

DETERMINING PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE CLASSIFICATION

Professional development takes the form of a wide range of subjects that relate directly and indirectly to the practice of landscape architecture. In North Carolina, licensees must obtain continuing education that pertains to public health, safety and welfare (HSW).

This system requires providers to classify HSW courses as those in which the subject matter applies the principles of NC General Statute 89A:

[Landscape architecture or the practice of landscape architecture.]-The performance of services in connection with the development of land areas where, and to the extent that the dominant purpose of the services is the preservation, enhancement or determination of proper land uses, natural land features, ground cover and planting, naturalistic and aesthetic values, the settings, approaches or environment for structures or other improvements, natural drainage and the consideration and determination of inherent problems of the land relating to the erosion, wear and tear, blight or other hazards. This practice shall include the preparation of plans and specifications and supervising the execution of projects involving the arranging of land and the elements set forth in this subsection used in connection with the land for public and private use and enjoyment, embracing the following, all in accordance with the accepted professional standards of public health, safety and welfare:

- a. The location and orientation of buildings and other similar site elements.
- b. The location, routing and design of public and private streets, residential and commercial subdivision roads, or roads in and providing access to private or public developments. This does not include the preparation of construction plans for proposed roads classified as major thoroughfares or a higher classification.
- c. The location, routing and design of private and public pathways and other travelways.
- d. The preparation of planting plans.
- e. The design of surface or incidental subsurface drainage systems, soil conservation and erosion control measures necessary to an overall landscape plan and site design.

These subjects may include, but are not limited to:

Building codes relevant to site development

Code of ethics

Codes, acts, laws, and regulations governing the practice of landscape architecture

Construction administration, including construction contracts relevant to site development

Construction documents relevant to site development

Design of environmental systems

Environmental process and analysis

Erosion control methods

Grading

Graphic skills development, including advanced AutoCAD and other electronic drafting and graphics programs

Horticulture

Irrigation methods

Land planning and land use analysis

Landscape preservation, landscape restoration and adaptive reuse

Lateral forces related to site development

Natural hazards-impact of earthquake, hurricane, fire or flood related to site design

Pedestrian and vehicular circulation

Planting design

Resource conservation and management

Roadway design principles

Site accessibility, including Americans with Disabilities Act and Fair Housing Act standards for accessible site design

Site and soils analysis

Site design and engineering, including materials, methods, technologies and applications

Site security and safety

Stormwater management, surface and subsoil drainage

Structural systems considerations relevant to site development

Surveying methods and techniques as they affect landscape architecture

Sustainable design, including techniques related to energy efficiency, environmental quality, reuse and recycling of site materials, etc.

Use of site materials and methods of site construction

Vegetative management

Wetlands

Zoning as it relates to the improvement and/or protection of the public health, safety and welfare

Other matters of law and ethics that contribute to the health, safety and welfare of the public

The following subjects should not be designated as HSW:

Accounting/financial planning

Basic AutoCAD (although this can be considered for self-directed study for those who were in school prior to the instruction of AutoCAD by landscape architecture programs)

Expanding a design professional's business

General office management

Insurance laws related to arbitration, mediation, liens (unless they relate to safeguarding public health, safety and welfare), real estate, and real estate development

Marketing and public relations

Personal development

Project management related to profitability and maximizing fees

Risk management

Succession planning