

“Introduction to ACHA: A Pillar of Healthcare Architecture and Design”

American College of Healthcare Architects (ACHA)

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Presenters:



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ACHA Board of Regents, President 2022



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ACHA Board of Regents, President-Elect 2022

Today's Agenda:

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3. ACHA is one of the 4 Pillars
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What is the ACHA?

- For the past 21 years, the College has offered the first and only, specialty certification recognized by the AIA.
- ACHA Board certification recognizes the achievement of a high level of professional competence and the continued education of Architects specializing in the practice of Healthcare Architecture, Planning, and Design.
- In the same way that medical specialists seek Board Certification in areas of medical practice to indicate specialization in training and practice, for architects specializing in healthcare design, the ACHA offers independent Board Certification in the healthcare design field.
- Firms are unable to receive accreditation by the ACHA. This certification is reserved only for individual Architects.

ACHA is one of the 4 Pillars

CERTIFICATION: American College of Healthcare Architects (ACHA)

- Leverages thought leadership in healthcare design
- Provides Board Certification in Healthcare Architecture

EDUCATION: Academy of Architecture for Health (AIA-AAH)

- Starting mentorship program
- Provides educational content

RESEARCH: Foundation for Health Environments Research

- New name for the Foundation.
- Restructuring how research is solicited and shared

GUIDELINES: The Facilities Guideline Institute (FGI)

- 2022 FGI Guidelines
- FGI is the common health care code in most States.



Monthly calls among
organization leadership

Who values ACHA certification?

- Since 1969, the American Hospital Association (AHA), and the American Society of Healthcare Engineers (ASHE), have promoted certification of health facilities managers through the CHFM credential. This has been the “gold standard” that most health entities look to for guidance. They also kept lists of qualified Architects and Engineers experienced enough to design in complex healthcare facilities for decades. In 1999 the ACHA standard was started to provide a defined standard. As of 2019, ASHE and the AHA promote the ACHA certification for Healthcare Architects.

The screenshot displays the ASHE website's navigation and content. At the top, the ASHE logo is accompanied by the tagline "Optimizing health care facilities". The navigation menu includes "My Learning", "Sponsors", "Join", "Store", "Register / Log In", and a search bar. Below the navigation, the main heading reads "ASHE recommends a certified team". The introductory text states: "Working in a health care facility is different from working in any other environment. To develop leaders in facility management and construction who understand the complexity of health care facilities, ASHE offers three professional certifications: Certified Healthcare Constructor (CHC), Certified Healthcare Facility Manager (CHFM), and Certified Health Care Physical Environment Worker." A link is provided to "view this chart" for more information. The page features four certification tiles, each with a "Get Certified" or "Learn More" button. The tiles are: 1) Certified Healthcare Constructor (CHC) with a "Get Certified" button; 2) Certified Healthcare Facility Manager (CHFM) with a "Get Certified" button; 3) Health Care Physical Environment Worker Certification with a "Learn More" button; and 4) American College of Healthcare Architects Certification with a "Learn More" button.

