

REVISED POLICY ON DELINQUENT EXPERIENCE SUBMISSIONS
(approved by Council at its meeting on October 22, 2019)

The Internship in Architecture Program (IAP) manual includes the Canadian Experience Record Book. Since the IAP format was first introduced in 1997, it has provided for the review and evaluation of experience logged by individuals enrolled in the program (and working towards satisfaction of the Canadian Experience Standard, as part of the requirements for admission to registered membership) at the end of each 900 - 1,000 hours; and experience must be logged and submitted for review to the applicable provincial/territorial association within 8 weeks following the ending date of each such period.

For quite some time, the MAA has attempted to deal with the growing problem of delinquent experience submissions. Despite the policies that have previously been implemented by the MAA:

- at the outset of the program to discourage late submissions (with financial penalties);
- in the spring of 2015, to curb the number of delinquent submissions (that were more than one year late); and
- in the summer of 2018, to address the constant increasing number of multiple experience submissions;

all have failed to achieve the desired outcome.

By the spring of 2019, a closer examination revealed that approximately 40 - 50% of all regular experience submissions that are received continue to be late (beyond the requirement of the 8 weeks from the date of the last entry as outlined in the IAP manual). In addition, there were a growing number of problems with submissions relating to experience gained more than a year prior, as it:

- a) seriously compromises the review process by the MAA's Registration Board and any comments that Board members might offer;
- b) creates an additional workload on the part of the MAA staff as well, for no good reason (since comments and concerns that are formally documented are often challenged and/or irrelevant, by the time they are communicated on a delinquent submission); and
- c) often times, seriously compromises the intended role of the mentor.

In addition to the concerns that had been identified, it was also noted that the Alberta Association of Architects had had growing concerns as well and had notified the provincial/territorial associations in Canada in April, 2019, that it had implemented a policy which provided (with six months advance notice to its own interns) that as of October, 2019 it would no longer consider any experience submissions that were more than six months late and such hours would be forfeited.

The following motion was considered and approved at the Council meeting on October 22, 2019:

.....THAT, based on the recommendation of the Registration Board and in an effort to maintain the integrity of the process outlined in the Internship in Architecture Program (IAP) manual, the MAA implement a revised policy, to become effective May 1, 2020, as follows:

- **foreign graduates be provided with up to three (3) months following admission to intern membership in the MAA, to log and submit any and all relevant past experience in Canada, for the review and consideration of the Registration Board, without limit or penalty;**
 - **interns that are transferring existing experience records from another jurisdiction in Canada be provided with up to three (3) months following admission to intern membership in the MAA, to have such experience transferred by the relevant association, for review and consideration of the MAA's Registration Board, without limit or penalty;**
 - **late penalties for experience submissions that are not received within eight weeks of the date of the last entry, as required under the provisions of the IAP manual, be increased by 50% to an amount of \$157.50 (including GST) for each 900 to 1,000 hours or portion thereof;**
 - **any experience submissions that are not received within one year from the date of the last entry (for each 900 to 1,000 hour period), except as provided in the case of foreign graduates and/or the transfer of existing experience records as noted above, be deemed ineligible for review and consideration towards the minimum experience requirements for registered membership in the MAA; and**
- that all intern (and Syllabus student) members be put on notice of the new requirements, as soon as possible.**

Information concerning this policy was forwarded by both email and regular mail on October 30, 2019, to all intern and Syllabus student members of the MAA, providing the intended 6 month notice.