

**State of California
Office of Administrative Law**

In re:
California Architects Board

Regulatory Action:

Title 16, California Code of Regulations

Amend sections: 117

NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF REGULATORY
ACTION

Government Code Section 11349.3

OAL Matter Number: 2024-0911-04

OAL Matter Type: Regular (S)

This action proposes to clarify the ways to meet the experience requirement for an architect license in California.

OAL approves this regulatory action pursuant to section 11349.3 of the Government Code. This regulatory action becomes effective on 1/1/2025.

Date: October 23, 2024



Ashita Mohandas
Attorney

For: Kenneth J. Pogue
Director

Original: Laura Zuniga, Executive Officer
Copy: Timothy Rodda

NOTICE PUBLICATION/REGULATIONS SUBMISSION

STD. 400 (REV. 10/2019)

REGULAR

For use by Secretary of State only

OAL FILE NUMBERS	NOTICE FILE NUMBER Z- 2024-0405-01	REGULATORY ACTION NUMBER 2024-0911-045	EMERGENCY NUMBER
For use by Office of Administrative Law (OAL) only			
NOTICE		REGULATIONS	

ENDORSED - FILED
in the office of the Secretary of State
of the State of California

OCT 23 2024
AB 1:55 PM

OFFICE OF ADMIN. LAW
2024 SEP 11 PM 3:29

AGENCY WITH RULEMAKING AUTHORITY
California Architects Board

AGENCY FILE NUMBER (If any)

A. PUBLICATION OF NOTICE (Complete for publication in Notice Register)

1. SUBJECT OF NOTICE		TITLE(S)	FIRST SECTION AFFECTED	2. REQUESTED PUBLICATION DATE
3. NOTICE TYPE <input type="checkbox"/> Notice re Proposed Regulatory Action <input type="checkbox"/> Other		4. AGENCY CONTACT PERSON	TELEPHONE NUMBER	FAX NUMBER (Optional)
OAL USE ONLY	ACTION ON PROPOSED NOTICE <input type="checkbox"/> Approved as Submitted <input type="checkbox"/> Approved as Modified <input type="checkbox"/> Disapproved/Withdrawn		NOTICE REGISTER NUMBER 2024, 16-2	PUBLICATION DATE 9/19/24

B. SUBMISSION OF REGULATIONS (Complete when submitting regulations)

1a. SUBJECT OF REGULATION(S) Experience Evaluation		1b. ALL PREVIOUS RELATED OAL REGULATORY ACTION NUMBER(S)	
2. SPECIFY CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS TITLE(S) AND SECTION(S) (Including title 26, if toxics related)			
SECTION(S) AFFECTED (List all section number(s) individually. Attach additional sheet if needed.)	ADOPT		
	AMEND	117	
TITLE(S) 16	REPEAL		
3. TYPE OF FILING			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular Rulemaking (Gov. Code §11346)	<input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Compliance: The agency officer named below certifies that this agency complied with the provisions of Gov. Code §§11346.2-11347.3 either before the emergency regulation was adopted or within the time period required by statute.	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Readopt (Gov. Code, §11346.1(h))	<input type="checkbox"/> Changes Without Regulatory Effect (Cal. Code Regs., title 1, §100)
<input type="checkbox"/> Resubmittal of disapproved or withdrawn nonemergency filing (Gov. Code §§11349.3, 11349.4)	<input type="checkbox"/> Resubmittal of disapproved or withdrawn emergency filing (Gov. Code, §11346.1)	<input type="checkbox"/> File & Print	<input type="checkbox"/> Print Only
<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency (Gov. Code, §11346.1(b))	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____		
4. ALL BEGINNING AND ENDING DATES OF AVAILABILITY OF MODIFIED REGULATIONS AND/OR MATERIAL ADDED TO THE RULEMAKING FILE (Cal. Code Regs. title 1, §44 and Gov. Code §11347.1) June 11 - 26, 2024			
5. EFFECTIVE DATE OF CHANGES (Gov. Code, §§ 11343.4, 11346.1(d); Cal. Code Regs., title 1, §100)			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Effective January 1, April 1, July 1, or October 1 (Gov. Code §11343.4(a))	<input type="checkbox"/> Effective on filing with Secretary of State	<input type="checkbox"/> §100 Changes Without Regulatory Effect	<input type="checkbox"/> Effective other (Specify) _____
6. CHECK IF THESE REGULATIONS REQUIRE NOTICE TO, OR REVIEW, CONSULTATION, APPROVAL OR CONCURRENCE BY, ANOTHER AGENCY OR ENTITY			
<input type="checkbox"/> Department of Finance (Form STD. 399) (SAM §6660)		<input type="checkbox"/> Fair Political Practices Commission	<input type="checkbox"/> State Fire Marshal
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) <u>Kimberly Kirchmeyer, Director, Department of Consumer Affairs</u>			
7. CONTACT PERSON Timothy Rodda	TELEPHONE NUMBER (279) 895-1246	FAX NUMBER (Optional)	E-MAIL ADDRESS (Optional) timothy.rodde@dca.ca.gov