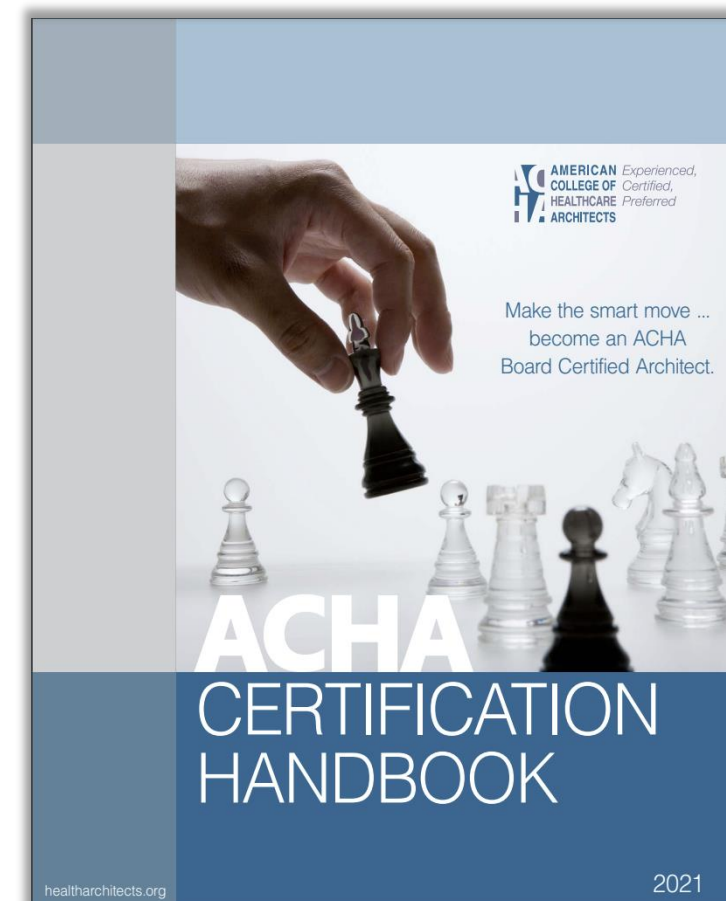
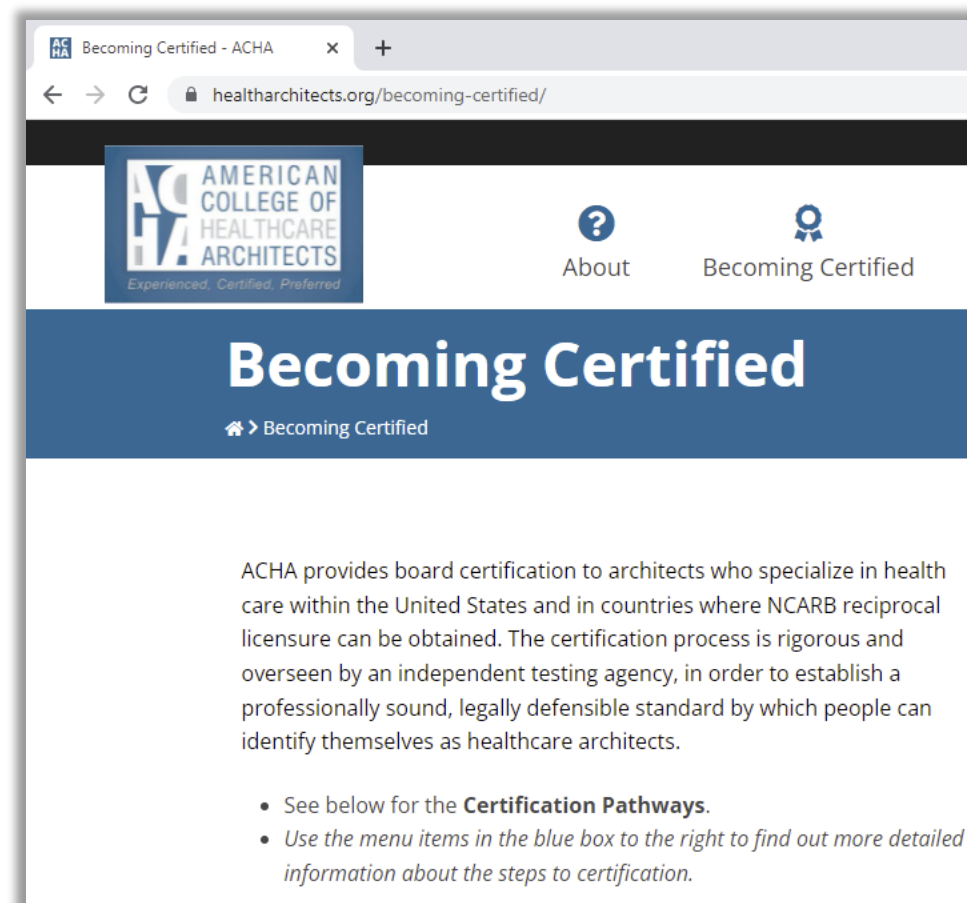


How does an Architect become ACHA Certified?

