A Registered Exterior Wall Observer (REWO) is an impartial on-site inspector for the design team. The observer’s vigilance helps keep construction on track with milestone tasks, deadlines and budget.

A REWO’s daily reports will typically include written notes, photography, measurements, and material samples.

REWOs act with full authority to observe all construction materials, equipment and supplies for quality and compliance with the design team’s intent.

Quality assurance is an important process for determining if the removal, installation, repair or maintenance of exterior wall systems are following the scope and intent of the contract documents and are being installed and executed in accordance with accepted practices. There is direct communication with the owner’s representative regarding work or materials that do not conform.

Why an REWO?

- A Registered Exterior Wall Observer’s knowledge base is quantified through examination, character reference, and verified experience.
- An REWO is committed to annual continuing education requirements and follows an established ethics code for objectivity of service.
- REWOs contribute significantly to long-lived, successful exterior wall installations.

The Preferred Standard

As reliance on quality assurance has grown, so too has the importance of clarifying the skills of the proficient practitioner.

For many building managers, consulting, and contracting firms, the REWO designation is the preferred standard for exterior wall quality assurance professionals.

Learn more about RCI Professional Registration Programs @ rci-online.org.
Established Experience

Before qualifying to take the Registered Exterior Wall Observer (REWO) exam, potential candidates must substantiate a working knowledge of exterior walls and establish that they have met standard requirements for communication skills, work experience, and matters of character and ethical fortitude.

Skills Quantified Through Examination

The REWO examination is designed to gauge the applicant’s proficiency for observing and documenting quality-control comparisons with construction documents. The examination takes up to four hours to complete.

In order to receive a passing score, the examinee must prove understanding of the methodology of exterior wall quality assurance observation and show broad knowledge of ethics, wall systems, field testing, reporting, safe work practices, communication, and codes and standards.

Objectivity and Commitment

Before being awarded the title, each REWO agrees to abide by an established order of conduct: the RCI Code of Ethics.

Specifically, REWOs swear to be truthful about their professional qualifications and performance and agree to provide “unprejudiced and unbiased judgment and conduct when performing all professional services.”

To maintain their title, REWOs must annually complete a minimum of ten hours of relevant continuing education.