

Benchmarking Australia with other registration systems

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	Architecture (Aust) ANZ APAP 2013	Architecture (Aust) ANZ APAP 2017	Architecture (USA)	Architecture (Canada)	Architecture (United Kingdom)	Pharmacy (Aust)
1. FRAMEWORK						
What body accredits university courses leading to professional registration?	The AACA, jointly with the Institute of Architects, operates the national procedure leading to accreditation by Architects' Registration Boards of programmes offered in their jurisdiction.	The AACA owns and operates the national procedure leading to accreditation by Architects' Registration Boards of programmes offered in their jurisdiction.	National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB)	Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB)	UK Architects Registration Board (ARB)	Australian Pharmacy Council
What formal underpinning framework(s) specifies the skills and competencies candidates must develop from their tertiary study?	The National Competency Standard for Architects	The National Competency Standard for Architects	NAAB Conditions for Accreditation	CACB Conditions and Terms for Accreditation	ARB Criteria Parts 1 & 2	Accreditation Standards for Pharmacy Programs in Australia and New Zealand
Within the framework(s), how are the required professional skills and competencies expressed for university study?	The National Competency Standard for Architects (NCSA) (2010) is divided into 4 Units of Competency: Design, Documentation, Practice Management and Project Management. Within this there are 42 performance criteria that define the standard expected for graduates of an accredited architectural qualification.	The National Competency Standard for Architects (NCSA) (2015) is divided into 4 Units of Competency: Design, Documentation, Practice Management and Project Management. Within this there are 37 performance criteria that define the standard expected for graduates of an accredited architectural qualification. The Performance Criteria are to be demonstrated at a range of levels, included the application of knowledge, the application of skills, and the application of knowledge and skills in architecture practice (or a proxy for architectural practice).	The NAAB Conditions for Accreditation specify 26 performance criteria across four realms of knowledge: (i) Critical Thinking and Representation, (ii) Building Practices, Technical Skills, and Knowledge, (iii) Integrated Architectural Solutions, and (iv) Professional Practice.	CACB specifies 31 performance criteria across four realms of knowledge: (i) Critical Thinking and Communication, (ii) Design and Technical Skills, (iii) Comprehensive Design, and (iv) Leadership and Practice.	The ARB Criteria are divided into 11 General Criteria covering both Part 1 and 2; 6 Graduate Attributes for Part 1 and 7 Graduate Attributes for Part 2. These cover design, history and theory, fine arts, environment, professional studies, project management, construction engineering, building systems, regulation and industry knowledge.	The Accreditation Standards list six Learning Domains: (i) The health care consumer, (ii) Medicines - drug action, (iii) Medicines - the drug substance, (iv) Medicines - the medicinal product, (v) Health care systems and the roles of professionals, and (vi) The wider context.
3. EDUCATION FORMAT						
What is the minimum length of tertiary study prior to registration?	5 years	10 Semesters or equivalent volume of study	5 years	5 years	5 years	4 years
What is the accredited professional qualification? How many universities offer this qualification?	Accredited 2-year Master of Architecture programs are offered at 18 Australian universities.	Accredited 2-year Master of Architecture programs are offered at 18 Australian universities. Pre-professional programs are not accepted.	154 professional degrees accredited by NAAB at 123 institutions. Commonly 5-year BArch or 2-3 year MArch degree. There is also 1 DArch program. Pre-professional Bachelor programs are not accredited. There are also some non-accredited professional-level programs.	Accredited 5-year Bachelor of Architecture or 2-year Master of Architecture program from 13 universities. Pre-professional Bachelor programs are not accredited.	Both degree stages are accredited, i.e. 3 year Bachelor Degree (Part 1) and 2-year Master of Architecture degree (Part 2). Accredited programs are offered at 44 UK universities. There are also some non-accredited professional-level programs.	Accredited 4 year Bachelor of Pharmacy degree or 3 year Master of Pharmacy degree offered at 18 Australian universities.