- Highly qualified and experienced Architects, licensed in the United States and in countries where NCARB reciprocal licensure can be obtained, who pass a rigorous exam administered by the College, and demonstrate their level of expertise through a portfolio of their healthcare design work, can achieve ACHA certification.
- After initial certification, annual re-certification is required in healthcare specific continuing education hours. Writing industry articles or speaking on healthcare design related topics at conferences also qualify for these hours. The hours are documented for each certificate holder in a central database.
- ACHA is NOT a membership organization. Failure to re-certify annually would result in the loss of certification within a 2 year period.

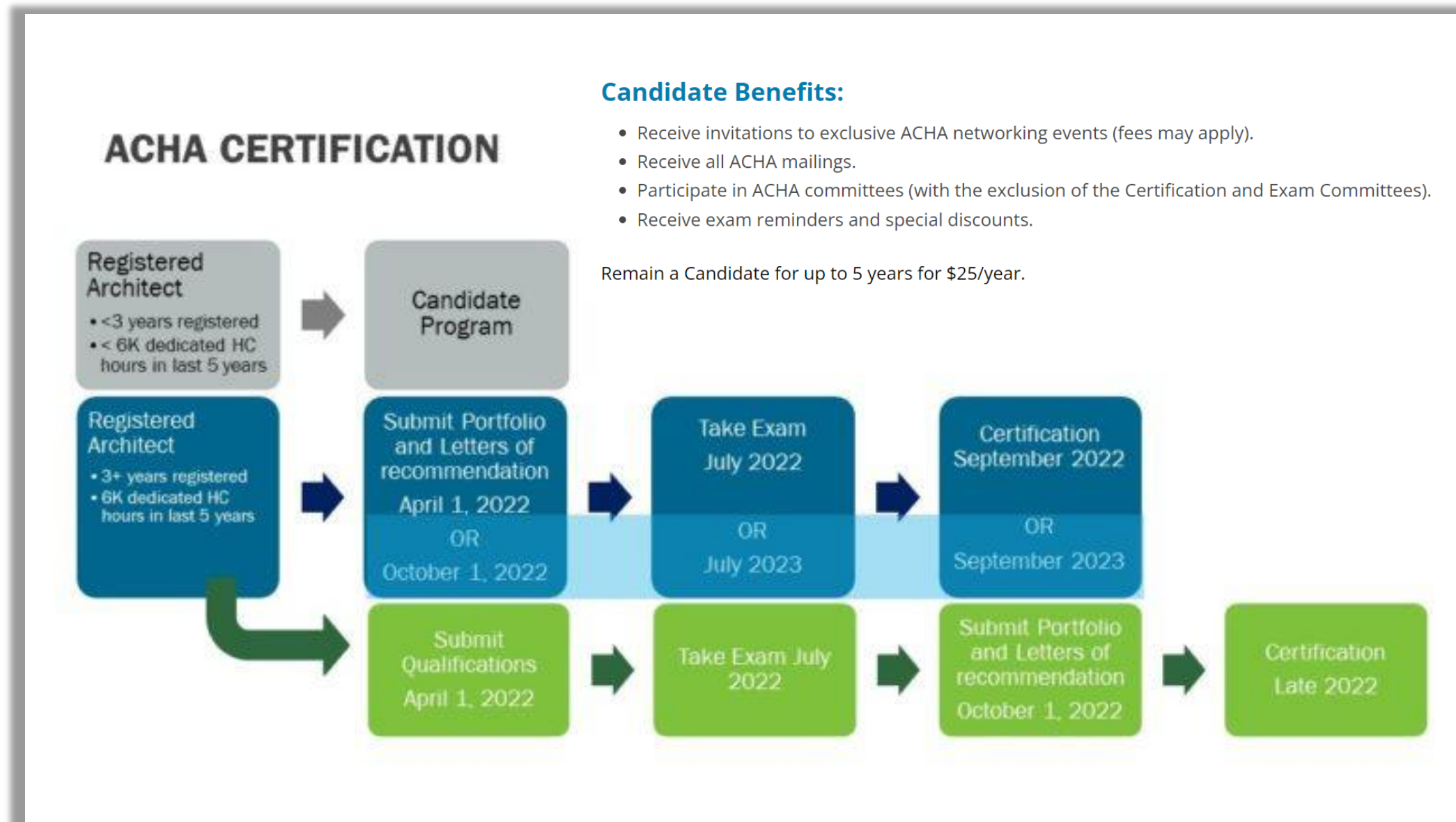
What are the eligibility requirements?

