

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLANNING

HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION STANDARDS

Historic Preservation Planning, a specialization within Planning, is the practice of identifying and carrying out particular goals and strategies to protect historic and archeological resources at the local, regional, State, or national level.

Standard for Historic Preservation Planner

(a) The applicant, employee, consultant, or advisor will have a State Government-recognized certification or license in Land-use Planning, **PLUS** , minimum of two (2) years of full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of Historic Preservation Planning that enables professional judgments to be made about the identification, evaluation, documentation, registration, protection, or treatment of historic and archeological properties in the United States and its Territories; **AND** products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation (see [Documenting Professional Experience for Historic Preservation Planner](#)); **OR...**

(b) A graduate degree in Planning with demonstrable course work in Historic Preservation, or a graduate degree in a closely related field of study with demonstrable course work in Historic Preservation (see Academic Background for Historic Preservation Planning), **PLUS** a minimum of two (2) years of full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of Historic Preservation Planning that enables professional judgments to be made about the identification,

evaluation, documentation, registration, protection, or treatment of historic and archeological properties in the United States and its Territories; **AND** products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation (see [Documenting Professional Experience for Historic Preservation Planner](#)); **OR...**

(c) An undergraduate degree in Planning with demonstrable course work in Historic Preservation or an undergraduate degree in a closely related field of study with demonstrable course work in Historic Preservation (see Academic Background for Historic Preservation Planning), **PLUS** a minimum of four (4) years of full-time professional experience applying the theories, methods, and practices of Historic Preservation Planning that enables professional judgments to be made about the identification, evaluation, documentation, registration, protection, or treatment of historic and archeological properties in the United States and its Territories; **AND** products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation (see [Documenting Professional Experience for Historic Preservation Planner](#)).

ACADEMIC BACKGROUND FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLANNER

Closely related fields: Professional Historic Preservation Planners typically receive their education through academic Planning programs, although increasingly Historic Preservation programs are offering Historic Preservation

Planning as a concentration in which degrees are awarded. Other fields that may be closely related, provided that training relevant to Historic Preservation Planning is obtained, include Historical or Cultural Geography, Architecture, Urban Design, and Historic Preservation.

Discipline specializations: Historic Preservation Planning is a specialization within the broader discipline of Planning. Other specializations include Urban, City, Town, or Community Planning; Regional Planning; Land Use Planning; Environmental Planning; Recreation Planning; Transportation Planning; and Housing Planning.

APPLYING THE STANDARD FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLANNER

Documenting Professional Experience: In order to receive a license or be registered or certified as a professional Planner, an individual typically must pass a written exam and have completed a specified number of years of experience. A professional Historic Preservation Planner typically has gained experience in data collection and analysis; survey and evaluation of existing conditions; consultation with elected and appointed officials and the general public; identification of alternative strategies; enforcement or administration of relevant statutes and regulations; and the preparation of planning documents.

Products and activities: Professional experience and expertise must be documented through “products and activities that demonstrate the successful application of acquired proficiencies in the discipline to the practice of historic preservation.” Products and activities that meet the appropriate Secretary’s

Standards for Archeology and Historic Preservation may include:

- Preservation plans adopted by government officials; and/or results of preservation planning studies incorporated into the local comprehensive or master plan.
- Ordinances for the protection of historic and/or archeological resources.
- Economic Feasibility Studies that make recommendations for preserving historic or archeological properties.
- Publications, which might include articles in regional, national, or international professional journals, monographs, books, or chapters in edited books, related to preservation planning.
- Presentations at regional, national, or international professional conferences, symposia, workshops, or exhibits related to preservation planning.
- Professional service on boards of committees or regional, national, or international professional organizations concerned with preservation planning.
- Planning awards received from local, regional, national, or international professional organizations.

This list is not comprehensive. Furthermore, it should be understood that not all of these products and activities are needed in order to meet the Standard; rather, a combination of several products and activities would be more typical. If the applicant were documenting professional experience in one of the specializations, however, the majority of products and activities would naturally reflect that specialization