



**The American  
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of Architects**

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# Resources for new architecture graduates



**AIA**

# CONGRATULATIONS!

Welcome to an exciting and impactful career.

Success as an architecture professional demands motivation and hard work—and it provides an opportunity to pursue your passions, improve communities, and change the world.

AIA is one of the largest organizations of architecture and design professionals—a global community of architects and designers with a common purpose. We're passionate about driving positive change through the power of design, and we support new professionals through every stage of their careers.

Here are some tips to kicking off your career with success.



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When you join a community of architecture and design professionals—especially one with local, national, and international ties—you engage with peers and potential employers, increase your knowledge, and become a leader. Consider connecting through:

## Build your network

- Your alma mater's alumni group and professional associations
- Events and activities hosted by architecture schools and AIA chapters
- Local events and state and regional conferences
- Conferences like the AIA Conference on Architecture, one of the largest architecture events in the industry
- Find a local AIA chapter at [www.aia.org/find-chapter](http://www.aia.org/find-chapter)





## Get a strong start

Through compensation, culture, projects, and leadership opportunities, your first job shapes where and how you live, work, and advance. Increase your chances of finding the right first job by:

- Creating an effective resume and portfolio
- Browsing postings and getting help with job materials through the AIA Career Center
- Evaluating opportunities with tools like AIA's salary calculator, available at [info.aia.org/salary](https://info.aia.org/salary)
- Visit [careercenter.aia.org](https://careercenter.aia.org) to get started



## Get licensed

Preparing for the Architect Registration Exam™ (ARE™)? Increase your odds of success by:

- Seeking out study groups, prep sessions, study materials, and a local AIA chapter
- Exploring the 100+ hours of video tutorials that AIA provides in partnership with Black Spectacles found at [www.aia.org/areprep](http://www.aia.org/areprep)
- Taking advantage of diverse opportunities to earn experience hours by participating in design competitions and taking AIAU courses online
- Getting up to speed on the latest AIA Contract Documents at [www.aia.org/areprep](http://www.aia.org/areprep)





## Proceed with passion & purpose

You've worked hard, graduated, and are poised for a promising career. Now it's time to become the best architect you can be. What comes next will be critical in shaping your future success.

To do the work you've always wanted to do, enlist a professional development partner with resources that help you:

- Build and grow your professional network
- Find your next job
- Prepare for exams



**Join AIA for free\***

Join AIA upon graduation and receive complimentary membership for up to 18 months—plus free registration to the AIA Conference on Architecture.

Get the details at [www.aia.org/join\\_grad](http://www.aia.org/join_grad).



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