- Licensure for 3+ years within the U.S., or an NCARB recognized reciprocal license.
- 6,000+ hours total healthcare design experience within the last 5 years. (The hours of experience within the 5-year time frame may include pre-license experience)
- Portfolio of Healthcare Architecture projects (3-9 projects in the past 5 years)
- Three (3) Client Reference Letters
- Three (3) Architect Letters of Recommendation



What are the steps to the certification process?

- Certification pathways include a traditional direct path for experienced and licensed architects, or by joining a Candidate program for those who do not yet meet the eligibility requirements.



What does the exam include?

1. The exam is 110 questions with a 2.5 hour time limit and it covers the following aspects of Healthcare Architecture, Planning, and Design:
 - a) Health Facility Planning: strategic, site, and master planning.
 - b) Architectural design: healthcare code compliance (NFPA 101/FGI/JCAHO), departmental design, functional narratives, and space planning,
 - c) Construction Documents: contracts, working drawings, and specifications.
 - d) Construction Administration: infection control risk management, safety risk assessments, commissioning, and post-occupancy evaluations.
2. The exam is offered once a year during the month of July at 120 PSI locations in the United States.

The frozen section component of a laboratory is often located in close proximity to which of the following?

- A. Blood Bank
- B. Surgery**
- C. Imaging
- D. Emergency

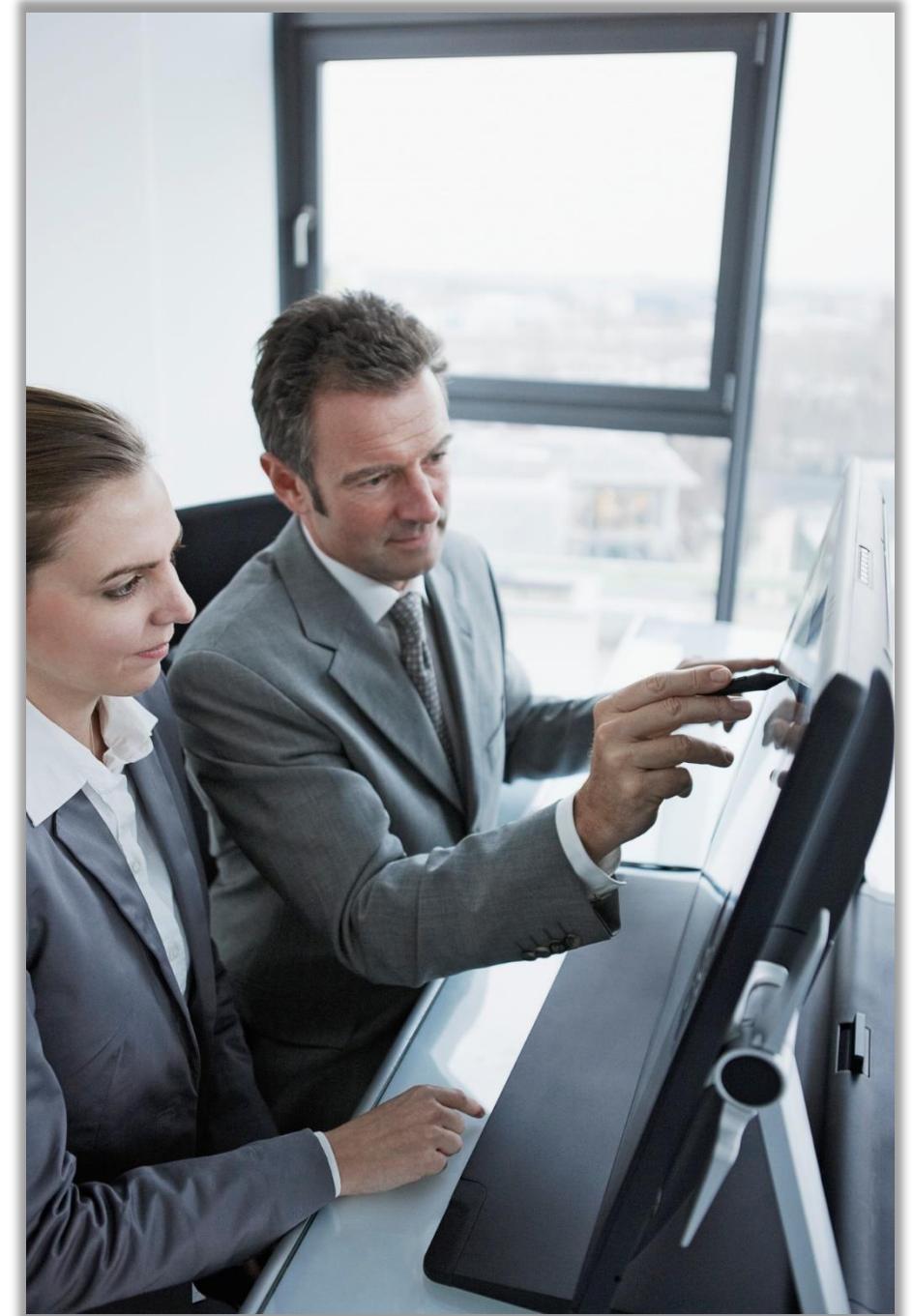
Nuclear Imaging scans typically allow observations of which of the following?

