

MISSISSIPPI STATE BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE
RULES AND REGULATIONS
Proposed Rule Revisions | Filed with MS SOS on May 7, 2026

CLEAN

Title 30, Part 201, Chapter 3: General Rules

Rule 3.2 Practice Procedures

3.2.1 An architect can practice as a sole proprietor, or, pursuant to *Miss. Code Ann. §73-1-19(1)*, a “business entity” consisting of a partnership, professional association, joint enterprise, corporation, professional corporation, limited liability company or professional limited liability company, subject to the following conditions:

- A. each active partner, member or stockholder, and each officer, director or manager of the business entity must hold a certificate to practice architecture, landscape architecture or engineering in that member's state of residence, and at least one (1) active member or stockholder must hold a certificate to practice architecture in this state.
- B. in any business entity with ownership by a registered landscape architect or landscape architects, a minimum of two-thirds (2/3) of the partners, joint owners, stockholders, directors, officers, members, managers and others, depending on the legal structure of the business entity, shall be registered architects or registered professional engineers and no more than one-third (1/3) of the individual or collective ownership interest of the business entity may be owned by the landscape architect or landscape architects, whichever is applicable.

It is a specific purpose of this rule to restrict ownership interest in a multi-disciplinary business entity which is to advertise or otherwise hold itself out to be an architect or to be authorized to practice architecture to only licensed architects, landscape architects or engineers.

3.2.2 All stationery, printed matter, title blocks, and listings of an architectural business entity, including a sole proprietorship, shall disclose the name of at least one (1) person who is registered as an architect in this state, and any business entity name listed on such documents shall be the business entity name(s) provided in conjunction with the architect’s registration with the Board. No person shall be named on any card, stationery, title block, printed matter or listing of such a business entity used in this state unless there is designated thereon whether or not such person is licensed in this state. Employees of a business entity that are not registered as an architect, landscape architect or engineer in any jurisdiction are allowed to use business cards for that business entity, provided that the job title of the individual is clearly stated and said title does not lead the public to believe the employee is a licensed architect in this state.

3.2.3 Registered architects are allowed to practice under or through a sole proprietorship or business entity in compliance with *Miss. Code Ann. §73-1-19* and all applicable rules. Unless the sole proprietorship or business entity name contains the name of at least one person who

holds an active Mississippi license to practice architecture, the name of at least one person licensed in Mississippi to practice architecture must be disclosed on any announcement, stationery, printed matter, contract, title block or listing.

EXAMPLES (Provided as guidelines only. This is not an exhaustive or complete listing of scenarios.):

ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED
<p>Smith and Jones Architecture (provided Smith and/or Jones are licensed architects and one or both is licensed as an architect in Mississippi)</p>	<p>Smith and Jones Architecture (when Smith and/or Jones are actively licensed in another jurisdiction, but neither is licensed in Mississippi and the name of the architect licensed in Mississippi is not also provided)</p>
<p>Williams and James Architecture John Doe, Architect (when Doe is licensed as an architect in Mississippi, but not Williams or James)</p>	<p>Williams and James Architecture (where Williams and/or James are actively licensed in another jurisdiction, but neither is licensed in Mississippi and the name of the architect licensed in Mississippi is not also provided)</p>
<p>Architecture Unlimited John Doe, Architect</p>	<p>Architecture Unlimited (when the name of the architect licensed in Mississippi is not also provided)</p>
<p>Doe and Smith, Architects and Engineers John Doe, Architect (when Doe is licensed as an architect in Mississippi and there are multiple architects in the firm)</p>	<p>Doe and Smith, Architects and Engineers (the Mississippi architect must be identified)</p>
<p>ABC Architects and Engineers John Doe, Architect (when Doe is licensed as an architect in Mississippi and there are multiple architects in the firm)</p>	<p>ABC Architects and Engineers (when the name of the architect licensed in Mississippi is not also provided)</p>

3.2.12 No business entity shall be entitled to a license to practice architecture in this state. Licensure is issued to individuals only. In conjunction with Mississippi licensure and renewal of licensure, applicants and architects must provide information as to any and all business entities through which the architect may be practicing architecture in Mississippi, including information about the business entity’s organization, ownership and activities.

