

Architect Registration Examination Financial Assistance Fund

FAQ

The Architect Registration Examination Financial Assistance Fund is a one-time reimbursement of \$500 for taking the Architect Registration Examination (ARE).

Eligibility – Applicants for the award must meet the following criteria:

- Reside in Texas for 18 months immediately preceding the date of application
- Complete sections of the exam for which the combined fees total at least \$500
- Be approved for examination by TBAE and up-to-date on all required fees
- Be free of prior disciplinary actions or current enforcement proceeding by an architectural registration board
- Meet established financial requirements

Applications – The awards are presented at the end of June and December of each year. The deadline for submitting applications is two weeks prior to each award date. To obtain an application:

- Request one from your online account
- Telephone 512-305-8527
- Email: Jackie.Blackmore@tbae.state.tx.us
- Write to TBAE at P O Box 12337, Austin TX 78711-2337

Q: I have just started taking the ARE. Can I receive an award now and use it to pay for portions of the exam at a later date?

A: No. According to rule 1.52(b)(4), “Each recipient shall have attained passing scores on sections of the ARE for which the combined fees total at least \$500.” **Q: I’m a little behind in my record maintenance fees. Will this be a problem?**

A: Yes, you must be “in good standing” which means that all fees owed to TBAE must be paid in full. Once the delinquent fee and any applicable penalties are paid you qualify for an award if all other eligibility requirements are met. **Q: What are the financial requirements?**

A: The statute requires TBAE to “consider at a minimum the financial need of each person applying for an award.” TBAE uses the gross adjusted income on the applicant’s most recent federal tax return to gauge financial need. The current maximums are \$52,000 if filing status is single, and \$75,000 if filing status is married.

Q: May I receive more than one award?

A: No. Rule 1.52(b) states that “A one-time maximum award of \$500 shall be awarded to each approved applicant.” **Q: I have already completed the exam and received my registration certificate. Could I still qualify for an award?**

A: Yes, if you completed at least one section of the examination after September 1, 1999, and meet all of the other award criteria.

Q: I completed the ARE and received my initial registration in Texas; I recently moved to another state and hold a reciprocal registration there. Do I qualify for an award?

A: No, you must reside in Texas for at least 18 months immediately preceding the date shown on your application.

Q: If I am turned down for an award, can I re-apply?

A: Yes. You may reapply once all of the requirements have been met. **Q: Is it okay to email my application to TBAE?**

A: Yes, as long as both your application and your tax return are signed and dated. You may also fax, mail, or hand-deliver your application and attachments to TBAE.

The Architect Registration Examination Financial Assistance Fund was created by the seventy-sixth Legislature of the state of Texas to promote the professional needs of the state and to support outstanding applicants who plan to pursue careers in architecture.