

HOW TO PROVIDE DESIGN/BUILD SERVICES UNDER IOWA'S ARCHITECTURAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

The Architecture Board recognizes that the design/build method of project delivery is growing rapidly. As a result, the Board feels it is our responsibility to the public to ensure that those providing the service are doing so in accordance with the current Statute and related board rules.

The Code is clear that only an architect or engineer may offer to provide professional design services unless the building is exempt under Iowa Code section 544A.18. It is unlawful for a contractor or any other non-professional to offer to provide architectural design services to design a building.

Design Build Services include the building delivery system where the design and construction of a building is accomplished by a single entity. The entity could be any one of the following, provided that the architect is engaged prior to the team offering design build services:

1. Architectural led team, including general contractor.
2. General contractor led team hiring an architect.
3. Developer led team hiring general contractor and architect.
4. Construction manager hiring general contractor, architect, etc.

In order to offer and/or provide the design of a (non-exempt) building, the following must be provided:

1. A registered architect must be engaged to provide architectural services. Only a professional architect may offer to provide professional architectural services. The definition of *Professional Architectural Services* is "consultation, investigation, evaluation, programming, planning, preliminary design and feasibility studies, designs, drawings, specifications and other technical submissions, administration of construction contracts, observation of construction site progress, or other services and instruments of service related to architecture."
2. A corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship or other business entity may engage in the practice of architecture only if all of the following are met.
 - a. The entire practice is under the direct supervision and responsible charge of one or more architects.
 - b. 2/3 of the directors shall be registered architects or engineers.

In all cases, the person in charge of the project must be registered in Iowa and shall be a director, a general partner or sole proprietor.

Please feel free to share this outline with contractors, developers or any other interested parties.

Questions regarding this information should be addressed to the Iowa Architectural Examining Board, 1920 S.E. Hulsizer, Ankeny, 50021.