8. I certify that the attached copy of the regulation(s) is a true and correct copy of the regulation(s) identified on this form, that the information specified on this form is true and correct, and that I am the head of the agency taking this action, or a designee of the head of the agency, and am authorized to make this certification.

SIGNATURE OF AGENCY HEAD OR DESIGNEE <i>Laura Zuniga</i>	DATE 9/4/2024
TYPED NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNATORY Laura Zuniga, Executive Officer, California Architects Board	

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ENDORSED APPROVED

OCT 23 2024

Office of Administrative Law

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
 TITLE 16. PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL REGULATIONS
 DIVISION 2. CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD

Experience Evaluation

Order of Adoption

Amend Section 117 of Article 3 of Division 2 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations as follows:

§ 117. Experience Evaluation.

The Board's evaluation of candidates' training and educational experience for licensure is based on the Board's Table of Equivalents as listed below.

The Table is comprised of ~~four~~two columns. Column A lists the types of training and educational experience for which credit may be granted. Columns B and C ~~specify~~ specifies the maximum credit that may be granted to a candidate for that experience who was determined by the Board to be eligible for the Architect Registration Examination (ARE), the California Supplemental Examination, or licensure prior to January 1, 2005 and who is active in the examination process or to a candidate who is otherwise exempt from the IDP/IAP requirement specified in Section 116(b). Column D ~~specifies~~ the maximum credit that may be granted to a new or inactive candidate who was determined by the Board to be eligible for the ARE on or after January 1, 2005 and who is subject to the IDP/IAP requirement.

TABLE OF EQUIVALENTS

(a) Experience Equivalents:

<i>Column A</i>	<i>Column B</i>	<i>Column C</i>	<i>Column D</i>
	<i>Candidates Eligible Prior to January 1, 2005 or Otherwise Exempt from IDP/IAP Requirement</i>	<i>Candidates Eligible Prior to January 1, 2005 or Otherwise Exempt from IDP/IAP Requirement</i>	<i>Candidates Eligible January 1, 2005 or After and Subject to IDP/IAP Requirement</i>

<i>Experience Description</i>	<i>Education Equivalents Max. Credit Allowed</i>	<i>Training and/or Practice Equivalents Max. Credit Allowed</i>	<i>Maximum- Credit Allowed</i>
(1) A professional degree in architecture, where the degree program has been accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) or the Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB), or units toward such a degree credited as set out in (b)(4).	5 years		5 years
(2) A professional degree in architecture, where the degree program has not been accredited by NAAB or CACB and the program consists of at least a five-year curriculum, or units toward such a degree credited as set out in (b)(4).	4 years		4 years
(3) A four-year degree in architecture <u>or a degree from a university or college which has an NAAB-accredited or CACB-accredited professional degree program in architecture, where the degree could be accepted for entry into a two-year NAAB-accredited or CACB-accredited Master of Architecture program</u> Baccalaureus Atrium (BA); Atrium Baccalaureus (AB); Bachelor of Science (BS), or units toward such a degree credited as set out in (b)(4).	3 1/2 years		3 1/2 <u>4</u> years