4. ACCREDITATION SYSTEM						
What document underpins the accreditation of university programs?	Australia New Zealand Architecture Program Accreditation Procedure	Revised ANZ APAP Manual being prepared. During the transition stage Stakeholders will be consulted on the key pro form and reporting templates. Once the revised procedure is approved and released it will be available from the ANZ APAP web page.	NAAB Procedures for Accreditation	CACB Procedures for accreditation for professional degree programs	Procedures for the prescription of qualifications	APC Accreditation Committee and processes
For how long are university courses accredited?	Up to 5 years	The maximum period of accreditation will be equal to the minimum timeframe required for a typical student (without advanced standing or credit for previous studies) to complete 10 equivalent semesters of study (in AQF terms, this is the equivalent 'volume of Learning' undertaken in a five year, full time program of study). For example, for a typical, full-time program of study with a semesterised offering, this is 5 years. For a fully trimestered program, this is 3.3 years.	3 years for initial accreditation; 4 or 8 years for continuing accreditation.	Up to 6 years	Usually 4 years	Up to 5 years
How does a university architecture program seek accreditation?	Programs may seek accreditation at any time by writing to the Education Manager of the Institute of Architects. Existing programs will automatically be scheduled for an accreditation visit prior to the expiration of their current term.	Programs may seek accreditation at any time by writing to the ANZ APAP Secretariat in the AACA. Specific requirements to initiate formal Program Advice are currently being determined and will be published on the ANZ APAP web page. Existing programs will automatically be scheduled for an accreditation visit prior to the expiration of their current term.	The Institution can apply for candidature from the NAAB at any time, including completion of a "Plan for Achieving Initial Accreditation". The program can seek initial accreditation of up to three years often holding Candidacy status for at least two years.	The Institution's Chief Academic Officer must notify the CACB of the intention to seek accreditation for a professional degree program and complete a "Plan for Achieving Initial Accreditation". The program must maintain Candidacy status for at least two years and complete one graduating class before receiving accreditation.	An institution must notify the ARB of its intention to apply for the prescription of a qualification not less than 12 months and no longer than 18 months before the date from which prescription is to begin. The school then meets informally with the ARB to go through the prescription process.	New program should apply to the Credentialling Unit at the APC at least 30 months before taking students (cannot advertise before accreditation provided). Existing programs will automatically be scheduled for an accreditation visit prior to the expiration of their current term.
How is the accreditation process funded and supported?	The accreditation system is jointly funded by university architecture schools, the Institute of Architects and Architects Registration Boards, with secretariat provided by the Institute of Architects.	The accreditation system is jointly funded by university architecture schools delivering accredited programs, the AACA and Architects Registration Boards as the accrediting authorities, with secretariat provided by the AACA. All aspects are based on a cost-recovery model.	Expenses of the Site Visit are met by the program being reviewed. NAAB has a permanent Washington-based secretariat jointly funded by NCARB, the American Institute of Architects and Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture.	Expenses of the Site Visit are met by the program being reviewed. CACB has a permanent secretariat of five people jointly funded by provincial regulators and CCUSA (schools of architecture).	The accreditation ('prescription') process is funded through general ARB licensing revenue and supported by a qualifications unit of three people led by a Head of Qualifications.	Accreditation is funded on a cost-recovery basis from universities (\$17k per annum per uni) and supported by the APC Credentialling Unit.

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5. VISITING PANEL ARRANGEMENTS						
How is the visiting panel conducting the accreditation review constituted?	The nine member Visiting Panel is chosen from a standing panel, and will generally include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three members representing the relevant Architect Registration Board, two of whom must be architects. • Three members representing the Institute of Architects. • One member representing the AACA. • One academic from an architecture school other than that being visited for the NVP. • One student member from an architecture school other than that being visited. 	The six member Visiting Panel is appointed by the ANZ APAP Management Committee from an existing Standing Panel, and will include people with a mix of practitioner and academic backgrounds. The visiting panel will be called the Accreditation Review Panel (ARP),	There are usually four core members of the Visiting Team, representing each of the AIA, AIAS, ACSA, and NCARB. There can also be an observer nominated by the school being reviewed and occasionally an observer nominated by the NAAB for training purposes. The Visiting Team is appointed by the NAAB secretariat from a standing panel nominated by one of the ACSA, AIA, NCARB, or AIAS (in some circumstances individuals may also self-nominate).	There are five core members of the Visiting Team, including two architectural educators, two registered architects and one student or recent graduate. There are also 1-2 observers, including one nominated by the school being reviewed. The Visiting Team is appointed by the CACB Board on the recommendation of the Executive Director.	The ARB has established a Prescription Committee consisting of five board members and one or more members from its Panel of Independent Advisers.	APC establishes a Site Evaluation Team (SET) with experience in the organisation and structure of undergraduate pharmacy courses and with an understanding of the current professional requirements for practice. The team includes, at a minimum, one pharmacy academic, one community pharmacist, and one hospital pharmacist, supported by two members of the APC Accreditation and Credentialing Unit.
Is any payment made to visiting panel members for their participation?	Members nominated by the AACA and Boards receive a daily payment, other members are reimbursed for travel costs only.	All Members receive a daily sitting fee, plus travel costs. The sitting fee is benchmarked to national standards and paid centrally by the Secretariat.	Travel costs only.	Travel costs only.	Any Advisers employed by the ARB as part of the Prescription process are paid an agreed consulting rate.	Travel costs only.
