Community Design

CAREER

Landscape architects engage communities in the design process using interactive techniques including workshops, focus groups, charrettes, surveys and face-to-face interviews. They work with real people solving real problems in the cities and towns where they live. Community designers address issues of climate change, cultural resource preservation, urban agriculture, redevelopment of vacant properties, crime prevention through environmental design, and a range of planning and design activities that embrace the views of community residents. Students practice community design with clients and public agencies within the State of Maryland including the cities of Washington DC, Baltimore, Frederick, Cambridge, and counties from the eastern shore to the Appalachian mountains.

EMPLOYMENT OPTIONS

- **Community Design Practice**
  - Hood Design Studio, Inc., Mia Lehrer + Associates
  - Hooper landscape architecture and urban design
  - Jones & Jones, MIG, Design Jones, CO’DESIGN, LLC
  - Commonstudio, MAC Studio, Inc., SCAPE
  - AGENCY Landscape + Planning

- **Federal, State and Municipal Agencies**
  - Planning and Zoning, Transportation, Parks & Recreation
  - US Forest Service, National Park Service

- **Non-profit organizations**
  - Neighborhood Design Center, Casey Trees
  - Project for Public Spaces

RELATED COURSEWORK

- LARC 141 Design Fundamentals Studio
- LARC 151 Urban Agriculture: Designing and Assessing Edible Landscapes
- LARC 160 Introduction to Landscape Architecture
- LARC 263 History of Landscape Architecture
- LARC 389 Internship/Study Abroad
- LARC 461 People and the Environment
- LARC 470 Landscape Architecture Seminar
- LARC 471 Capstone Studio: Community Design
Professional Practice
Landscape Architect Career Path

Private Office

Entry Level ($45-60K)
- Design - Graphic Presentations
- Construction Details - Site Layout
- Specifications - Site Inventory & Analysis
- Computer-aided Design (CAD)
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

Project Manager ($60-85K)
- Design - Quality Control
- Technical Supervision - Budgeting
- Construction Management
- Cost Estimation

Associate ($85-110K)
- Design - Client Communication
- Proposal Submission
- Project Supervision

Principal/President ($110K+)
- Design - Hiring Decisions
- New Directions - Marketing
- Client Communication

Public Agency ($ varies)
Non-Profit Org. ($ varies)

Licensing
Licensed landscape architects have a duty to protect the safety, health, property, and welfare of the public. A license is necessary for the purposes of sealing and signing all final drawings, plans, specifications, reports, and other contract documents used for public permitting and final construction. To apply for a license, you need an accredited degree in landscape architecture, to pass the national exam, and complete a 2-year apprenticeship.

Accredited Degree Requirement
University of Maryland Landscape Architecture is a nationally accredited landscape architecture degree program.

National Licensing Exam (LARE)
Must complete:
- Section 1: Project and Construction Management
- Section 2: Inventory and Analysis
- Section 3: Design
- Section 4: Grading, Drainage and Construction Documentation

2-year Apprenticeship
Individuals must work for two years in the field of landscape architecture under the responsible charge of a licensed landscape architect.