

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Founded in 1899, the American Society of Landscape Architects

is the national professional association for landscape architects, representing more than 16,000 members in 48 professional chapters, 70 student chapters, and four student affiliate chapters. The Society's mission is to lead, to educate, and to participate in the careful stewardship, wise planning, and artful design of our cultural and natural environments. Members of the Society use the "ASLA" suffix after their names to denote membership and their commitment to the highest ethical standards of the profession.

ASLA began with 11 founding members:

Nathan Barrett	John Charles Olmsted (the Society's first president)
Beatrix Jones Farrand	Samuel Parsons, Jr.
Daniel W. Langton	George F. Pentecost, Jr.
Charles N. Lowrie	Ossian Cole Simonds
Warren H. Manning	Downing Vaux (son of Calvert Vaux)
Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.	

At year-end 2010, ASLA reported 15,597 members and 48 chapters representing all 50 states, U.S. territories, and 66 countries around the world.

- The U.S. Department of Labor in 2008 identified 26,700 employees in the landscape architecture field. ASLA has 11,775 Full, Fellow, and Associate members; therefore, ASLA represents roughly 44 percent of the landscape architecture profession.
- Approximately 16,000 landscape architects are licensed. Licensure is required in all 50 states to be identified as a "landscape architect" and in 47 states to practice landscape architecture.
- In 2010, 5,165 ASLA members worked at landscape architecture firms; 2,906 worked at architecture, engineering, or multi-disciplinary firms; and 1,017 were employed by design-build firms. A total of 1,197 members worked for federal, state, or local government.

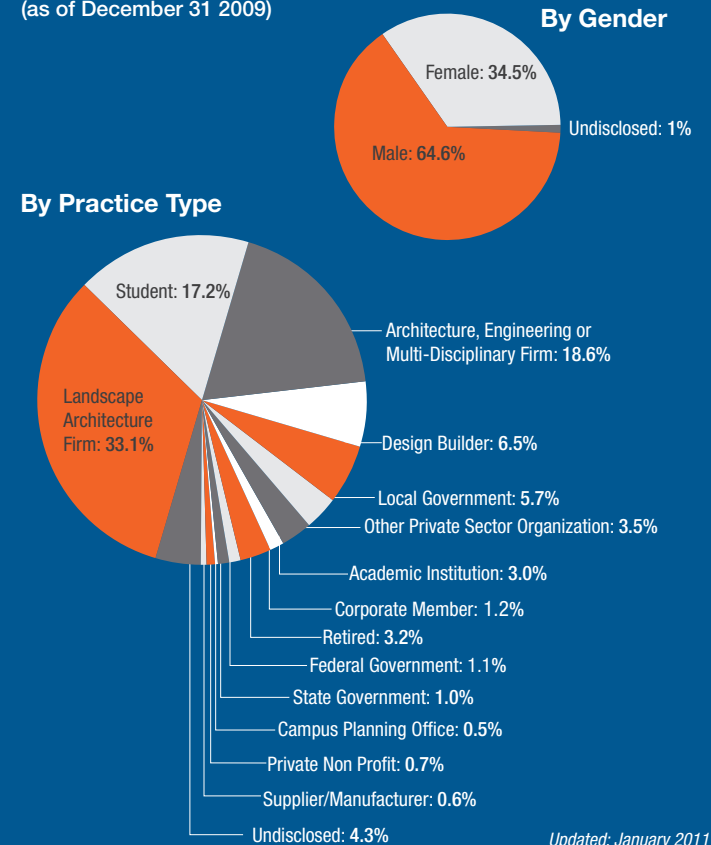
Green Since 1899

MEMBERSHIP BY TYPE

Member Type	2010	2009	Percentage +/- 10 v. 09
Full Member	9,702	10,085	-3.80%
Student	2,265	2,364	-4.19%
Associate	1,413	1,454	-2.82%
Affiliate	667	718	-7.10%
Full-Fellow	660	633	4.27%
Student Affiliate	411	495	-16.97%
International	181	179	1.12%
Corporate	171	176	-2.84%
Honorary (living)	127	119	6.72%
Total	15,597	16,223	-3.86%

MEMBER DEMOGRAPHICS

(as of December 31 2009)



Updated: January 2011

Landscape architects analyze, plan, design, manage, and nurture the natural and built environments.

Among the types of projects they produce are:

- Academic campuses
- Conservation
- Corporate and commercial
- Gardens and arboreta
- Green Infrastructure
- Historic preservation and restoration
- Hospitality and resorts
- Institutions
- Interior landscapes
- Land planning
- Landscape art
- Monuments
- Parks and recreation
- Reclamation
- Residential
- Security design
- Stormwater management
- Streetscapes and public spaces
- Therapeutic gardens
- Transportation corridors
- Urban design

Approximately 70 percent of the profession is in the private sector, 26 percent in the public sector, and 4 percent in academia, based on responses to the 2010-11 ASLA National Salary Survey.

Average annual salary and bonuses for those in the landscape architecture field total \$78,600 (2010-11 ASLA National Salary Survey).

Some 66 percent of respondents to the 2010-11 Business

Indicators Survey reported revenues in 2009 of less than \$1 million.

In a still troubled economy, business conditions for landscape architects have begun to stabilize. Continuing a series of upticks, 65.6 percent of respondents to the third quarter *Business Quarterly* survey reported their firms' billable hours as stable or improved over second quarter 2010; 69.9 percent reported

inquiries as stable or improved in the same period.

Three largest client groups, descending order:

- Private-home owners
- Architects
- Cities/municipalities

For smaller firms (up to three employees):

- Private-home owners.

EDUCATION

There are two different types of licensure laws:

- States with practice acts (47) require a license to practice landscape architecture.
- States with title acts (3) allow anyone to practice landscape architecture, regardless of their qualifications, but only those with a license may use the title "landscape architect" or advertise for "landscape architectural" services.

Each state sets its own requirements for licensure, but all require candidates to pass the Landscape Architect Registration Examination, or LARE.

Sixty-three universities currently offer at least one program in landscape architecture accredited by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB).

There are two undergraduate professional degrees. These usually require four or five years of study in design, construction techniques, art, history, and natural and social sciences:

- Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLA)
- Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture (BSLA).

There are two types of accredited graduate-degree programs:

- The three-year Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) option is for those who hold an undergraduate degree in

a field other than landscape architecture and intend to become landscape architecture practitioners.

- A five or five-plus year Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) is for persons who do not have an undergraduate degree.

Other, non-accredited programs are also offered, such as the MA/MS in Landscape Architecture for persons who want to conduct research in landscape architecture but do not seek to be registered professionals, programs by schools that are candidates for accreditation, and certificate programs.

October 2010
Architect magazine

“Predicated on issues of ecology and based on an orchestration of large surfaces with many overlapping and competing systems, landscape architecture is a discipline that is perfectly equipped to untangle...urban issues.”

Landscape architects are licensed in all 50 states, but not yet in the District of Columbia.