



May 18, 2026

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Jacqueline Shaw
Department Head, Architecture
Rhode Island School of Design
Bayard Ewing Building
231 South Main Street
Providence, RI 02903

Sent via email to jshaw02@risd.edu

Dear Professor Shaw:

At its April 17-18, 2026, meeting, the Board of Directors of the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) reviewed the following documents for the Master of Architecture degree (undergraduate architecture degree + 69 graduate credit hours; undergraduate non-architecture degree + 111 graduate credit hours) program at the Rhode Island School of Design.

- Plan to Correct (Second Submission)

The Board voted to continue the Plan to Correct for the areas remaining out of compliance with the Conditions for Accreditation. In accordance with the NAAB Procedures, the program is placed on notice for a period not to exceed one year, and the Chief Academic Officer will be informed.

The Board noted that the program did not submit sufficient evidence to demonstrate compliance with the following Conditions in the Plan to Correct:

- **5.6 Physical Resources**

The Board's review is included below:

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Alexandria, VA 22314

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naab.org



5.6 Physical Resources

The program must describe its physical resources and demonstrate how they safely and equitably support the program's pedagogical approach and student and faculty achievement. Physical resources include but are not limited to the following:

- 5.6.1 Space to support and encourage studio-based learning.
- 5.6.2 Space to support and encourage didactic and interactive learning, including lecture halls, seminar spaces, small group study rooms, labs, shops, and equipment.
- 5.6.3 Space to support and encourage the full range of faculty roles and responsibilities, including preparation for teaching, research, mentoring, and student advising.
- 5.6.4 Resources to support all learning formats and pedagogies in use by the program.
- 5.6.5 Plans for disaster and recovery of information.

If the program's pedagogy does not require some or all of the above physical resources, the program must describe the effect (if any) that online, off-site, or hybrid formats have on digital and physical resources.

***Not Met.** The program did not provide sufficient information to meet the requirements of this Condition. The program needs to provide evidence of necessary upgrades to the BEB building including, but not limited to, improvements to life safety and accessibility issues, the building's HVAC systems, building envelope (leaks), elevator, storage space, pin-up space, and studio furnishings.*

The program is required to submit a Plan to Correct demonstrating compliance with the Condition(s) noted as Not Met by **December 15, 2026**.

In the event a program's Plan to Correct does not demonstrate compliance with the Conditions for Accreditation, the program will be placed on probation for a period not to exceed one (1) year with a focused visit on remaining areas of noncompliance, and the institution's Chief Academic Officer will be informed, in accordance with the [Procedures for Accreditation](#). All accreditation decisions to place a program on probation will be made public on the NAAB website.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions at accreditation@naab.org.

Sincerely,



Mark Mistur, AIA
President

cc: Toubha Ghadessi, Provost