



Architects must be licensed before they can practice as an architect or call themselves an architect. There are three main steps in becoming an architect: education, internship and examination.

### Education

In the United States, most state registration boards require a degree from an accredited professional degree program as a prerequisite for licensure. The National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), which is the sole agency authorized to accredit U.S. professional degree programs in architecture, recognizes three types of degrees: the Bachelor of Architecture, the Master of Architecture, and the Doctor of Architecture. A program may be granted a 6-year, 3-year, or 2-year term of accreditation, depending on the extent of its conformance with established educational standards.

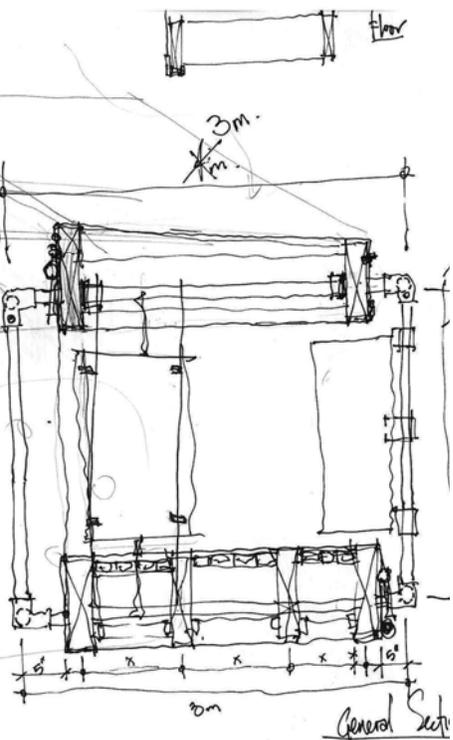
Doctor of Architecture and Master of Architecture degree programs may consist of a pre-professional undergraduate degree and a professional graduate degree that, when earned sequentially, constitute an accredited professional education. However, the pre-professional degree is not, by itself, recognized as an accredited degree.

Montana State University, College of Arts and Architecture, School of Architecture offers the following NAAB-accredited degree programs:

- **Master of Architecture** (pre-professional degree + 42 graduate credits)

The next accreditation visit for the Master of Architecture will take place in 2022.

Students who enter Montana State University as an undergraduate student enroll in our 4-year Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Design degree (126 credits) and apply to our Master of Architecture program (42 credits) during their senior year. This is often referred to as a 4+1½ program (4 years undergraduate study plus 3 semesters of graduate study). Similarly, some schools in the United States offer 4+3, 4+2, or 4+1 programs that lead to a Master of Architecture degree. Students with an undergraduate degree from a different pre-professional program apply to our graduate program and are placed in the studio sequence based upon a review of their transcript and portfolio.



### Internship

Most state architectural registration boards require architectural graduates to complete an internship in order to become licensed. The Intern Development Program (IDP) is a comprehensive training program created to ensure that interns in the architecture profession gain the knowledge and skills for the independent practice of architecture. Additional information on IDP can be found at the National Council of Architectural Registration (NCARB) at [www.ncarb.org](http://www.ncarb.org).

### Examination

All states require the completion of the Architect Registration Examination, in order to gain licensure within the 54 jurisdictions covered by NCARB. All jurisdictions require individuals to be licensed (registered) before they may call themselves architects and contract to provide architectural services. Information on licensing can also be found at [www.ncarb.org](http://www.ncarb.org)



**5 ½ years** to complete our undergraduate degree and our Master of Architecture degree

- Fully accredited by National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB).
- 4-year Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Design + 3 semester Master of Architecture
- Field trips in second, third, fourth and graduate years

11 semesters of Design Studios in our program

- Students start their design studio courses on the first day of freshman year.
- **Low Student : Faculty Ratios** in Design Studio
  - 15:1 in the First year design studios
  - 13:1 in all other undergraduate design studios
  - 11:1 in graduate studios

**Open Enrollment** in First Year—no portfolio required to enter First Year

- Up to 78 students accepted into the Second Year of our Program
- 70-80% of students who apply to the Second Year of our program are typically accepted (3.0 cumulative first year GPA and portfolio submission of first year work required)

### **Graphics & Digital Fabrication**

- Curriculum includes 3 semester of both hand and digital graphics courses
- Students have access to CNC Milling machine, laser cutters, 3D printer ,and plasma cutter in studio courses
- Students and faculty receive awards for their graphics at the international *Design Communication Association Juried Drawing Exhibitions*.

35-50% of our undergraduates **study abroad** during the fourth year of our program

- Study abroad opportunities take place in Europe, Asia ,Australia/New Zealand, South America and Africa

**Design-build projects** undertaken by our students and faculty have received AIA Montana Honor Awards for design.

- Design build projects have taken place in the United States, Nepal, England, Kenya and Morocco

MSU School of Architecture graduates **exceed the national passing rate** on the Architectural Registration Examination (ARE).

Outstanding skiing, hiking, biking, rock climbing, ice climbing and fishing are within 20 minutes of the MSU campus. Strong campus **connection to the Bozeman community**.

MSU School of Architecture was identified as a **“hidden gem”** amongst architectural schools by the magazine *Design Intelligence*.