- A. Brain activity thru electronic physiological monitoring
- B. Ambulatory EKG recorded over a 24 hour period
- C. EEG & EKG monitoring via both video & audio monitoring
- D. Cardiovascular performance through monitoring & SPECT (single proton emission computed tomography)**

How many certificate holders are there?

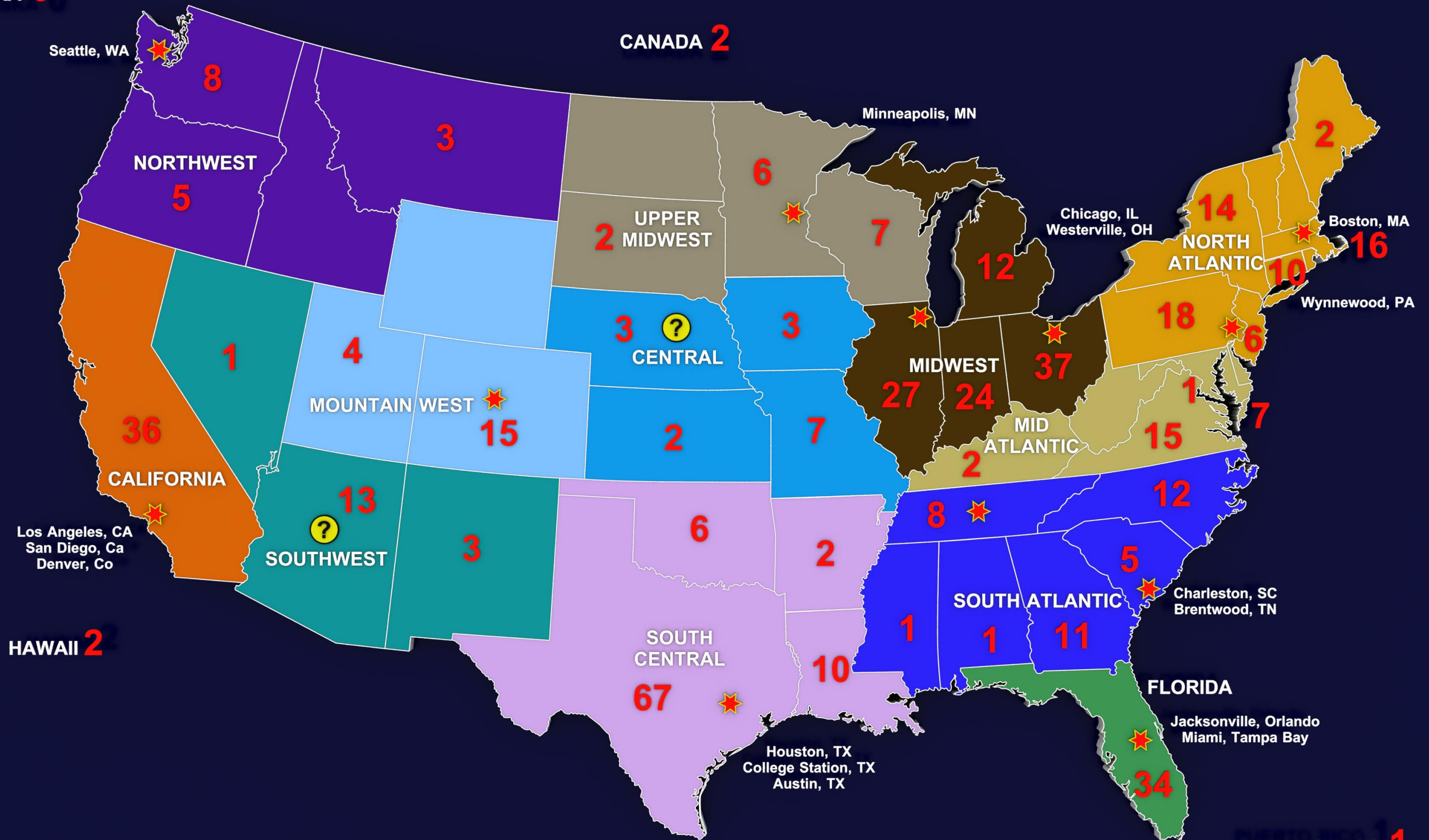
1. New Certificate Holders (as of September 2021): 32
2. Re-Certified for 2022: 356
3. Re-Certified Fellows for 2022: 32
4. Total Active Certificate Holders: 423
5. Emeritus ACHA: 84
6. Candidates active for 2022: 47

