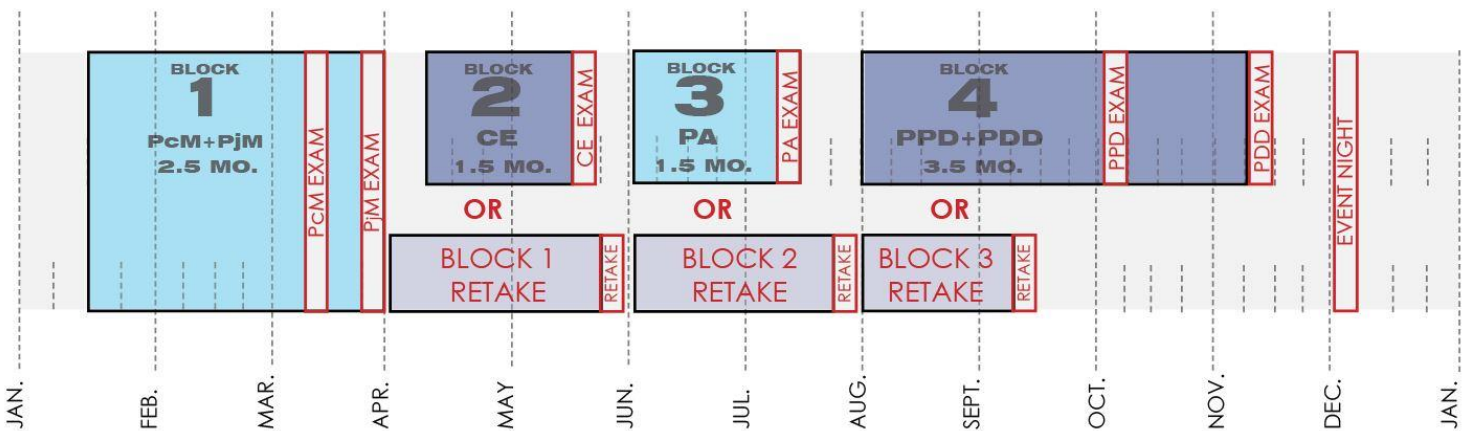


### What is the ARE Success Team Program?

It's an accelerated study program designed to support ARE candidates through a structured and focused approach, providing the materials, mentorship, and camaraderie needed to pass the Architect Registration Examination (ARE). The program will feature recurring meetings with mentors, where all participants gather and go over study strategies, exam experiences, trade study materials, etc. and occasionally compete in friendly ARE trivia games.

The six divisions of ARE 5.0 are organized into four blocks, with breaks scheduled in between each, tentatively:

- Block 1: PcM + PjM    Jan 15 - Mar 31
- Block 2: CE            April 8 - May 23
- Block 3: PA            Jun 1 - July 16
- Block 4: PPD + PDD    Aug 5 - Nov 15



### What is the goal of the ARE Success Team?

Each participant in the program will commit to taking all six divisions of ARE 5.0 in an 11-month period; and will pass the ARE and become a licensed architect by the end of the year. Everyone in the program is expected to continue to offer support to fellow members until every member of the group passes all six of his or her divisions.

### Who can participate in the ARE Success Team?

Associates with an active NCARB Record, who are eligible to test, are welcome. Participants are required to show proof of [ARE Eligibility](#) from NCARB. AIA members will enjoy a discounted rate to enroll in the program.

### How do I join the ARE Success Team?

Complete the online application. Once accepted, you will be invoiced for the program fee which will be due at time of first session in January.

### What is the cost?

\$250 AIA Dallas and Northeast Texas Members/ \$350 Non-Members. Non-refundable.

#### New this year:

- Participants who managed to take all six exams as planned, and passed at least five by the end of the program will receive a full refund to celebrate their SUCCESS!
- Partial enrollment is available for participants that completed the entire program once, but need to retake exams the following year.

### **How many people will be on the team?**

Each team will be comprised of 5-6 members, up to two teams total.

### **What do I commit to as a team member?**

At the initial meeting (Tuesday 1/15), participants will sign an agreement committing to taking the exams in the same order and on the same schedule as the other group members within the 11-month period. They will also agree to meet at least once prior to each exam to share tips, exchange information, offer support, and commiserate with understanding colleagues.

As a team member, you will commit to participating with professionalism and enthusiasm, working with other members to develop a realistic schedule for taking each section of the exam, attending all meetings scheduled by the group, and continuing to support group members until every member has passed all of his or her exams.

### **If I only have a few exams left, is it worth it for me to enroll in the program?**

This is totally up to you. Perhaps the program is exactly what you need to motivate and pass those last 1, 2, or 3 tests. However, you will be expected to follow the schedule with the rest of the participants.

### **What if I can't get a test scheduled in time for the deadline?**

We encourage the whole team to register for each exam within the same week – a recommended calendar will be distributed at the info session, and again at the kickoff session.

Exams can be scheduled up to 6 months out; we encourage participants to register as early on as possible to ensure the team can move forward together.

### **What if I fail an exam?**

Most candidates fail at some point during the process. If this happens, participants have the option at the beginning of the next block to either move forward as planned, or remain behind and attempt to retake the failed exam. Participants should not worry about falling behind if they stay back to retake an exam. Blocks are scheduled so that as soon as a participant returns from their retake, they are once again back with the other participants. A mentor, however, may not be available during your retake.

### **Team Assignments**

You may be grouped into teams based on geographic locations of your home or office, if needed. But all teams will come together at the mentor meetings.

### **I have a very full schedule. What if I fall behind on my studying?**

You have **committed** to a team of people that you are not going to fall behind. We have some strategies for your consideration.

Once you have joined the Success Team program, we will send a letter to your Principal and Project Manager/Direct Manager letting them know about your commitment. We recommend that you let everyone know you are on a fast-paced track to tackle the ARE in an 11-month period. You should give your colleagues a schedule/study plan, indicating the days you will be at study groups, lectures, and taking exams. In addition to the letter from AIA Dallas, we strongly recommend that you personally let your Principal/Project Manager know that you are taking the exams and about your commitment to your fellow Success Team members.

**What about study materials?**

AIA Dallas will provide teams with meeting space, access to various study materials, and administrative support. Each member will be able to check out their own copy of study materials available for a given division. A deposit, in form of a hold on a valid credit card, is required, in case of damages or lost or failure to return the study materials.

**What about ARE Prep lectures and events?**

The AIA Dallas Young Professionals Network host events throughout the year that correlate with the block schedule.

Success Team participants will get waived or discounted access to:

- ARE Lectures
- ARE Trivia Nights

AIA Dallas will make the best effort to arrange for these programs/events to coincide with the success team schedule.

Detailed schedule will be available and distributed at the kickoff session in January.

**Who are the mentors? And what can I expect from the mentors?**

Mentors are volunteers who have recently taken and successfully passed the specific division of the ARE 5.0 that they are mentoring. Mentors are carefully selected and trained, and are expected to meet with the participants at least three times within their specific block. Participants can expect a round-table page-turner meeting setting at at least one of these meetings, going over exam strategies and content on a very detailed manner. Other meetings can be expected to coincide with the aforementioned ARE lectures or trivia nights.

Different mentors will be assigned to each of the blocks, so participants will have the opportunity to learn from several mentors throughout the program.

If you have a mentor recommendation, let us know!

**I have more questions.**

Please contact Shirley Che at [sche@aiadallas.org](mailto:sche@aiadallas.org)