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. §§ 73-1-1, 3, 13, 19, 29, & 35; 73-2-3; 73-13-45.*

Title 30, Part 201, Chapter 5: Disciplinary Actions

Rule 5.9 Disciplinary Penalties

Set forth below are guidelines from which disciplinary penalties will be imposed by the Board upon practitioners found guilty of violating the law and/or rules of the Board. One purpose of the guidelines is to give notice to licensees and others under the Board's jurisdiction of the range of penalties the Board may impose for violations of particular provisions of the law and/or rules. The guidelines are not meant to be all encompassing, are not meant to address every disciplinary circumstance that might occur and there may be other causes for the imposition of discipline not mentioned below upon which the Board may act.

The guidelines are based upon a single count violation of each provision listed and are a guideline only. Multiple counts of violations of the same provision of the law or the rules promulgated thereto, or other unrelated violations contained in the same administrative complaint, will be grounds for enhancement of penalties. The Board shall be able to add to or deviate from the guidelines upon showing of aggravating or mitigating circumstances by clear and convincing evidence presented to the Board prior to the imposition of a final decision. The maximum penalty for any violation is revocation and a \$5,000 fine per violation.

In determining the penalty to be imposed, the Board shall consider the following factors:

- A. Whether the penalty imposed will be a substantial deterrent to the violation
- B. The circumstances leading to the violation
- C. The severity of the violation and the risk of harm to the public
- D. The economic benefits gained by the violator as a result of non-compliance
- E. The interest of the public
- F. Consistency of the penalty with past penalties for similar offenses, or justification for the penalty imposed
- G. Prior disciplinary action in any jurisdiction or repeated violations
- H. Self-reporting of the offense, cooperation with the Board's investigation, and any corrective action taken

These guidelines shall be followed by the Board in imposing disciplinary penalties upon licensees, applicants, intern architects, licensure candidates and examination candidates found guilty by a majority of the Board for violation of the above-mentioned statutes and rules. Further, and in addition to the above sanctions, upon a finding of guilty by a majority of the Board, the Board shall have the right to collect any legal, investigative, and/or administrative charges incurred by the Board during the course of the investigation. In addition to the above sanctions, the Board may also require the individual to take and successfully pass a state jurisprudence examination as a condition precedent to final resolution of the disciplinary action.

Disciplinary Penalties:

- A. Failure to stamp plans (4.5.5; 3.2.4):
Minimum Penalty-Letter of reprimand and \$500 fine
- B. Failure to sign over stamp (73-1-35; 3.2.4; 4.5.7):
Minimum Penalty-Same as (A) above

- C. Providing work not competent to perform (4.1.1; 4.1.3):
Minimum Penalty-Reprimand and \$2,500 fine
- D. "Plan Stamping" (73-1-35; 3.2.4; 4.5.2; 4.5.5; 4.5.9):
Minimum Penalty-Suspension and \$2,500 fine
- E. Attempting to procure a license by providing false, deceptive or misleading information (73-1-13(d)(iii); 73-1-29(b); 4.4.5):
Minimum Penalty-Revocation and \$2,500 fine if licensed (denial of license if application in process)
- F. Licensee disciplined by another jurisdiction (4.3.1; 4.3.4):
Minimum Penalty-Board discretion
- G. Criminal conviction relating to architecture (73-1-29(g); 4.3.1):
Minimum Penalty-Misdemeanor: reprimand and \$2,500 fine
Minimum Penalty-Felony: One (1) year suspension, one (1) year probation and \$2,500 fine
- H. Practice on suspended license resulting from disciplinary action by Board (73-1-29(e)):
Minimum Penalty-Revocation and \$5,000 fine
- I. Practice on inactive license (73-1-27; 73-1-29(e); 2.3):
Minimum Penalty-Fine based on length of time in practice while inactive; \$1,000 per month (penalty will require licensee to renew license or cease practice)
- J. Practice on revoked license based on non-payment of renewal fee (73-1-27; 73-1-29(e); 2.3):
Minimum Penalty-Fine based on length of time in practice while revoked; \$1,000 per month
- K. Fraudulent, false, deceptive or misleading advertising (73-1-1; 3.2.2; 3.2.3; 3.2.9; 3.2.11):
Minimum Penalty-Cease and desist letter and public reprimand
- L. Negligence (73-1-29(c); 4.1.1; 4.1.3):
Minimum Penalty-Reprimand, one (1) year probation and \$2,500 fine
- M. Fraud or Deceit (73-1-29(h); 4.5.4):
Minimum Penalty-Reprimand, one (1) year suspension, one (1) year probation and \$2,500 fine
- N. Incompetence (mental or physical impairment) (4.1.4):
Minimum Penalty-Suspension until ability to practice proved, followed by probation
- O. Bribery to obtain clients or commissions (4.3.3; 4.5.3):
Minimum Penalty-Revocation and \$5,000 fine
- P. Undisclosed conflict of interest (73-1-29(i); 4.2.1):
Minimum Penalty-Reprimand, \$2,500 fine and one (1) year probation
- Q. Aiding unlicensed practice (3.2.6(c); 4.3.2; 4.4.7; 4.4.8):
Minimum Penalty-Probation and \$2,500 fine
- R. Practicing architecture without a license (73-1-1; 73-1-13(d)(v); 73-1-29(a); 2.2):
Minimum Penalty-Reprimand and \$2,500 fine (denial of license if application in process)
- S. Practicing architecture through a business entity that does not comply with *Miss. Code Ann.* §73-1-19 or through a business entity that is not provided on the

