



Metropolitan New York Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Do I need to hire architect?

Generally, you will need the services of a licensed and registered design professional such as an architect any time you need the approval of a government agency or official for a construction project; these officials can only accept architectural plans and specifications signed and stamped with the seal of the architect. You may also wish to hire an architect to assess and evaluate your building, write specifications for a construction project and help you select a contractor, or to manage a wholesale redevelopment project.

If you are looking for an architect you can search the **American Institute of Architects** New York website to find and architect by location, and by topic here: [AIANYS Member Directory](#)

The AIA currently has some 95,000 licensed architects and associated professionals as members. AIA members adhere to a code of ethics and professional conduct intended to assure clients, the public, and colleagues of an architect's dedication to the highest standards in professional practice. The AIA is governed by a Board of Directors and has a staff of more than 200 employees. Although the AIA functions as a national organization, its 217 local and state chapters provide members with programming and direct services to support them throughout their professional lives. More about the AIA here: <https://www.aia.org/about>

In your search you should seek an architect who is well experienced in the type of projects similar to your own with local examples that you can go see. The number of their staff persons and licensed professionals should be adequate for the scope of work and full extent of your project. You should always hire your own attorney to represent you in any major construction project.

You must also make sure that your architect is licensed to work in New York State. A New York licensed and registered architect has completed a combination of 12 years of advanced education/experience credit and then passed the 33 hour national architecture licensing examination. While it is possible to be admitted to that exam on the basis of work experience alone, 90% of New York's architects have a minimum of a four-year bachelor's degree. Many architects also have a Master of Architecture degree.

New York architects must display a current New York registration certificate; this certificate lists the professional's name, address, and dates of the registration period. Architects must reregister every three years to practice in New York. Some professionals also display their original New York license, diploma, licenses from other states, and membership certificates.

You can get more information and verify an individual's license and registration on the New York State Office of the Professions website; <http://www.op.nysed.gov/opcertvertinfo.htm>

Mark Goodwin

Mark Goodwin
Synod-Owned Property Manager

Phone (917) 975-5272

Mgoodwin@mnys.org

www.mnys.org