<p>(4) A degree from a school/college which has an NAAB-accredited or CACB-accredited professional degree program in architecture, where the degree could be accepted for entry into a two-year NAAB-accredited or CACB-accredited Master of Architecture program, or units toward such a degree.</p>	<p>3-1/2 years</p>		<p>3-1/2 years</p>
<p>(54) A four-year degree which consists of at least a four-year curriculum in a field related to architecture as defined in subsection (b)(65), or units toward such a degree credited as set out in (b)(4).</p>	<p>2 years</p>		<p>24 years</p>
<p>(65) Any other university or college degree which consists of at least a four-year curriculum.</p>	<p>1 year</p>		<p>1 year</p>
<p>(76)(A) Any other city/community college degree which consists of at least a two-year curriculum.</p>	<p>6 months</p>		<p>6 months</p>
<p>(7)(B) Any other city/community college degree or technical school certificate in a field related to architecture as defined in subsection (b)(5).</p>	<p>1 year</p>		<p>42 years</p>
<p>(8) A post-professional degree in architecture or with an emphasis on architecture consisting of a Master, Master of Science, or PH.D. degree or units toward such a degree.</p>			<p>1 year</p>

<p>(89) Experience under the direct supervision of an architect(s) licensed or registered in a United States jurisdiction shall be granted 100% credit for every hour of work as described in (c)(3).</p>	5 years	3 years	58 years
<p>(910) Primary source documentation showing Certification by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) shall be granted 100% credit for every hour of work as described in (c)(3). shall be granted a maximum of eight years credit upon receipt in the Board office of the candidate's current and valid NCARB blue cover file, transmitted by NCARB.</p>	5 years	3 years	8 years
<p>(10) While a candidate is enrolled in a college or university, credit shall be granted:</p>			
<p>(A) 100% for experience obtained under the direct supervision of architect(s) licensed in the U.S.</p>	1 year	or 1 year	1 year
<p>(B) 50% for experience as, or experience obtained under the direct supervision of, a registered civil or structural engineer and/or a licensed landscape architect licensed in a United States jurisdiction.</p>		1 year	1 year

<p>(C) 50% for experience as, or experience obtained under the direct supervision of, a California-licensed general building contractor.</p>		<p>1 year</p>	<p>1 year</p>
<p>(D) 50% for experience as, or experience obtained under the direct supervision of, a California-certified building official as defined in subsection (e)(7).</p>		<p>1 year</p>	<p>1 year</p>
<p>(E) 50% for experience as, or experience obtained under the direct supervision of, a foreign licensed architect licensed in the qualifying foreign country where the experience occurred.</p>		<p>1 year</p>	<p>1 year</p>
<p>(11) <u>Primary source documentation showing completion of the Intern Development Program (IDP) of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards NCARB administered Architectural Experience Program (AXP) or the Internship in Architecture Program of Canada shall be granted 100% credit for every hour of work as described in (c)(3) in either program. Completion of either program shall be granted a minimum of three years credit, upon receipt in the Board office of the candidate's current and valid NCARB IDP file transmitted by NCARB or documentation transmitted by a Canadian provincial architectural association, respectively.</u></p>	<p>2 years</p>	<p>3 years</p>	<p>58 years</p>

<p>(12)(A) Experience as, or experience obtained under the direct supervision of, a registered civil or structural engineer, and/or a licensed landscape architect licensed or registered in a United States jurisdiction shall be granted 50% credit for every hour of work as described in (c)(3) up to the 2 year maximum.</p>		<p>2-years</p>	<p>2 years</p>
<p>(B13) Experience as, or experience obtained under the direct supervision of, a California licensed general building contractor shall be granted 50% credit.</p>		<p>4-year</p>	<p>1 year</p>
<p>(C14) Experience as, or experience obtained under the direct supervision of, a California certified building official as defined in subsection (c)(76) shall be granted 50% credit for every hour of work as described in (c)(3) up to the 1 year maximum.</p>		<p>1-year</p>	<p>1 year</p>
<p>(1315) Experience as a licensed or registered architect practicing in another U.S. United States (U.S.) jurisdiction with a verified record of substantial architectural practice shall be granted 100% credit for every hour of work as described in (c)(3) up to the 8 year maximum.</p>		<p>8-years</p>	<p>8 years</p>