What documentation does the university prepare prior to the accreditation visit? How is this documentation provided?	The university prepares a background portfolio including statistical information and a mapping of program activities against the NCSA. This is provided in hard copy for panel members.	The university prepares a Provider Accreditation Submission (PAS) based primarily on the mapping of their program activities against the required performance criteria from the NCSA. The PAS is supported by a digital portfolio of student work demonstrating that NCSA threshold levels have been achieved. The documentation is to be submitted to the Secretariat minimum of 8 weeks in advance of the ARP Visit, using the PAS template supplied by the Secretariat.	University must prepare an Architecture Program Report (APR) which is a comprehensive self-assessment describing how a program meets each of the NAAB Conditions for Accreditation.	University must prepare an Architecture Program Report (APR) including how the program meets the 31 student performance criteria, a self-evaluation against other CACB requirements, general information about the program's mission, strategic plan, etc.	New and renewing institutions must complete a detailed Application for Prescription of Qualification, attaching a range of supporting documentation including mapping of program outcomes against ARB Criteria, business plans, program documents, external reports, details of staffing and physical resources, etc.	Basic report with background school data and student information.
What is the process followed during the accreditation visit?	The NVP meets over 3 days with school and university leadership, academics and students. It observes physical resourcing, views student exhibitions, considers curriculum content of subjects and examples of student work, and reviews other documents as needed.	The NVP meets over a maximum of three days with school and university leadership, academics and students. It observes physical resourcing, views student exhibitions, considers curriculum content of subjects and examples of student work, and reviews other documents as needed. A draft of the ARP Report should be provided to the HOS on the last day of the visit, in electronic format, prior to the ARP Chair and Deputy Chair meeting with the HOS. Five working days should then be allowed for the HOS to identify any issues of fact and communicate these to the Secretariat.	Over 3 days, the visiting team reviews a display of student work representing high and low evaluation for each course, views course notes and admissions information, tours facilities, sits in on lectures, and meets with the program head, university management, faculty, students, and (optionally) alumni and members of the local profession.	Over 3-4 days, the visiting team reviews a display of student work representing high and low evaluation for each course, as well as a Faculty Exhibit, displaying the range of design and scholarly work done by faculty. The Team also tours facilities, sits in on lectures, and meets with the program head, university management, faculty, students, alumni and members of the local profession.	An accreditation visit is not usually required under the UK system - which is based on a desk review of materials provided by the institution to the Prescription Committee. However, in some circumstances one of more Independent Advisers may be appointed to conduct a physical review of the human an institutional resources of an architecture program.	Conducted over several days, the SET visit discusses the program with all stakeholders involved in the delivery of the program, from academics to students to management. It further assesses the teaching resources and infrastructure of the pharmacy school, e.g. labs, libraries.
What elements are considered by the Visiting Panel?	A program's student outcomes against the required elements of the National Standard of Competency for Architects forms the core of the assessment, together with an assessment that the university has the physical and human resources to deliver the program on an ongoing basis. Unlike some countries, the minimum resource expectations are not specified in detail in the ANZAPAP so there is a greater expectation that professional judgement will be exercised by the panel members.	A program's student outcomes at the threshold level are mapped against the required performance criteria of the National Standard of Competency for Architects forms the core of the assessment Threshold is considered the standard necessary to denote competency. The threshold is either 'met' or 'not met'. In many programs and for some competencies this will be a minimum 'pass' level, but it is not exclusively so. It is the responsibility of each Provider to determine the threshold level of work in relation to each Performance Criteria in the NCSA but the evidence must come from the base, minimum of lower part of any band of threshold assessment.	There are 15 criteria considered by the Visiting Team, including Learning Culture, Social Equity, Long-Range Planning, Assessment, Human Resources, Physical Resources, Financial Resources, Information Resources, Preparatory Education, Curriculum and Student Performance.	There are 12 criteria considered by the Visiting Team, including Public Information, Social Equity, Human Resources, Physical Resources, Information Resources, Financial Resources, Administrative Structure, Curriculum and Student Performance.	There are 11 criteria considered by the Prescription Committee, including assessment strategies, human resources, physical resources, institutional commitment, continual improvement processes, and internal and external audit.	There are 17 standards that must be met across five areas: (i) Structure and Administration, (ii) Resource Allocation and Management, (iii) Curriculum, (iv) Program Students, and (v) Quality and Risk Management.
