

TO: ALL SOUTH CAROLINA EXAM CANDIDATES
FROM: JAN SIMPSON, ADMINISTRATOR
DATE: JANUARY 6, 2006
RE: NEW ROLLING CLOCK

The Debut of a Uniform, National "Rolling Clock" for the ARE

In June 2004, NCARB Member Boards voted to create a "rolling clock" standard for the Architect Registration Examination (ARE). Under the terms of the rolling clock, effective January 1, 2006, candidates for the ARE must pass the nine-division exam within five years. South Carolina statutes were changed in May 2005 to implement the five-year window for all South Carolina exam candidates.

Three transitional rules, which are noted below, will guide this process.

Transitional Rules

Three basic rules will guide the implementation of the rolling clock:

- ~~///~~ For applicants who have passed all divisions of the ARE by January 1, 2006, regardless of the time taken, such applicants will have passed the ARE.
- ~~///~~ For applicants who have passed one or more but not all divisions of the ARE by January 1, 2006, such applicants will have five years to pass all remaining divisions. A passing grade for any remaining division shall be valid for five years, after which time the division must be retaken if the remaining divisions have not been passed. The five-year period shall commence after January 1, 2006, on the date when the first passed division is administered.
- ~~///~~ Divisions passed before January 1, 2006 will **not** have to be retaken.
- ~~///~~ For applicants who have passed no divisions of the ARE by January 1, 2006, such applicants shall be governed by the above five-year requirement. The five-year period shall commence on the date when the first passed division is administered.

Under current South Carolina statutes, once you are approved to take the exam, you are always *eligible* to take the exam without re-applying or meeting additional requirements.

Score Reports

Score reports will still be sent to this office. Scores will be entered into our database and sent to you. These score reports will reflect the "rolling clock date," i.e., the date on which you will lose credit for each division. It is now NCARB's responsibility to maintain records relative to the rolling clock for all exam candidates nationwide.

If you have not received a score report within approximately 4 weeks for multiple-choice divisions, or within 6 weeks for graphics divisions, please contact us.

Failing a Division

If you fail a division, you must wait six months to retake it. This is a national policy that applies to all A.R.E. candidates. Also, if you fail a division, the score reports will indicate only the general areas in which you were deficient. No other information is available. While this is frustrating to candidates, the integrity of the exam would be compromised if explicit information were released about correct/incorrect answers or about deficiencies in design solutions.

Change of Address

If you move, or if you wish to have your mail sent to another address, please contact Alice Richardson by e-mail at richardsona@LLR.sc.gov.

Contact Us

You may reach Alice Richardson, our Administrative Assistant, at 803-896-4408 or by e-mail at richardsona@LLR.sc.gov. You may reach Jan Simpson, Administrator, at 803-896-4412 or by e-mail at simpsonj@LLR.sc.gov. Please contact either of us if you have any questions or need additional information. The office mailing address is Post Office Box 11419, Columbia, SC 29211. The website address is www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/architects.