



# LAWS OF ALASKA

**2014**

**Source**

CSHB 167(RLS)

**Chapter No.**

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**AN ACT**

Relating to the regulation of architects, engineers, land surveyors, and landscape architects.

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**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1



## AN ACT

1 Relating to the regulation of architects, engineers, land surveyors, and landscape architects.

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3 \* **Section 1.** AS 08.48.221 is amended to read:

4       **Sec. 08.48.221. Seals.** Each registrant may obtain a seal of the design  
5 authorized by the board, bearing the registrant's name, registration number, and the  
6 legend [,] "Registered Professional Architect," "Registered Professional Engineer,"  
7 "Registered Professional Land Surveyor," or "Registered Professional Landscape  
8 Architect," as appropriate. When a registrant issues final drawings, specifications,  
9 surveys, plats, plates, reports, or similar documents, the registrant shall [SIGN THE  
10 DOCUMENTS AND] stamp the documents with the seal **and sign the seal**. The  
11 board shall adopt regulations governing the use of seals by the registrant. An architect,  
12 engineer, land surveyor, or landscape architect may not affix or permit a seal and  
13 signature to be affixed to an instrument after the expiration of a certificate or for the

1 purpose of aiding or abetting another person to evade or attempt to evade a provision  
2 of this chapter. The registrant, by affixing the registrant's seal to final drawings,  
3 specifications, surveys, plats, plates, reports, **or** [AND OTHER] similar documents,  
4 and **by** signing **the seal** [THEM], certifies that **the** [THESE] documents were prepared  
5 by or under the registrant's direct supervision, **are within the registrant's field of**  
6 **practice, or constitute design work of minor importance** [UNLESS THE  
7 REGISTRANT CERTIFIES ON THE FACE OF THE DOCUMENT TO THE  
8 EXTENT OF THE REGISTRANT'S RESPONSIBILITY].

9 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 08.48.221 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

10 (b) Final drawings, specifications, surveys, plats, plates, reports, or similar  
11 documents containing the work of multiple fields of practice shall be sealed and  
12 signed by a registrant in each field of practice covered by the document. The registrant  
13 shall certify on the face of the document the extent of the registrant's responsibility for  
14 all work prepared under the registrant's seal. When certifying design work of minor  
15 importance, the registrant shall identify that work on the document near the registrant's  
16 seal and take responsibility for all work prepared under the registrant's seal.

17 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 08.48.331 is amended to read:

18 **Sec. 08.48.331. Exemptions.** (a) This chapter does not apply to

19 (1) a contractor performing work designed by a professional architect,  
20 engineer, or landscape architect or the supervision of the construction of the work as a  
21 supervisor or superintendent for a contractor;

22 (2) workers in building trades crafts, earthwork, grounds keeping, or  
23 nursery operations, and superintendents, supervisors, or inspectors in the performance  
24 of their customary duties;

25 (3) an officer or employee of the United States government practicing  
26 architecture, engineering, land surveying, or landscape architecture as required by the  
27 person's official capacity;

28 (4) an employee or a subordinate of a person registered under this  
29 chapter if the work or service is done under the direct supervision of a person  
30 registered under this chapter;

31 (5) associates, consultants, or specialists retained by a registered

1 individual, a partnership of registered individuals, a corporation, a limited liability  
2 company, or a limited liability partnership authorized to practice architecture,  
3 engineering, land surveying, or landscape architecture under this chapter, in the  
4 performance of professional services if responsible charge of the work remains with  
5 the individual, the partnership, or a designated representative of the corporation,  
6 limited liability company, or limited liability partnership;

7 (6) a person preparing drawings or specifications for

8 (A) a building for the person's own use and occupancy as a  
9 single family residence and related site work for that building;

10 (B) farm or ranch buildings and their grounds unless the public  
11 health, safety, or welfare is involved;

12 (C) a building that is intended to be used only as a residence by  
13 not more than

14 (i) four families and that is not more than two stories  
15 high and the grounds of the building; or

16 (ii) two families and that is not more than three stories  
17 high and the grounds of the building, if the building is located in a  
18 municipality that has adopted a building or residential code that applies  
19 to the building and if the building complies with the building or  
20 residential code;

21 (D) a garage, workshop, or similar building that contains less  
22 than 2,000 square feet of floor space to be used for a private noncommercial  
23 purpose and the grounds of the building;

24 (7) a specialty contractor licensed under AS 08.18 while engaged in  
25 the business of construction contracting [OR DESIGNING SYSTEMS] for work  
26 **designed by an architect, engineer, or landscape architect that is** within the  
27 specialty to be performed or supervised by the specialty contractor, or a contractor  
28 preparing shop or field drawings for work that the specialty contractor has contracted  
29 to perform;

30 (8) a person furnishing drawings, specifications, instruments of  
31 service, or other data for alterations or repairs to a building or its grounds that do not

1 change or affect the structural system or the safety of the building, or that do not affect  
2 the public health, safety, or welfare;

3 (9) a person who is employed by a postsecondary educational  
4 institution to teach engineering, architectural, or landscape architectural courses; in  
5 this paragraph, "postsecondary educational institution" has the meaning given in  
6 AS 14.48.210;

7 (10) an officer or employee of an individual, firm, partnership,  
8 association, utility, corporation, limited liability company, or limited liability  
9 partnership, who practices engineering, **architecture, land surveying, or landscape**  
10 **architecture** involved in the operation of the employer's business only, and further  
11 provided that neither the employee nor the employer offers engineering, **architecture,**  
12 **land surveying, or landscape architecture** services to the public; exclusions under  
13 this paragraph do not apply to buildings or structures whose primary use is public  
14 occupancy;

15 (11) a person while involved in revegetation, restoration, reclamation,  
16 rehabilitation, or erosion control for disturbed land **that the board determines does**  
17 **not affect the public health, safety, or welfare;**

18 (12) a person while maintaining or directing the placement of plant  
19 material **that the board determines does not affect the public health, safety, or**  
20 **welfare;**

21 (13) an employee, officer, or agent of a regulatory agency of the state  
22 or a municipality when reviewing drawings and specifications for compliance with the  
23 building codes of the state or a municipality if the drawings and specifications have  
24 been **sealed** [SIGNED] and **signed** [SEALED] by **an architect, engineer, land**  
25 **surveyor, or landscape architect** [A PROFESSIONAL ARCHITECT OR  
26 PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER] or the preparation of the drawings and specifications  
27 is exempt under this section from the requirements of this chapter; in this paragraph,  
28 "building codes" includes codes relating to building, mechanical, plumbing, electrical,  
29 [AND] fire **safety** standards, **and zoning;**

30 (14) a person who is designing fire detection or suppression systems  
31 and is authorized by the Department of Public Safety to design fire detection or

1 suppression systems.

2 (b) The requirement to be registered as a landscape architect under this chapter  
3 only applies to a person who practices an aspect of landscape architecture that the  
4 board has determined affects the public health, [OR] safety, or welfare.

5 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 08.48.341 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

6 (21) "design of minor importance" means a design that is incidental to  
7 the discipline of a registrant and is within the discipline of the registrant, but does not  
8 include comprehensive design services of any particular building type, structure,  
9 building system, engineering system, or site development;

10 (22) "shop drawing" or "field drawing" means a drawing prepared by a  
11 contractor, subcontractor, or vendor that shows how a particular aspect of the work is  
12 to be fabricated and installed and demonstrates how an aspect of the work will satisfy  
13 the requirements of the construction document, but does not include a final drawing,  
14 specification, survey, plat, plate, report, or other similar document.