- ACHA-certified architects have an average of 28.7 years of health care design experience.
- ACHA-certified architects have published an article or a book on a health care topic an average of 4.5 times.
- ACHA-certified architects have presented a topic at a health care conference or similar event an average of 8.7 times.



2022 Certificate Holders by State, and AIA-AAH Regions Map

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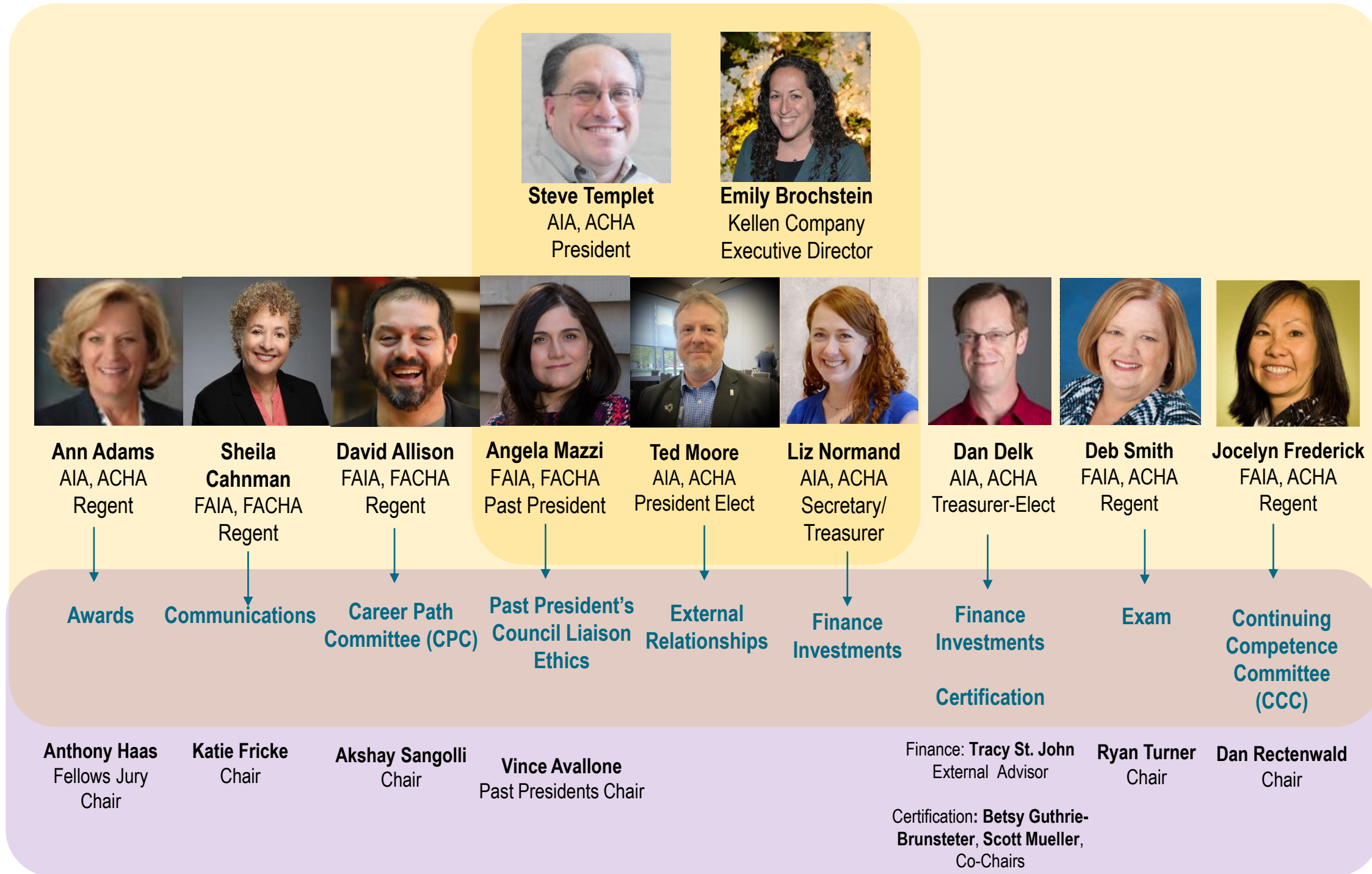