- architect's record with the Board (73-1-19; 3.2.12):
Minimum Penalty-\$2,500 fine and test on Board laws and rules
- T. Violating the provisions of the construction administration rule (3.2.16):
Minimum Penalty-\$1,500 fine
 - U. Failure to comply with continuing education requirements (6.2):
Minimum Penalty-Admonition and \$500 fine for each calendar year in which any number of the required continuing education hours were deficient

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. §73-1-29(4)*

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MARK-UP

Title 30, Part 201, Chapter 3: General Rules

Rule 3.2 Practice Procedures

3.2.1 An architect can practice as a sole proprietor, or, pursuant to *Miss. Code Ann. §73-1-19(1)*, a “business entity” ~~through consisting of a partnership, professional association, joint enterprise, corporation, a professional corporation, or a professional association pursuant to *Miss. Code Ann. 79-10-1, et seq., as amended, or through a limited liability company or professional limited liability company pursuant to *Miss. Code Ann. 79-29-901, et seq., as amended,**~~ subject to the following conditions:

- A. ~~as to a partnership, at least one active partner must hold a certificate to practice architecture in Mississippi and each active partner shall hold a certificate to practice architecture or engineering in that partner’s state of residence. each active partner, member or stockholder, and each officer, director or manager of the business entity must hold a certificate to practice architecture, landscape architecture or engineering in that member's state of residence, and at least one (1) active member or stockholder must hold a certificate to practice architecture in this state.~~
- B. ~~as to a professional corporation (“PC”) or a professional association (“PA”), each must meet the following conditions:~~
 - 1. ~~at least one active stockholder must hold a certificate to practice architecture in Mississippi; and~~
 - 2. ~~each stockholder, director and officer shall hold a certificate to practice architecture or engineering in that person’s state of residence; and~~
 - 3. ~~no person shall be entitled to be a stockholder, officer or director of a PC or a PA offering architectural services in this state other than licensed architects and engineers. in any business entity with ownership by a registered landscape architect or landscape architects, a minimum of two-thirds (2/3) of the partners, joint owners, stockholders, directors, officers, members, managers and others, depending on the legal structure of the business entity, shall be registered architects or registered professional engineers and no more than one-third (1/3) of the individual or collective ownership interest of the business entity may be owned by the landscape architect or landscape architects, whichever is applicable.~~
- C. ~~as to a professional limited liability corporation (“PLLC”), each must meet the following conditions:~~
 - 1. ~~at least one owner of a membership interest in the PLLC shall hold a certificate to practice architecture in Mississippi; and~~
 - 2. ~~each owner of a membership interest and any managers of the PLLC shall hold a certificate to practice architecture or engineering in that person’s state of residence; and~~
 - 3. ~~no person shall be entitled to hold a membership interest in or be a manager of~~

~~“PLLC” offering architectural services in this state other than licensed architects and engineers.~~

~~It is a specific purpose of this rule to restrict or condition the issuance of shares of a professional corporation and the issuance of membership interests in a professional limited liability company ownership interest in a [multi-disciplinary] business entity which is to advertise or otherwise hold itself out to be an architect or to be authorized to practice architecture to only licensed architects, landscape architects or engineers.~~

