



FAQ

What is the ARE Success Team Program?

The ARE Success Teams Program is an accelerated study program designed to support ARE candidates through a structured and focused approach. During the program, we will provide the materials, mentorship, and camaraderie needed to pass the Architect Registration Examination (ARE). The program is comprised of recurring study sessions where all participants gather and go over study materials, study tips, exam experiences, and occasionally compete in friendly ARE Trivia games or attend ARE lectures.

What is the goal of the ARE Success Team?

Each participant in the program will commit to taking either one or both tracks of the program in approximately a 6-month period (for a single track) or an 12-month period (for both tracks); and will pass the ARE and one step closer to becoming a licensed architect. Everyone in the program is expected to continue to offer support to their fellow teammates until every member of the group passes all of his or her divisions.

Who can participate in the ARE Success Team?

Associates with an active NCARB Record, who are eligible to test, are welcome. Participants are required to show proof of ARE Eligibility from NCARB. AIA members will enjoy a discounted rate to enroll in the program.

How do I join the ARE Success Team?

Complete this [online application](#) before June 10th, close of business. Your enrollment is NOT confirmed until the application has been reviewed and evaluated.

If accepted, you will be invoiced for the program fee, which will be due prior to first session, and is non-refundable.

What is the cost?

\$150 AIA Members/ \$220 Non-Members per track

How many people will be on the team?

Each team will be comprised of 4-10 members, the number of teams may vary as needed.

What do I commit to as a team member?

In the application, participants will sign an agreement committing to taking the exams in the same order and on the same schedule as the other group members throughout the course of their track. They will also agree to meet at least once prior to each exam to share tips, exchange information, offer support, and commiserate with understanding colleagues.

As a team member, you will commit to participating with professionalism and enthusiasm, working with other members to develop a realistic schedule for taking each section of the exam, attending all meetings scheduled by the group, and continuing to support group members until every member has passed all of his or her exams.

If I only have a few exams left, is it worth it for me to enroll in the program?

This is totally up to you. Perhaps the program is exactly what you need to motivate and pass those last 1, 2, or 3 tests. However, you will be expected to follow the schedule with the rest of the participants. Participants who have already passed some exams will act as a mentor/tutor to the people in their group who still need to pass.



FAQ Continued

What if I can't get a test scheduled in time for the deadline?

We encourage the whole team to register for each exam within the same week – a recommended calendar will be distributed at the kickoff session of each track.

Exams can be scheduled up to 6 months out; we encourage teams to register as early on as possible to ensure the team can move forward together.

What if I fail an exam?

Most candidates fail at some point during the process. If this happens, we highly recommend that our Success Team members move on to the next exam with the other members of the group. Staying on schedule with your team will give you the motivation and camaraderie to not completely fall off the wagon. It could be a domino effect that when a candidate fails one exam, he/she completely derails. In short: **STAY ON TRACK!**

What if I want to retake an exam?

Stopping your program and group attendance to retake an exam will NOT be allowed. You must stick with your group for the remainder of your track.

Team Assignments

You will be grouped into teams based on geographic location, firms, and preferred exam order. Although it can be helpful to have other people from your office on your team, we don't recommend it. We believe it is more helpful for you to work with people from other offices for several reasons. First, it gives you a chance to meet other people in the profession and make contacts and learn how other offices operate. Second, you will have access to a much wider range of resources, since people in separate offices can discuss problems and ideas with their colleagues.

I have a very full schedule. What if I fall behind on my studying?

You have committed to a team of people that you are not going to fall behind. We have some strategies for your consideration. Once you have joined a success team, we will send a letter to your Principal and Project Manager/Direct Manager letting them know about your commitment. We recommend that you let everyone know you are on a fast-paced track to tackle the ARE. You should give your colleagues a schedule/study plan, indicating the days you will be at study groups, lectures, and taking exams.

In addition to the letter from AIA Dallas, we strongly recommend that you personally let your Principal/Project Manager know that you are taking the exams and about your commitment to your fellow Success Team members.

What about study materials?

AIA Dallas will provide teams with meeting space, access to some study materials, and administrative support. The ARE lecture series is also part of the available resources provided by AIA Dallas, and is free to Success Teams participants.

Previously, Success Teams members also share a wide range of study materials and tips amongst themselves beyond what's offered by AIA Dallas. The ARE Success Team aims to provide candidates with the tools and support they need to make passing the ARE manageable.