Education Evaluation Services for Architects (EESA) in accordance with NCARB's Education Requirement, of which no more than 60 hours can be in the general education subject area.

As a student, here is what you can gain from IDP:

- **Apply work experience** toward registration board training requirements after the third year in a B.Arch/4+2 M.Arch program, and after the first year in a 3–4 year M.Arch program.
- **Document your progress through** an IDP Council Record. This provides for periodic review of your progress, reduces the time and paperwork needed to apply for registration, becomes part of your portfolio, and documents your versatility to prospective employers.
- **Plan your work experience** using the IDP Core Competencies to map out the skills and knowledge you need to establish yourself as a competent practitioner.

How Do I get involved?

1. **Contact your school's IDP educator coordinator** (usually one of the professional practice faculty), email idp@aia.org and request an *IDP Guidelines* and an application for an NCARB Council Record.
2. **Read the IDP Guidelines thoroughly** to make sure you understand the implications of your degree. *Note: You must graduate with a B.Arch or M.Arch to qualify for the NCARB Certificate.*
3. **Contact your state registration board** and request a copy of the registration requirements. There may be state-specific requirements that affect the IDP program.
4. **Apply for your NCARB Council Record.** Students and recent graduates (up to six months from graduation) can apply for \$100 instead of paying the full fee. The balance of the fee is deferred until you are eligible to take the Architect Registration Examination (ARE).
5. **Contact a local intern who is involved in IDP to establish a relationship** while you're still in school. He or she can advise you on how to get the most from your internship, portfolio presentations, job finding skills and techniques, and on firms and wages.
6. **Attend job fairs, firm presentations, and career development lectures** sponsored by your AIAS and AIA chapters. This will help you to learn more about local firms so that you can target the ones you think you'd like to work for.