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Hi Claire,

NCARB works regularly with our psychometricians and hundreds of volunteer architects to ensure the Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®) aligns with exam best practices and current architectural practice. As part of our ongoing efforts to improve the ARE, we are implementing two updates that will go into effect on April 28, 2025:

- 1. NCARB is retiring drag-and-place item types from the exam.** NCARB strives to align with evolving testing best practices, which indicate that other item types used on the ARE assess candidates' qualifications more effectively. Beginning April 28, you should only expect to see three item types on the exam: multiple choice, check-all-that-apply, and hotspot. The format and scoring of the remaining item types will not change.
- 2. All candidates will automatically see provisional feedback at the end of their exam.** Going forward, you will not need to indicate if you would like to see provisional feedback at the end of an exam division. The provisional feedback displayed on the screen will inform you of your overall likelihood of passing or failing the division.

We've also added clarifying language to the instructions for scheduling an exam appointment with accommodations, updated the *AIA Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct* listed in the Reference Guide to the most current version, and aligned the lists of AIA Contract Documents on pages 119 and 123 to accurately reflect the content on the exam. The exam objectives covered by each division, as well as the tools and resources available to you during the exam, will otherwise remain the same. NCARB has released an [updated version of the ARE Guidelines](#) that reflects these changes, which go into effect on April 28, 2025. NCARB will update the practice exams on April 28 to reflect these exam changes.

## How This Impacts You

If you are testing between now and April 28, 2025:

- You should still anticipate encountering some drag-and-place items. NCARB's exam prep content related to drag-and-place items will remain available until April 28.
- If you would like to view provisional feedback at the end of your exam, you should follow the process outlined in the [current ARE Guidelines](#).

If you are testing on or after April 28, keep in mind that there will only be three item types on the exam (multiple choice, check-all-that-apply, and hotspot).

**NCARB Live Webinar – February 25**

answer any questions you may have. [Register to join us.](#)

## Reminder: Exam Accommodations

NCARB and PSI offer Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) exam accommodations for individuals with disabilities or temporary medical conditions—including pregnancy and nursing. [Learn how to request ADA exam accommodations.](#)

In addition, NCARB and PSI offer exam accommodations for candidates who speak or read English as a second language (ESL). [Learn how to request ESL exam accommodations.](#)

Note: All accommodations must be approved **before** you schedule an exam appointment and cannot be retroactively applied to previously scheduled appointments. [Review the ARE Guidelines to learn more about all exam accommodations.](#)

## Tips for Online Proctoring

Before taking an online-proctored exam, make sure you take the following steps for a successful test day:

1. Ensure your operating system is up-to-date and that your test environment meets all of [NCARB's and PSI's requirements.](#)
2. Schedule a free PSI test run to confirm with a proctor that your computer and testing environment meet the requirements. You can schedule this appointment through the “Exams” tab within your [NCARB Record.](#)
3. Review the [ARE Guidelines.](#)

[Learn more about setting up your space for an online-proctored exam.](#)

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