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2022 ACHA Board of Regents

Strategy Board of Regents

Execution Committees



CONTINUING COMPETENCE COMMITTEE

- Ongoing look at how “Service to Industry” can be quantified within CEU requirements for re-certification

COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

- Increases awareness and presence of the College through publications, online platforms, public relations, marketing and overall media presence

EXAMINATION COMMITTEE

- The Examination Committee develops the certification examination with expert psychometrician guidance to ensure that the examination is professionally sound and legally defensible

CAREER PATH COMMITTEE

- Identify ways to engage stakeholders along the career arc of healthcare architecture and to engage with the College

CERTIFICATION COMMITTEE

- Responsible for the application and portfolio review process



AWARDS COMMITTEE

- Fellowship, Legacy Project Award, and the Lifetime Achievement Award are major elements for this committee



ACHA Involvement with Healthcare Conferences

- ACHA has an agreement with ASHE/AHA to promote this event annually and provide some of the presentations, 3/20-3/23 in NOLA



- ACHA and AIA-AAH jointly (50/50) produce the Summer Leadership Summit in Chicago. 7/22-7/24 Exclusive event limited to about 200 Attendees with advanced level content.



- ACHA also provides some of the presentation sessions and uses this event for our annual College luncheon. We elevate fellows and award our Lifetime Achievement Award during this gathering of all certificate holders. This is in San Antonio on 10/8-10/11.



Questions?

THE ACHA VISION

Transforming healthcare through better built environments

THE ACHA MISSION

To distinguish Healthcare Architects through certification, experience, and rigorous standards

- Follow the “American College of Healthcare Architects” company page:

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/11783700/admin/>
“Share” and “Like” ACHA Posts!

THE ACHA EXISTS TO IMPROVE HEALTHCARE ARCHITECTURE.

- We strive to enhance the performance of the practice of healthcare architecture through its certification, continuing education and other programs.
- We inform health providers that ACHA certified architects have achieved and maintain a high level of professional competence.
- We provide mutual support, education and collegiality amongst our certificate holders.
- We provide recognition for an advanced level of experience and competence through the qualifications, examination, continuing education and subsequent ACHA Fellowship and Life Time Achievement awards.

