

## ARE 4.0 Retires on June 30, 2018

The retirement of ARE 4.0 is less than two months away. Over the past year, NCARB's ongoing communication initiatives have included emails, postcards, social media campaigns, webinars, and more. As we enter the final months of ARE 4.0's delivery, here are some important things to share with licensure candidates.

If you have any questions or would like additional resources, please contact [communications@ncarb.org](mailto:communications@ncarb.org).



## ARE 4.0 Candidate Audiences

As of late April, over 18,500 candidates with an NCARB Record had active ARE 4.0 eligibilities. More than 16,500 candidates have either completed the ARE or transitioned to ARE 5.0 since its November 2016 launch. Over the next two months, we expect to see high testing volumes in ARE 4.0 as many candidates will be attempting one or two final divisions.

### Testing Strategically

Approximately 1,300 candidates can strategically transition to ARE 5.0 now. These candidates have passed Construction Documents & Services (CDS); Programming, Planning & Practice (PPP); and possibly Site Planning & Design (SPD) and could self-transition to ARE 5.0 today. By transitioning to ARE 5.0, these candidates could complete the exam in fewer divisions than if they stay in ARE 4.0—saving them time and money.

### Testing in ARE 4.0

There are approximately 6,350 candidates with passed ARE 4.0 divisions. These candidates should take advantage of transition resources like the calculator to determine their best path forward. For some of these candidates, it may be best if they complete the exam in ARE 4.0.

### No Passed or Scheduled Exams

Approximately 6,850 candidates with an NCARB Record have not passed or scheduled any ARE 4.0 divisions. We are encouraging these candidates to transition to ARE 5.0.

### Inactive Testers

Approximately 4,000 candidates have not tested since before 2013. If any of these candidates are interested in completing the ARE, they should call NCARB to help determine the best path forward. These candidates do not have an NCARB Record and some of them date back to the paper-and-pencil exam.

## Important Messages for ARE 4.0 Candidates



Anyone currently testing in ARE 4.0 should be aware of the following key points:

**The last day to take an ARE 4.0 division in a test center is June 30, 2018.**

Candidates who have not completed ARE 4.0 by this date will need to complete any remaining divisions in ARE 5.0 to satisfy the examination requirement for licensure.

**Now is the time to SCHEDULE ANY REMAINING DIVISIONS in ARE 4.0.**

Testing appointments are filling up fast for May and June. Any candidate who wants to take an ARE 4.0 division between now and June 30 should SCHEDULE THAT APPOINTMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

**NCARB has resources to help candidates test strategically.**

There are several resources available on [NCARB.org](http://NCARB.org) to help candidates make their plan. NCARB's Customer Relations team is also available to help candidates understand their individual testing options.

**The rolling clock will not change if you transition to ARE 5.0.**

Candidates must still complete the test within five years of their first pass—whether through ARE 4.0, ARE 5.0, or a combination of both. Expiring ARE 4.0 divisions could impact the credits received in ARE 5.0 when transitioning.

**The ARE retake policy will remain the same. Candidates must wait 60 days before they can retake a division of the ARE, and can only take a division three times within 12 months.**

If a candidate has already attempted a division of ARE 4.0 three times since June 30, 2017, they will not be able to test on that division again. Also, since we are now so close to the retirement of ARE 4.0, any division taken and failed on or after May 1 cannot be retested.

## Communications Effort

Here is a high-level breakdown of NCARB's plan to remind candidates about the ARE 4.0's retirement:

### Fall 2017

- In September, NCARB mailed a postcard to all ARE 4.0 candidates reminding them about the 2018 retirement date.
- Targeted emails to the different ARE 4.0 candidate audiences were sent in October encouraging candidates to make their plan to finish the exam.
- NCARB hosted an [NCARB Live](#) webinar in November to answer candidate questions.
- NCARB held a contest on Twitter, encouraging candidates to transition to ARE 5.0 and reminding them of the upcoming retirement.
- Reminders for supervisors and NCARB Certificate holders who may have ARE 4.0 candidates were included in National Architect and Supervisor Updates.
- NCARB sent an email and letter to candidates testing in Puerto Rico informing them of a six-month extension to any Rolling Clock dates due to the aftermath of the 2017 hurricanes. Candidates testing in Puerto Rico will still be unable to test in ARE 4.0 after June 30, 2018.

### Winter 2018

- A second postcard was mailed in January to candidates still testing in ARE 4.0 reminding them of the deadline to finish the exam or transition to ARE 5.0.
- Targeted emails to the different ARE 4.0 candidate audiences were sent in early January encouraging candidates to make their plan to finish the exam.
- NCARB hosted an [NCARB Live](#) in February to answer candidate questions.
- Reminders for supervisors and NCARB Certificate holders who may have ARE 4.0 candidates were included in National Architect and Supervisor Updates.
- NCARB published a [press release](#) regarding ARE 4.0's upcoming retirement. Targeted pitches were sent to news sources in the profession to help reach the widest possible audience.

### Spring 2018 (Ongoing)

- Targeted emails were sent in March and April. After April 30, candidates will no longer have the option to retake ARE 4.0 divisions due to the 60-day waiting period.
- In June, NCARB communications will focus on what will happen to candidates who did not complete ARE 4.0 before June 30.
- Member Boards will receive a final update on the status of candidates still in ARE 4.0 at the Annual Business Meeting in June.
- Information for what will happen after June 30 will be available for supervisors and NCARB Certificate holders in National Architect and Supervisor Updates.

In addition to the messages above, NCARB will remind candidates about the retirement and transition in its regular outreach at AIA component presentations and conferences. There will also be regular posts on NCARB's blog and social media channels.

## Resources for ARE 4.0 Candidates

Whether candidates decide to finish in ARE 4.0 or transition to ARE 5.0, NCARB has created several resources to help them reach their goal of passing the exam.

### NCARB Blog

[ARE 4.0 Blog Posts](#) | [ARE 5.0 Blog Posts](#)

### *Finishing in ARE 4.0*

#### ARE 4.0 Community

The [ARE 4.0 Community](#) is a space for candidates to come together and ask questions, share best practices, and interact with experts.

#### ARE 4.0 Exam Guides

The [free exam guides](#) include overviews of each division, sample vignettes, and suggested references for additional study resources.

#### ARE 4.0 Prep Video Series

This [prep video series](#) dives into each of the ARE 4.0 divisions, with separate videos for the multiple-choice sections and each of the vignettes.

### *Transition Resources*

#### ARE Transition Calculator

See how ARE 4.0 divisions will transfer to the new exam and create your personalized testing strategy with the [Transition Calculator](#).

#### ARE 5.0 Community

The [ARE 5.0 Community](#) is a space for candidates to come together and ask questions, share best practices, and interact with experts. The community includes articles about transitioning to 5.0 and introductions to each of the divisions.

#### ARE 5.0 Handbook

The [ARE 5.0 Handbook](#) is the go-to resource for understanding ARE 5.0, providing a breakdown of each exam division, sample questions, suggested study resources, and more.

#### ARE Demo Exam

Use the [ARE 5.0 Demonstration Exam](#)—accessible via your NCARB Record—to practice navigating the exam interface.

For more information on how the transition will work, visit the [transition section](#) of the NCARB website.