

WCARB STRATEGIC PLAN

The purpose of this Strategic Plan is to articulate the mission of WCARB so as to guide and assist the WCARB Executive Committee and its members in determining activities and priorities of the organization.

The Strategic Plan is organized around three GUIDING PRINCIPLES that are core to WCARB's mission: COLLABORATE, INFLUENCE, EDUCATE. Each principle is supported by several OBJECTIVES that break down the principle to into more specific, achievable elements. STRATEGIES that can be initiated to accomplish the Objectives are identified. Strategies should be reviewed and updated by the WCARB Executive Committee each year, and are expected to vary with interests and available resources.

Western Council of Architectural Registration Boards (WCARB)

Originally approved on 3/6/2020; Updated on 3/20/2026

1. COLLABORATE

One of WCARB's greatest strengths is its multi-faceted diversity. Sharing information and best practices among 13 jurisdictions of the region benefits all boards and members, and to better regulate architectural practice.

OBJECTIVES:

- A. Share best practices between WCARB jurisdictions.
- B. Collaborate with other regions and NCARB.
- C. Facilitate jurisdictional alignment for reciprocity.

2. INFLUENCE

WCARB is committed to being an actively involved region of NCARB for the purpose of promoting the Practice of Architecture through the licensing of qualified individuals. Encouraging service on committees, growing leadership, and communicating important regional issues will ensure that the region's perspective remains impactful.

OBJECTIVES:

- A. Encourage WCARB member service on WCARB and NCARB committees.
- B. Develop resolutions to improve WCARB and NCARB.
- C. Promote diversity at all levels.

3. EDUCATE

It is essential that WCARB members and executives stay abreast of contemporary regulatory and legal issues, and expand individual knowledge related to all aspects and lifelong learning.

OBJECTIVES:

- A. Ensure WCARB has access to quality education programs.
- B. Share information on regional regulatory and legal issues.
- C. Promote lifelong learning and service.

1. COLLABORATE

OBJECTIVES

STRATEGIES

A. SHARE BEST PRACTICES BETWEEN MEMBERS.

- Consider the diversity of WCARB to effectively collaborate among members.
- Encourage members to share issues as they develop into statutory and regulatory changes.
- Share best practices in support of licensure candidates.

- Emphasize and celebrate the diversity of WCARB.
- Encourage dialogue during WCARB meetings to discuss potential statutory and regulatory changes.
- Maintain enforcement database of significant disciplinary actions.
- Assemble a WCARB task force when critical issues occur.
- Invite members to share their practices that advance licensure.

B. COLLABORATE WITH OTHER REGIONS.

- Share WCARB issues with other region leadership.
- Learn about the issues of other regions and determine their impacts on WCARB.
- Increase communications and rapport among members of other regions so as to better participate in national issues.

- Assign WCARB members to serve as liaisons to other regions; liaisons provide feedback to the Region.
- Look for opportunities during regional gatherings to encourage dialogue between Regions.
- Invite regions to share their practices/ outreach efforts that encourage collaboration.

C. FACILITATE RECIPROCITY.

- Advocate for the elimination of impediments to reciprocity.
- Work with NCARB staff and Model Law Committee to identify efforts being made to facilitate reciprocity/comity.

- Encourage WCARB jurisdictions and NCARB to better understand the similarities and differences of licensing requirements.
- Form a study group of WCARB members to identify impediments and propose solutions.

2. INFLUENCE

OBJECTIVES

STRATEGIES

A. ENCOURAGE WCARB MEMBER SERVICE ON WCARB & NCARB COMMITTEES.

- Increase the number of WCARB members on committees.
- Communicate committee opportunities to members in multiple ways.

- Engage WCARB leadership to identify opportunities for members on national committees.
- Have WCARB leadership identify members for NCARB committees and actively assist members with applications.
- Utilize the WCARB Executive Committee as recruiters for committee positions.

B. DEVELOP RESOLUTIONS TO IMPROVE WCARB & NCARB.

- Understand and articulate the concerns of WCARB members that should be addressed through resolutions.
- Actively participate in NCARB Policy Advisory Committee.

- As needed, form a study group of WCARB members to identify resolution needs; provide feedback to WCARB Executive Committee.
- Recruit WCARB members to serve on the NCARB Policy Advisory Committee.

C. PROMOTE DIVERSITY AT ALL LEVELS.

- Using information learned from Objective 1a., review WCARB organization and activities to ensure that diversity is exemplified.
- Participate in NCARB activities to increase diversity.

- Work to ensure diversity among WCARB Executive Committee.
- Identify ways to reach out to underrepresented members within WCARB to increase inclusion.
- Work with NCARB leadership to develop specific actions to increase diversity.

3. EDUCATE

OBJECTIVES

STRATEGIES

A. HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

- Promote the delivery of educational programs that increase knowledge and effectiveness of members in their roles as regulators.
- Coordinate educational programs that are well planned, informative, and relevant to increase member involvement in WCARB.
- Advocate for educational programs that relate to health, safety and welfare.

- Facilitate educational programs at regional & annual meetings.
- Consider webinar courses for online access by members.
- Consider a database of relevant high quality speakers for member boards to access for educational offerings in their jurisdiction.

B. TRACK AND INFLUENCE LEGAL ISSUES.

- Stay abreast of NCARB legal briefs and legislative tracking of licensing issues, and share this information with WCARB members.
- Gather and share information from WCARB members regarding issues facing their jurisdictions.

- Schedule forums at regional and national meetings to gather issues and hot topics from WCARB members, then distribute the summary to members.

C. PROMOTE SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP.

- Welcome and support new members as they join WCARB so as to increase their participation and effectiveness more quickly.
- Recruit members for leadership positions by first engaging them in committee work and special projects.

- Develop new member orientations.
- Foster mentorship to new members as soon as they join WCARB.
- Encourage WCARB committee roles/responsibilities to broaden members' engagement.