

AACA National Competency Standards in Architecture (NCSA)

NCSA Integration Framework Document 21 June 2010.

		APARP	RAE	RGE	NPra	APE	APE	APE
						Pt 1 Log Bk	Pt 2 Written	Pt 3 Oral
Unit 1	Design							
Context 1.1	To create an architectural design through the exercise of knowledge, imagination, judgement and professional responsibility	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 1.1.1	Generate a design concept that can be realised as a building	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 1.1.2	Recognise the need to sustain the natural and the built environment, and the needs and aspirations of building users and the community, in the formulation of a design concept	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 1.1.3	Comply with the law and regulations governing planning, building design, procurement and the practice of architecture	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 1.1.4	Communicate the design concept clearly	X	X	X	X		X	X
Context 1.2	To formulate an architectural design in response to a project brief, sufficient to obtain endorsement of overall objectives and design concept by a client and other interested parties	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 1.2.1	Interpret project brief and decide design objectives and parameters with the client	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 1.2.2	Develop a schematic design through a repetitive process of hypothesis, evaluation and re-appraisal	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 1.2.3	Communicate the schematic design clearly	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 1.2.4	Agree the schematic design proposals with client and interested parties	X	X	X	X		X	X
Context 1.3	To develop a detailed design which is consistent with the design concept	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 1.3.1	Investigate and analyse detailed requirements for organisation of spaces, areas and circulation within and around a building	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 1.3.2	Consider options and decide the disposition and assembly of the structural system, construction elements, materials and building components	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 1.3.3	Establish requirements for building service systems	X	X	X	X		X	X
Context 1.4	To resolve a detailed design sufficient to obtain agreement and authorisation to proceed to documentation for its translation into built form	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 1.4.1	Progressively finalise all decisions relating to the assessment of specialist information, design detail, material choice and building costs and management strategies	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 1.4.2	Communicate the detailed design clearly	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 1.4.3	Negotiate and agree the detailed design proposal with the client and other interested parties	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 1.4.4	Prepare for start of construction documentation	X	X	X	X		X	X
Context 1.5	To continuously comply with the project brief and meet contractual agreements throughout the course of implementation of a design project	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 1.5.1	Resolve, in detail, all components of the design in order to prepare instructions for their construction or supply	X	X	X	X		X	X
Unit 2	Documentation							
Context 2.1	To generate documentation and clearly communicate information for an architectural project so that it can be costed, built and completed in accordance with the brief, time frame, cost and quality objectives						X	X
Element 2.1.1	Establish a documentation process						X	X
Element 2.1.2	Prepare architectural drawings with regard to the location, extent of building elements, components, finishes, fittings and systems					X	X	X
Element 2.1.3	Prepare architectural specifications and schedules						X	X
Element 2.1.4	Co-ordinate the documentation of the project					X	X	X
Element 2.1.5	Agree on the documentation with the client and other interested parties						X	X
Context 2.2	To provide documentation for effective occupation of the project and as a future reference source						X	X
Element 2.2.1	Provide handover advice and as-built records						X	X
Unit 3	Project Management							
Context 3.1	To confirm objectives and conditions at inception of project	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 3.1.1	Establish and evaluate identified requirements, perceptions and priorities	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 3.1.2	Establish site conditions	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Element 3.1.3	Assess potential interaction between the project, the environment and the community	X	X	X	X		X	X
Element 3.1.4	Assess regulatory context	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Element 3.1.5	Consider construction systems and materials options	X	X	X	X		X	X
Context 3.2	To establish an appropriate procurement method and compete contractual arrangements with all participants						X	X
Element 3.2.1	Establish terms of agreement with client						X	X
Element 3.2.2	Establish project procurement options						X	X
Element 3.2.3	Prepare preliminary project evaluations programs and feasibility studies					X	X	X
Element 3.2.4	Establish project information management systems						X	X
Element 3.2.5	Establish requirements for, and co-ordinate, specialists					X	X	X
Element 3.2.6	Prepare and conclude contractual agreements and negotiations for proceeding with project construction						X	X
Context 3.3	To provide contract administration for the construction of a project						X	X
Element 3.3.1	Administer a standard form construction contract					X	X	X
Element 3.3.2	Monitor compliance with contract documents and requirements of relevant regulatory authorities						X	X
Context 3.4	Before, or on the completion of the contract, to compile and document information and responsibilities for future operational use						X	X
Element 3.4.1	Assemble project maintenance and operation manuals as required by the contract						X	X
Element 3.4.2	Undertake post occupancy evaluation and assess for future operational use						X	X
Unit 4	Practice Management							
Context 4.1	To establish and maintain an architectural practice	X	X	X			X	X
Element 4.1.1	Define practice objectives and establish a practice structure and strategies for their achievement						X	X
Element 4.1.2	Establish and maintain practice management systems						X	X
Element 4.1.3	Deploy and manage staff						X	X
Element 4.1.4	Comply with the law and regulations governing the conduct of an architectural practice	X	X	X			X	X
Element 4.1.5	Observe the standards of conduct expected by the community of a professional in the practice of architecture	X	X	X			X	X

Architectural Competence

LEGEND & ABBREVIATIONS:

AACA - Architects Accreditation Council of Australia

NCSA - National Competency Standards in Architecture

APARP - Australian Architecture Program Accreditation and Recognition Procedure (Criteria for accreditation of Australian professional academic programs in architecture)

APE - Architecture Practice Exam: criteria for Pt 1 - Log Book - Mandatory Competencies; Pt 2 - NEP National (Written) Exam Paper; Pt 3 - Oral exam (by interview)

NPra - National Program of Assessment (For those do to not hold a formal Australian academic qualification in architecture)

RAE - Review of Academic Equivalence (Assessment of overseas qualifications in architecture for equivalence with an Australian professional academic qualification in architecture - for those with an academic portfolio)

RGE - Review of Graduate Equivalence (Assessment of overseas qualifications in architecture for equivalence with an Australian professional academic qualification in architecture - for those without an academic portfolio)

X - represents NCSA 'Context' within a 'Unit'; 'x' - represents NCSA 'Element' within the 'Context'.

Disclaimer: This document has been prepared in good faith as a framework to reflect the relevant NCSA criteria for the various assessment processes with which it is involved. AACA accepts no responsibility for its currency and accuracy in relation to the criteria for specific documents in the various processes which are subject to periodic review and updating.