



June 26, 2020

Pennsylvania Suspends Limitation on the Number of Online Continuing Education Hours for Landscape Architects

Previously, the Department of State and the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs (BPOA) sought and received approval from the Governor to suspend certain regulatory requirements for several of BPOA's boards that limit the number or percentage of continuing education hours that may be obtained through distance education.

The Department has identified an additional board for whom a similar waiver is warranted and appropriate: the State Board of Landscape Architects (Board). Pursuant to the Board's regulations, no more than one-half of a licensee's continuing education requirements may be met through instruction that is not delivered "in person" but rather at a distance, including satellite seminars, electronic presentations and correspondence courses. Currently, landscape architects must complete 24 clock hours of continuing education as a condition of each biennial renewal, of which no more than 12 may be obtained through distance learning.

The Department requested, and the Governor approved, a suspension of the "no more than one-half" limitation for the current biennial renewal period (which ends May 31, 2021). Suspending this restriction means that licensees may obtain up to 100% of their continuing education hours online or via distance learning, as well as through satellite seminars, electronic presentations and correspondence courses.