

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 2009, ASLA reported 16,223 members and 48 chapters representing all 50 states, U.S. territories, and 68 countries around the world.

- There are about 26,700 landscape architects in the United States (U.S. Department of Labor, 2008), including 10,718 Full or Fellow ASLA members; therefore, ASLA represents roughly 40 percent of the landscape architecture profession.
- In 2009, ASLA members worked at 5,105 landscape architecture firms in the U.S., and an additional 134 outside; 2,834 architecture, engineering, and multi-disciplinary firms in the U.S., and 46 outside; and 920 design-build firms in the U.S., plus 10 outside.
- Approximately 16,000 landscape architects are licensed.
- Licensure is not a requirement for membership in ASLA.

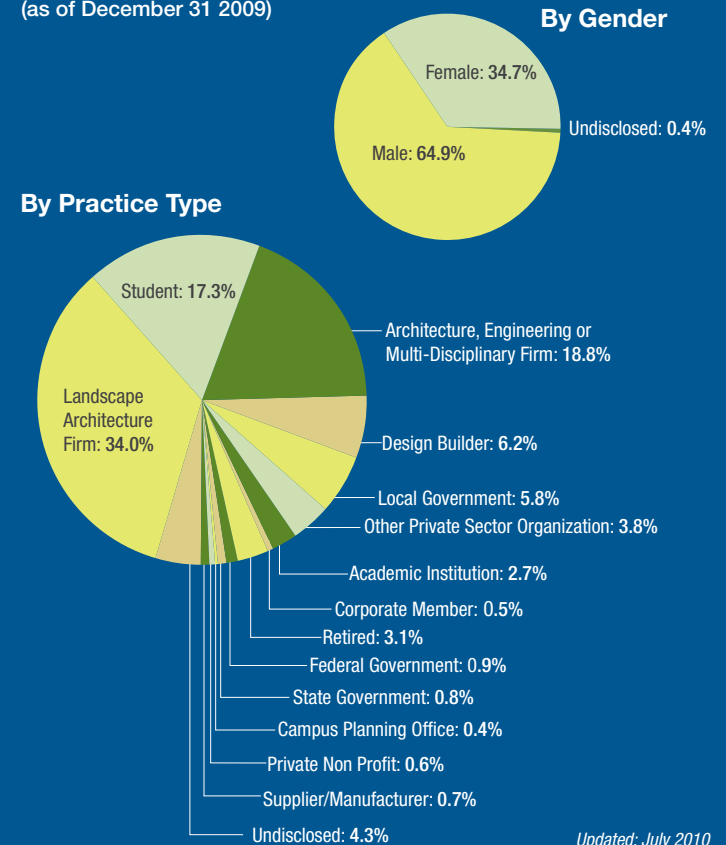
Green Since 1899

MEMBERSHIP BY TYPE

Member Type	2009	2008	Percentage +/- 09 v. 08
Full Member	10,085	10,474	-3.71%
Student	2,364	2,644	-10.59%
Associate	1,454	1,562	-6.91%
Affiliate	718	850	-15.53%
Full-Fellow	633	618	2.43%
Student Affiliate	495	636	-22.17%
International	179	161	11.18%
Corporate	176	182	-3.30%
Honorary (living)	119	109	9.17%
Total	16,223	17,236	-5.88%

MEMBER DEMOGRAPHICS

(as of December 31 2009)



Updated: July 2010

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
- 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 77 percent of the profession is in the private sector, 20 percent in the public sector, and 3 percent in academia (2008–09 ASLA National Salary Survey).

Average annual salary and bonuses for landscape architects total \$85,100 (2008–09 ASLA National Salary Survey).

Some 55.2 percent of respondents to the 2008-09 Business Indicators Survey reported revenues in 2008 of less than \$1 million, while

32 percent indicated greater than \$1 million; 12 percent did not respond to the question.

In a still troubled economy, business conditions for landscape architects have begun to stabilize. Some 65.5 percent of respondents to the second quarter *Business Quarterly* survey report their firms' billable hours as stable or improved over first quarter 2010; 64.8 percent report inquiries as stable or improved in the same period.

Three largest client groups, descending order:

- Developers
- Cities/municipalities.
- Private-home owners

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.

September 21, 2009
General Session,
ASLA Annual Meeting & EXPO

"[Landscape architects'] history of environmental stewardship means you have much to offer builders, developers, architects, engineers, and others who are eager to compete in a growing green market... You are in a great position to help lead our nation's transformation to a more sustainable society."

Lisa Heinzerling
Associate Administrator

Environmental Protection Agency's
Office of Policy, Economics and
Innovation

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