<p>(14)(A) A post-professional degree in architecture or with an emphasis on architecture consisting of a Master, Master of Science, or Ph.D. degree, or units toward such a degree, or</p>		<p>1 year</p>	<p>1 year</p>
<p>(B16) Teaching and/or research in NAAB-accredited or CACB-accredited architectural curriculums shall be granted 100% credit only for those hours worked if verified by the college or university.</p>		<p>1 year</p>	<p>1 year</p>
<p>(1517)(A) Experience under the direct supervision of an architect licensed in the qualifying foreign country where the experience occurred shall be granted 50% credit for every hour of work as described in <u>(c)(3)</u> up to the 7 year maximum.</p>	<p>5 years</p>	<p>2 years</p>	<p>5 years</p>
<p>(B18) Experience as a foreign licensed architect licensed in the qualifying foreign country with a verified record of substantial architectural practice shall be granted 50% credit for every hour of work as described in <u>(c)(3)</u> up to the 7 year maximum.</p>	<p>5 years</p>	<p>2 years</p>	<p>5 years</p>

(b) Education Equivalents:

“Education equivalents” shall mean Table categories ~~(a)(1) through (a)(9), (a)(10)(A), (a)(11), (a)(13), and (a)(15)(A) and (B).~~

~~(1) For the purposes of this section, NAAB shall refer to the National Architectural Accrediting Board, and CACB shall refer to the Canadian Architectural Certification Board.~~

(21) A "professional degree program" shall be defined as one of the following types of programs:

- ~~1.(A) Bachelor of Architecture, five-year program;~~
- ~~2. Bachelor of Architecture for individuals with a prior degree;~~
- 3.(B) Master of Architecture, four-year undergraduate program in architecture plus a two-year graduate program in architecture;
- 4.(C) Master of Architecture, four-year undergraduate program in another discipline plus a three-year graduate program in architecture.

(32) Where a candidate is seeking education equivalents for having obtained a professional degree or units towards such a degree from an NAAB-accredited or CACB-accredited program, ~~he or she~~ they shall be eligible for such credit if such program is or was accredited by NAAB or CACB either at the time of graduation or within two years after the date of graduation or termination of enrollment.

(43) Credit allowed for units obtained without a degree shall only be computed within the categories of subsections (a)(1) through ~~(54)~~ or ~~(a)(14)(A)(8)~~ of this section. No credit for units obtained under subsections ~~(a)(65) through~~ ~~or (78)~~ shall be recognized unless such units have been transferred to and accepted by a school within subsections (a)(1) through ~~(54)~~ of this section.

~~(54)~~ Academic units based on the categories specified in subsections (a)(1) through ~~(54)~~ or ~~(a)(14)(A)(8)~~ of this section shall be evaluated up to the maximum allowed for that subsection. Where a candidate has not obtained a degree, the maximum credit allowed ~~for the categories contained in subsections (a)(1) through (5) or (a)(14)(A)~~ shall be six months less than the maximum credit ~~that would have been granted if the candidate had obtained a degree in indicated for~~ that category. Fractions greater than one-half of an academic year shall be counted as one-half of a year and smaller fractions will not be counted. 30 semester units or 45 quarter units is considered to be one academic year.

~~(65)~~ Degrees in a field related to architecture shall ~~be evaluated under~~ referenced in subsections (a)(54) and (a)(7) are defined as the following degrees identified by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) Series:

- (A) 04: Architecture and Related Services except 04.10 Real Estate Development;
- (B) 14.04 Architectural Engineering;
- (C) 14.08 Civil Engineering;
- (D) 14.33 Construction Engineering; and

(E) 52.20 Construction Management.