3.2.2 All stationery, printed matter, title blocks, and listings of an architectural ~~firm or business entity~~, including a sole proprietorship, shall ~~contain~~ disclose the name of at least one (1) person who is registered as an architect in this state, and any ~~firm or business entity~~ name listed on such documents shall be the ~~firm or business entity~~ name(s) provided in conjunction with the architect’s registration with the Board. No person shall be named on any card, stationery, title block, printed matter or listing of such a ~~firm-business entity (partnership, professional corporation, professional association, or professional limited liability company)~~ used in this state unless there is designated thereon whether or not such person is licensed in this state. Employees of a ~~firm-business entity~~ that are not registered as an architect, landscape architect or engineer in any jurisdiction are allowed to use business cards for that ~~firm-business entity~~, provided that the job title of the individual is clearly stated and said title does not lead the public to believe the employee is a licensed architect in this state.

3.2.3 Registered architects are allowed to practice under or through a ~~firm-sole proprietorship or business entity~~ in compliance with *Miss. Code Ann.* §73-1-19 and all applicable rules. Unless the sole proprietorship or business entity name contains the name of at least one person who holds an active Mississippi license to practice architecture, the name of at least one person licensed in Mississippi to practice architecture must be disclosed on any announcement, stationery, printed matter, contract, title block or listing. ~~Allowable firm or business names are names which:~~

- ~~A. contain the name of at least one individual who holds an active Mississippi license; or~~
- ~~B. contain no person’s name, provided however, that the name of at least one individual licensed in Mississippi is disclosed on any announcement, stationery, printed matter, contract, title block or listing; or~~
- ~~C. contain the name or names of individuals who were once licensed architects (in any jurisdiction) but are now retired or deceased, provided however, that the name of at least one person licensed in Mississippi is disclosed on any announcement, stationery, printed matter, contract, title block or listing.~~

~~Firm and business names are considered improper if they contain the name or names of individuals actively licensed in another jurisdiction if none of the individuals named in the firm name are actively licensed in Mississippi.~~

EXAMPLES (Provided as guidelines only. This is not an exhaustive or complete listing of scenarios.):

ALLOWED	NOT ALLOWED
<p>Smith and Jones Architecture (provided Smith and/or Jones are licensed architects and one or both is licensed as an architect in Mississippi)</p>	<p>Smith and Jones Architecture (when Smith and/or Jones are actively licensed in another jurisdiction, but neither is licensed in Mississippi <u>and the name of the architect licensed in Mississippi is not also provided</u>)</p>
<p>Williams and James Architecture John Doe, Architect (only if both Williams and James are retired or deceased <u>when Doe is licensed as an architect in Mississippi, but not Williams or James</u>)</p>	<p>Williams and James Architecture (where Williams and/or James are actively licensed in another jurisdiction, but neither is licensed in Mississippi <u>and the name of the architect licensed in Mississippi is not also provided</u>)</p>
<p>Architecture Unlimited John Doe, Architect</p>	<p>Architecture Unlimited (when the name of the architect licensed in Mississippi is not also provided)</p>
<p>Doe and Smith, Architects and Engineers John Doe, Architect (when Doe is licensed as an architect in Mississippi and there are multiple architects in the firm)</p>	<p>Doe and Smith, Architects and Engineers (the Mississippi architect must be identified)</p>
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3.2.12 No ~~professional corporation, professional association, professional limited liability company, nor any partnership~~ business entity shall be entitled to a license to practice architecture in this state. Licensure is issued to individuals only. In conjunction with Mississippi licensure and renewal of licensure, applicants and architects must provide information as to any and all business entities through which the architect may be practicing architecture in Mississippi, including information about the business entity's organization, ownership and activities.

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In determining the penalty to be imposed, the Board shall consider the following factors:

- A. Whether the penalty imposed will be a substantial deterrent to the violation
- B. The circumstances leading to the violation
- C. The severity of the violation and the risk of harm to the public
- D. The economic benefits gained by the violator as a result of non-compliance
- E. The interest of the public
- F. Consistency of the penalty with past penalties for similar offenses, or justification for the penalty imposed
- G. Prior disciplinary action in any jurisdiction or repeated violations
- H. Self-reporting of the offense, cooperation with the Board's investigation, and any corrective action taken

These guidelines shall be followed by the Board in imposing disciplinary penalties upon licensees, applicants, intern architects, licensure candidates and examination candidates found guilty by a majority of the Board for violation of the above-mentioned statutes and rules. Further, and in addition to the above sanctions, upon a finding of guilty by a majority of the Board, the Board shall have the right to collect any legal, investigative, and/or administrative charges incurred by the Board during the course of the investigation. In addition to the above sanctions, the Board may also require the individual to take and successfully pass a state jurisprudence examination as a condition precedent to final resolution of the disciplinary action.

