

**Department of Architectural Technology
New York City College of Technology**

Becoming a Licensed Architect

In the United States, a license to practice architecture is granted by the individual states. New York State, like the other states, require a combination of education, experience and examination. However, the states delegate some of these responsibilities to the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB). NCARB administers the Intern Development Program (IDP) and Architecture Registration Examination (ARE). The following is a summary of the requirements.

NYS Board of Architecture requires a candidate for licensure earn 12 units in a combination of education and experience. The Board classifies our BTech degree in category D which gives a maximum of five units. Therefore our graduates need a minimum of seven years of full time work experience under the supervision of a **lawfully** practicing architect (emphasis by board). Some of this work can be done in a setting related to architecture, such as an engineer's or contractor's office, government agency. Work done while a student is in school or on summer vacations generally does not count towards the years required. However, if a student takes longer than four years to complete the BTech degree, some concurrent work experience may count. This is at the discretion of the Secretary for Board of Architecture. **Any experience gained must be lawful** (emphasis by board).

If a City Tech graduate earns a MArch degree from a program accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), they earn 9 units for education (Category A) and thus need 3 years of experience. For earning a master's degree in a field related to architecture, such as urban planning, construction management, or sustainability, an additional unit is earned and therefore approximately one year less of experience is required. Degrees in other areas, such as a MBA or real estate, do not add units. Verify that the program will be accepted by New York State for additional units.

NYS Board of Architecture requires 12 units combining education and experience

Degree	Units for education	Units required for experience
BTech	Maximum 5 units	Minimum of 7 years
BArch (approved by NAAB)	Maximum 9 units	Minimum of 3 years
MArch (approved by NAAB)	Maximum 9 units	Minimum of 3 years
Other master's degree in architecturally related field	Maximum 1 unit added to original degree	Minimum of 6 years

For questions or corrections, contact Prof Barbara Mishara (BMishara@citytech.cuny.edu).