To whom does the Visiting Panel submit their recommendations?	The Panel makes a recommendation to the Architect Registration Board in the state or territory where the university is based as to whether and for how long a program should be accredited (maximum five years), together with a list of mandatory requirements ('Action Items'). The Panel also makes non-binding recommendations ('Professional Advice') to the school to assist with continuous improvement.	The Panel makes a recommendation to the Architect Registration Board in the state or territory where the university is based as to whether the program should be accredited (maximum five years), together with a list of mandatory requirements ('Action Items') that address any gaps or deficiencies related to the Provider meeting the required accreditation standards.	The voting members of the Visiting Team submit a confidential recommendation to the NAAB Board, which makes the final decision on accreditation. The Team also notes any assessment criteria that have not been met, for which the university will need to submit rectification plans.	The voting members of the Visiting Team submit a confidential recommendation to the CACB Board, which makes the final decision on program accreditation.	The ARB 'prescribes' qualifications (rather than accrediting programs) under section 4(1)(a) of the Architects Act, drawing on the report of the Prescription Committee, the response of the institution, and broader sectoral consultation (including the RIA).	The SET submits a report to the APC Accreditation Committee - consisting of 11 industry, academic, student and community members - which makes a decision on accreditation and notifies the Pharmacy Board of Australia as the regulatory body.

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Is there a review of university performance during the accreditation period?	In between accreditation visits there will generally be one or more Interim Review Panel (IRP) visits, which are 'check-ups' of how the program is progressing against any issues raised in the last accreditation round.	In between accreditation visits the submission of a Provider Annual Report will be the primary mechanism for reviewing performance, however physical follow-up visits may be mandated in exceptional circumstances. Where a Provider has Action Items detailed in their ARP Report, a period of time must be allowed for the Provider to address these accreditation deficiencies. If the deficiencies are not rectified in an agreed period, accreditation status of the course may be withdrawn. The standard mechanism for a Provider to report their progress in addressing any Action Items is through reporting of evidence in their Provider Annual Report. This is then reviewed by the Management Committee for initial assessment, and referral to the previous ARP Chair or similar for assessment, prior to reporting to the relevant ARB. The Provider Annual Report also provides a mechanism for Providers to report on program or environmental changes across their period of accreditation.	University must submit an Annual Statistical Report capturing a range of information on the institution in which an architecture program is located and on the accredited degree program itself. More detailed Interim Progress Reports are submitted after two and five years of an eight year term of accreditation.	Universities must provide a formal annual report (including annual statistical report) to CACB. Follow up processes, up to and including a re-accreditation process, may be initiated as needed.	Universities must provide a formal annual report (including report of external examiners and audits, student data and course changes) to the ARB. If at any time the ARB feels that the required standards are not being met, it may require a university to show cause why its prescription should not be revoked.	Universities must provide a formal report annually on staffing, student numbers, clinical placement hours and recent or anticipate curriculum changes. Follow up processes, up to and including a re-accreditation process, may be initiated as needed.
6. MUTUAL RECOGNITION ARRANGEMENTS AND QUALIFICATIONS ASSESSMENT						
Are there mutual recognition arrangements (MRAs) for qualifications in place with other countries?	MArch degrees from New Zealand, Hong Kong and Singapore are accepted for registration purposes under bilateral agreements.	MArch degrees from New Zealand, Hong Kong and Singapore are accepted for registration purposes under bilateral agreements. A mutual recognition arrangement is under negotiation with Malaysia	46 jurisdictions accept Canadian accredited programs for initial registration purposes. Advanced standing is provided to candidates from other Canberra Accord signatory systems (Australia, New Zealand, Korea, China).	Canadian registering bodies accept US accredited degrees for registration purposes.	Mutual recognition is granted to qualifications within the European Economic Area (EEA) listed in Directive 2005/36/EC.	Only NZ qualifications are automatically recognised.
Is there a mechanism for individuals educated in an overseas jurisdiction to seek recognition of their qualifications?	Overseas qualifications other than from NZ/HK/Sing are assessed on a case by case basis through the AACA's two stage Overseas Qualification Assessment, including a Provisional Assessment (desk review) and Final Assessment (presentation of portfolio at interview).	Overseas qualifications other than from New Zealand / Hong Kong / Singapore are assessed on a case by case basis through the AACA's two stage Overseas Qualification Assessment, including a Provisional Assessment (desk review) and Final Assessment (presentation of portfolio at interview).	45 jurisdictions accept an NCARB Education Evaluation Services for Architects evaluation of the credentials of foreign educated architects against the NCARB Education Standard.	CACB offers individual certification of overseas qualifications against the Canadian standard for candidates without Canadian or US accredited qualifications.	Candidates without a recognised qualification must sit the Part 1 and Part 2 ARB examinations (portfolio plus interview assessment), in order to be eligible for the Part 3 Professional Practice Examination.	There are two streams for overseas candidates based on whether the system in their home country is considered 'comparable' to Australia. Comparable countries are offered a fast-track to Australian registration, while additional experience and examination requirements apply to candidates from other countries.