Licensing of Architects in Hawaii is regulated by the State to safeguard public health, safety and welfare. The following links may be helpful to those who are seeking information on how to become licensed in Hawaii, how to transfer your Architect license issued by another state, or to find out more about the laws and rules which govern the licensing and practice of architecture in Hawaii.

The Professional and Vocational Licensing Division (PVL) is a division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA). PVL is responsible for 25 professional boards and commissions and 23 licensing programs. In total, the Division licenses 48 different professions and vocations.

For questions about licensure for Architects in Hawaii, all inquiries should be directed specifically to the Engineer, Architect, Surveyor and Landscape Architect (EASLA) Board. Got to their web page for more information: http://hawaii.gov/dcca/pvl/boards/engineer/.

To learn more about the laws which govern the practice of Architecture in Hawaii, the Hawaii Revised Statues, set by the State Legislature, should be your source for more information. These are posted on the DCCA website: http://cca.hawaii.gov/. Click on the link to HRS 464 - Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors and Landscape Architects.

Additional clarification of the Hawaii Revised Statutes is covered by the DCCA’s Administrative Rules. Specific information on the rules governing the practice of Architecture are posted on the DCCA website: http://cca.hawaii.gov/. Click on the link to HAR Chapter 115 - Professional Engineers-Architects, Surveyors and Landscape Architects.

Also listed on the DCCA website http://cca.hawaii.gov/overview, the Regulated Industries Complaint office (RICO) investigates and prosecutes complaints against professionals licensed by PVL and protects the public from unlicensed activities. This office also administers the State Certified Arbitration Program (SCAP) for "lemon" vehicles. The Consumer Resource Center (CRC) is also part of RICO. CRC can give you information on a business’s complaint history and allow you to file complaints against a business.
AIA Honolulu is a Chapter of The American Institute of Architects (AIA) representing and serving ~800 AIA Hawaii members on the islands of Oahu, Hawaii, Kauai, and Lanai.

As stated in our articles of incorporation the purpose of AIA Honolulu is to,

- organize and unite members of the architectural profession
- promote the aesthetic, scientific, and practical efficiency of the architectural profession
- advance the science and art of planning and building by advancing the standard of architectural education, training and practice
- coordinate the profession of architecture with the building industry
- insure the advancement of the living standard of people through their improved environment
- make the architectural profession of ever-increasing service to society
- protect the rights and interests of our members and to advocate in their behalf

The Center for Architecture, opened in October 2012 and is intended as a hub for architects, the various building industries and the public. It is envisioned as an evolving space for collaborative learning, shared resources, meetings and display, venue for rentals, as well as a working office for AIA Honolulu, architecture-industry volunteers and interested public. With the opening of our Center for Architecture, AIA Honolulu looks forward to greater community involvement while working collaboratively to drive positive change through the power of design.

For more information contact us at

AIA Honolulu and the
Center for Architecture

828 Fort Street, Suite 100
Honolulu, HI 96813

Phone: 808-628-7243
Email: contact@aiahonolulu.org
Web: www.aiahonolulu.org