Disciplinary Penalties:

- A. Failure to stamp plans (4.5.5; 3.2.4):
Minimum Penalty-Letter of reprimand and \$500 fine
- B. Failure to sign over stamp (73-1-35; 3.2.4; 4.5.7):
Minimum Penalty-Same as (A) above
- C. Providing work not competent to perform (4.1.1; 4.1.3):
Minimum Penalty-Reprimand and \$2,500 fine
- D. "Plan Stamping" (73-1-35; 3.2.4; 4.5.2; 4.5.5; 4.5.9):
Minimum Penalty-Suspension and \$2,500 fine
- E. Attempting to procure a license by providing false, deceptive or misleading information (73-1-13(d)(iii); 73-1-29(b); 4.4.5):
Minimum Penalty-Revocation and \$2,500 fine if licensed (denial of license if

- application in process)
- F. License disciplined by another jurisdiction (4.3.1; 4.3.4):
Minimum Penalty-Board discretion
 - G. Criminal conviction relating to architecture (73-1-29(g); 4.3.1):
Minimum Penalty-Misdemeanor: reprimand and \$2,500 fine
Minimum Penalty-Felony: One (1) year suspension, one (1) year probation and \$2,500 fine
 - H. Practice on suspended license resulting from disciplinary action by Board (73-1-29(e)):
Minimum Penalty-Revocation and \$5,000 fine
 - I. Practice on inactive license (73-1-27; 73-1-29(e); 2.3):
Minimum Penalty-Fine based on length of time in practice while inactive; \$1,000 per month (penalty will require licensee to renew license or cease practice)
 - J. Practice on revoked license based on non-payment of renewal fee (73-1-27; 73-1-29(e); 2.3):
Minimum Penalty-Fine based on length of time in practice while revoked; \$1,000 per month
 - K. Fraudulent, false, deceptive or misleading advertising (73-1-1; 3.2.2; 3.2.3; 3.2.9; 3.2.11):
Minimum Penalty-Cease and desist letter and public reprimand
 - L. Negligence (73-1-29(c); 4.1.1; 4.1.3):
Minimum Penalty-Reprimand, one (1) year probation and \$2,500 fine
 - M. Fraud or Deceit (73-1-29(h); 4.5.4):
Minimum Penalty-Reprimand, one (1) year suspension, one (1) year probation and \$2,500 fine
 - N. Incompetence (mental or physical impairment) (4.1.4):
Minimum Penalty-Suspension until ability to practice proved, followed by probation
 - O. Bribery to obtain clients or commissions (4.3.3; 4.5.3):
Minimum Penalty-Revocation and \$5,000 fine
 - P. Undisclosed conflict of interest (73-1-29(i); 4.2.1):
Minimum Penalty-Reprimand, \$2,500 fine and one (1) year probation
 - Q. Aiding unlicensed practice (3.2.6(c); 4.3.2; 4.4.7; 4.4.8):
Minimum Penalty-Probation and \$2,500 fine
 - R. Practicing architecture without a license (73-1-1; 73-1-13(d)(v); 73-1-29(a); 2.2):
Minimum Penalty-Reprimand and \$2,500 fine (denial of license if application in process)
 - S. Practicing architecture through a business ~~corporation~~ entity that does not comply with *Miss. Code Ann. §73-1-19* or through a business entity that is not provided on the architect's record with the Board (73-1-19; 3.2.12):
Minimum Penalty-\$2,500 fine and test on Board laws and rules
 - T. Violating the provisions of the construction administration rule (3.2.16):
Minimum Penalty-\$1,500 fine
 - U. Failure to comply with continuing education requirements (6.2):
Minimum Penalty-Admonition and \$500 fine for each calendar year in which any number of the required continuing education hours were

deficient

Source: *Miss. Code Ann. §73-1-29(4)*