~~the following: Architectural Design; Architectural Engineering; Architectural Studies; Architectural Technology; Building Science; City and Regional Planning; Civil, Mechanical, Structural, or Electrical Engineering; Construction Engineering; Construction Management; Environmental Design; Interior Architecture; Landscape Architecture; and Urban and Regional Design.~~

~~(7) (A) Experience obtained as, or experience obtained under the direct supervision of, a licensed professional as defined in subsections (a)(8), (a)(12), and (a)(15)(A) or (B) while a candidate is enrolled in a college or university shall be allowed maximum credit for educational/training equivalents of 1 year as defined in subsections (a)(10)(A) through (E). A candidate who obtains experience under the direct supervision of a licensed professional as defined in subsections (a)(8), (a)(12), and (a)(15)(A) or (B) while enrolled in a college or university shall have his/her education and/or experience evaluated according to the method which provides the candidate the most credit.~~

~~(B) A candidate enrolled in a degree program where credit earned is based on work experience courses (i.e., internship or co-op programs) shall not receive more than the maximum credit allowed for degrees earned under subsections (a)(1) through (7).~~

~~(C) A candidate who is certified as having completed the requirements of IDP, as referenced in section 109(b)(2), based upon receipt in the Board office of the candidate's current and valid NCARB IDP file transmitted by NCARB, is exempt from the provisions of subsection (b)(7)(B) relating to maximum credit allowed for degrees where credit is earned based on work experience courses.~~

~~(86) A candidate who possesses a degree and possesses units from more than one college or university shall have the degree evaluated first prior to evaluating additional education credits. All submitted degrees must be from an educational institution that is accredited by a regional or national accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education.~~

~~(97) A candidate with multiple degrees shall not be able to accumulate credit for more than one degree unless he or she has they have received one professional degree in architecture and one post professional degree in architecture or with an emphasis on architecture as specified in subsection (a)(14)(A)(8). Otherwise, the degree that receives the most credit as determined by subsection (a) shall take priority over any other degree.~~

~~(108) A candidate who possesses a professional degree and also possesses a post-professional degree in architecture or with an emphasis on architecture as specified in subsection (a)(14)(A)(8) shall be granted one additional year credit for the post professional degree.~~

~~(119) Degrees from a foreign college or university shall be granted credit, as determined by the applicable category contained in subsections (a)(1) through (7). A transcript(s) certified by the college or university must be evaluated by NAAB or an~~

educational evaluation service, approved by the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services, Inc. (NACES) equating the degree toward a comparable U.S. degree. Any cost of evaluation shall be the responsibility of the candidate. Professional degrees accredited by CACB shall be accepted by the Board and shall not be required to be evaluated by NAAB or an NACES education evaluation service equating the degree toward a comparable U.S. degree.

(4210) Units from a foreign college or university shall be granted credit, as provided for in the applicable category contained in subsections (a)(1) through (54) upon submission of a transcript(s) certified by the college or university. These certified documents must be evaluated by NAAB or an NACES educational evaluation service equating the units toward a comparable U.S. degree. Any cost of evaluation shall be the responsibility of the candidate. ~~Professional Units degrees~~ accredited by CACB shall be accepted by the Board and shall not be required to be evaluated by NAAB or an NACES education evaluation service equating the units degree towards a comparable U.S. degree.

(c) Training Equivalents:

~~“Training equivalents” shall mean Table categories (a)(8) through (a)(15).~~

(1) Candidates shall be at least 18 years of age or possess a high school or high school equivalent degree graduate before they shall be eligible to receive training credit for work experience.

(2) Except as provided below, work experience shall be granted training credit only when:

(A) The supervising professional is licensed or registered in a United States jurisdiction or a Canadian province and the work experience is obtained or the project is located in a United States jurisdiction or Canadian province, or

(B) The supervising professional is licensed or registered in a qualifying foreign country where the work experience is obtained or the project is located.

Training credit shall be granted for work experience obtained under the authority of or on the property of the United States Federal Government when the work experience is obtained as or under the direct supervision of a licensed or registered professional as defined in subsections (a)(89), (a)(12)(A), and (a)(4315).

The term “qualifying foreign country” shall mean a foreign country whose standards and qualifications for issuing a license or registration to practice architecture are equivalent to those required in this state.

(3) Employment shall be considered on the basis of a calendar month of 40-hour work weeks. Credit may be given for overtime. Primary source documentation shall mean issued directly from the program or sent from a United States or Canadian regulatory body.

(4) Every candidate shall earn at least one year of training credit for experience as or under the direct supervision of an architect(s) licensed or registered in a United States jurisdiction granted at 100% credit or at least two years of experience under the direct supervision of an architect(s) registered in a Canadian province granted at 50% credit.

