

Want to study architecture and become an Architect in Australia? Information for students

Becoming a registered architect and working in the architectural profession

Architects work in the built environment sector. You can read more in this document: [Industry Profile: The Profession of Architecture in Australia](#).

In Australia the title 'architect' is protected by law. A person must be registered by their state or territory Architects Registration Board to be able to call themselves an architect. You can read a summary of Australian state and territory legislation here: [Regulation of the Architectural Profession within Australia](#)

Accredited Australian architecture qualifications and pathways to registration

There are a number of pathways to registration as an architect in Australia. You can read about them [here](#). The most common pathway to registration is completion of an [accredited Australian architecture qualification](#) followed by completion of the [Architectural Practice Examination](#).

How do I know if the Master of Architecture qualification that I am enrolled in will allow me to apply to complete the Architectural Practice Examination? AACA is responsible for maintaining the list of accredited architecture qualifications in Australia. You can read the list [here](#).

How do I find out more about architecture program accreditation?

You can find more detailed information on these AACA webpages:

[Accreditation of Architecture Programs](#)

[FAQs](#) – see first section titled 'Architecture Program Accreditation'

[Publications](#) – see second section titled 'Accreditation of Architecture Programs'

Deciding where to study

Can AACA help advise me on the best architectural qualification for me to enrol in? AACA does not promote or recommend any one architectural qualification, program, or educational institution over another. Whilst each accredited Master of Architecture program is designed to ensure all graduates achieve the required competencies described in the National Standard of Competency for Architects, each program has different strengths and foci in their syllabus. You should check information about architectural programs at educational institution websites.

I'm thinking about completing my Masters qualification at a different educational institution to where I completed my Bachelor qualification. Can AACA provide me with any assistance or advice?

This process is managed completely by the educational institution offering the Masters qualification. You should contact the respective Architectural School within the educational institution for advice.

I'm enrolled in a qualification that does not appear on the AACA list of accredited architecture qualifications in Australia. What does this mean? This means that currently that qualification is not accredited and will not currently allow a graduate to apply to complete the Architectural Practice Examination.

Educational institution seeking an accreditation assessment

To offer a Master of Architecture qualification, the educational institution must be a registered provider with the Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA), and TEQSA requires that the institution must obtain professional accreditation. For architecture, this is as outlined in the [Architecture Program Accreditation Procedure](#). The earliest that an assessment for accreditation can be scheduled is the final teaching semester of the first graduating cohort of the Masters qualification for which accreditation is sought. Students can ask Program and Teaching Support Staff to confirm that the educational institution is liaising with AACA to conduct an accreditation assessment in the final teaching semester of the first graduating cohort of the Masters qualification.

Following an initial accreditation assessment it may take up to ten weeks, or sometimes longer, before the decision is made about accreditation of the qualification. The educational institution should keep students informed of progress in seeking accreditation of the qualification.

Following the initial assessment for accreditation, what does it mean for graduating students if the qualification is accredited? For as long as the qualification is accredited, graduates would be deemed to hold an accredited Australian architecture qualification, allowing graduates to apply to complete the Architectural Practice Examination (once other eligibility criteria have been met).

What does it mean for graduating students if the qualification is not accredited? Graduates of this program would not have completed an accredited Australian architecture qualification and would need to consider alternative pathways to registration as an architect. The educational institution will need to address deficiencies in their program and seek a further assessment for accreditation.

Other FAQs

I'm still studying but would like to find work within the architectural sector. Can AACA give me any assistance or advice? AACA does not offer employment assistance or advice.

I've finished my Masters qualification and I want to travel overseas to work as an architect. Can AACA give me any assistance or advice? AACA does not provide employment advice or assistance of any kind, and is not able to provide advice on the regulation of the architectural profession outside of Australia.

I have a Master of Architecture (or similar) that I completed overseas. Does this allow me to enrol in the Architectural Practice Examination? If you hold architectural qualifications completed overseas that are not on the list of accredited architecture qualifications in Australia (see [here](#)) you would need to have your qualifications assessed by the AACA by completing the Overseas Qualifications Assessment process. You can read more about that process [here](#).

How do I get a Skills Assessment for migration purposes? If you have completed an architecture qualification from the list of accredited programs (see [here](#)), you can apply to have your qualification verified by the AACA and a Skills Assessment for migration purposes will be issued to you.

For queries about any of this information, contact AACA via mail@aca.org.au or call 02 8042 8930