~~(5) Any combination of credit received under subsections (a)(10)(B) and (a)(12)(A) shall not exceed the two years maximum credit allowed for experience as, or experience obtained under the direct supervision of, a registered civil or structural engineer and/or a licensed landscape architect licensed in a United States jurisdiction. Any combination of credit received under subsections (a)(10)(C) and (a)(12)(B) shall not exceed the one year maximum credit allowed for experience as, or experience obtained under the direct supervision of, a California licensed general building contractor. Any combination of credit received under subsections (a)(10)(D) and (a)(12)(C) shall not exceed the one year maximum credit allowed for experience as, or experience obtained under the direct supervision of, a California certified building official. Any combination of credit received under subsections (a)(10)(E) and (a)(15)(A) or (B) shall not exceed the maximum credit allowed for experience as, or experience obtained under the direct supervision of, a foreign licensed architect licensed in the qualifying foreign country where the experience occurred. A candidate cannot exceed two years maximum credit in any combination under subsections (a)(10)(B) through (D) and (a)(12)(A) through (C).~~

(65) Pursuant to Business and Professions Code 7068(b), ~~E~~experience under the supervision of a "responsible managing officer," "responsible managing employee," "responsible managing manager," or "responsible managing member" operating under a corporate contractor license shall qualify as experience under subsection (a)(12)(B)(13) and shall be verified by the responsible managing officer, responsible managing employee, responsible managing manager, or responsible managing member of that licensed entity corporation.

(76) For the purpose of this section, a California certified building official shall be as defined by Section 18949.27 of the Health and Safety Code as an individual who is certified in accordance with or otherwise exempt from Chapter 7, Part 2.5 of Division 13 (commencing with Health and Safety Code Section 18949.25).

(8) ~~The entry point for IDP shall be as defined in NCARB's *Intern Development Program Guidelines*, as referenced in section 109(b)(2).~~

~~(d) Practice Equivalents:~~

~~"Practice equivalents" shall mean Table categories (a)(8) through (a)(15).~~

~~(1) Practice credits for experience as a licensed architect, registered civil and/or structural engineer, California licensed general building contractor, licensed landscape architect, or certified California building official may be accumulated only after initial registration, licensure or certification by a licensing authority of a political jurisdiction.~~

~~(27) A candidate verifying his or her their experience as an an licensed architect, registered-civil and/or structural engineer, California licensed-general building contractor, licensed-landscape architect, or certified-California certified building official may accumulate experience only after obtaining initial registration, licensure, or certification from the appropriate licensing authority of the relevant political jurisdiction. The candidate shall submit each of the following:~~

~~(A) complete an Completed Employment Verification Form, 19C-12 (NEW 6/2024) as referenced in section 109 (b)(3)(C)(iii); and (19C-12)(3/2006) available from the Board on his or her own behalf,~~

~~(B) submit pProof of licensure, registration, or certification in each jurisdiction where they possess(ed) a license, registration, or certification, and attach a list of projects for the time period covered. The list shall include: the names and addresses of the clients, type of projects, construction costs, date project was started, date of completion, and all services provided by the candidate.~~

~~(e) Miscellaneous Information:~~

~~(1) Independent, non-licensed practice or experience, regardless of claimed coordination or liaison with licensed professionals, shall not be granted credit.~~

~~(2) Training experience under subsections (a)(10)(B) through (D), (a)(12), or (a)(14) can only be accumulated after the candidate has obtained credit for at least the five years of educational equivalents as evaluated by the Board. Candidates who are certified as having completed the requirements of IDP as referenced in section 109(b)(2), based upon receipt in the Board office of the candidate's current and valid NCARB-IDP file transmitted by NCARB, or IAP, as referenced in section 109(b)(2), based upon receipt in the Board office of documentation transmitted by a Canadian provincial architectural association, are exempt from this requirement for their IDP/IAP training units.~~

Note: Authority cited: Sections 5526, 5550 and 5552, Business and Professions Code.
Reference: Sections 5550 and 5552, Business and Professions Code.