

APEC Architect domain-specific assessment for registration in New Zealand

If you are an APEC Architect seeking registration in New Zealand, you must be interviewed by two registration assessors who are senior New Zealand Architects.

The purpose of the interview, known as a domain specific assessment, is to ascertain whether or not you have sufficient knowledge and understanding of aspects of the architectural process in New Zealand that are specific to New Zealand.

The interview must take place in New Zealand and can be held in Auckland, Wellington or Christchurch.

APEC Architect applicants applying for registration in New Zealand are **not** required to be fluent in English and may bring a translator to their interview. If during the interview it is clear that you are not fluent in English, you will be asked to explain how you will manage this when you practise in New Zealand.

Domain-Specific Knowledge

To be registered in New Zealand, you must demonstrate that you have sufficient domain-specific knowledge of architectural practices and procedures in New Zealand.

The interview will focus on and be limited to domain-specific elements of architectural work, that is:

- the physical and social environment
- the legal framework
- typical contracts
- construction processes and techniques specific to New Zealand

For the purposes of initial registration, the minimum standards for registration in New Zealand have been organised into experience areas which approximate the sequential stages of project delivery. Those project areas **with their domain specific components** are set out below and will form the basis of the interview.

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A. Project initiation and pre-design

Outcome:

- To formulate an initial response to a project brief for a complex building sufficient to obtain agreement and endorsement of overall objectives and concept by a client and other interested parties.

APEC Architect Performance Indicators

A1) The applicant understands the contractual arrangements that typically apply between an architect and his or her client for the provision of architectural services in New Zealand

Information Sources

NZIA Agreements for Architects Services, NZIA Practice Notes. To obtain NZIA Practice Notes you need to join the New Zealand Institute of Architects which as an applicant for registration in New Zealand you can do via an "affiliated membership". Membership application forms are available at www.nzia.co.nz.

B. Design stages

Outcomes:

- To create a design for a complex building that is capable of realisation through the exercise of knowledge, imagination, judgement and professional responsibility.
- To develop a design proposal for a complex building from an initial concept.
- To resolve a schematic design for a complex building sufficient to obtain agreement and authorisations to proceed to documentation for its translation into built form.

APEC Architect Performance Indicators

B1) The applicant is able to demonstrate knowledge of the human, social, environmental and contextual issues that may be relevant to an architectural design in New Zealand.

B2) The applicant will have a general knowledge of, and methods by which to obtain information relating to, the legal status of the land or particular site; resource management controls, controls protecting public health and the environment, and safety and welfare issues relating to the specific project.

Information Sources

Land Information New Zealand, www.linz.govt.nz

Resource Management, www.mfe.govt.nz/rma/

C. Project review and communication

Outcomes:

- To continuously comply with the brief and meet contractual arrangements throughout the course of implementation of a design project for a complex building.
- To communicate information throughout the course of determining a brief and throughout the conceptual design development, documentation and construction phase of the engagement.

APEC Architect Performance Indicators

None

D. Detailed design

Outcome:

- To generate documentation of a building project so that it can be costed, built, and completed in accordance with the brief, time frame, costs and quality objectives.

APEC Architect Performance Indicators

D1) The applicant has knowledge of building materials and systems, and of construction detailing appropriate to New Zealand conditions.

Information Sources

New Zealand Building Code, Handbook and Approved Documents

www.consumerbuild.org.nz/publish/

Department of Building and Housing, www.dbh.govt.nz

Building Research Association of New Zealand, www.branz.co.nz

Standards Association of New Zealand, www.standards.co.nz

MasterSpec (specification writing), www.masterspec.co.nz

NZ Green Building Council, www.nzgbc.org.nz

E. Contract documentation and procurement

Outcomes:

- To establish an appropriate procurement¹ method and complete contractual arrangements with all participants.
- To establish project management by confirming objectives and conditions at the inception of a project.

APEC Architect Performance Indicators

E1) Knowledge and familiarity of different types of contracts and contract conditions specific to New Zealand has been demonstrated.

Information Sources

NZIA Conditions of Contract,

<http://www.nzia.co.nz/content.aspx?c=236&t=Technical-Documents>

Standards New Zealand Conditions of Contract

www.standards.co.nz

F. Contract administration and observation

Outcomes:

- To provide contract administration for the construction of a project.
- To prepare as-built record documents before, or at, completion of a building project to provide for effective occupancy and as research input for future operational use.
- To document responsibilities and assemble information for future
- operational use before or at completion of a project.

APEC Architect Performance Indicators

F1) The applicant has sufficient knowledge of the documents and appropriate procedures to administer a construction contract in New Zealand, including end-of-contract procedures.

Information Sources

NZIA Conditions of Contract,

<http://www.nzia.co.nz/content.aspx?c=236&t=Technical-Documents>

Standards New Zealand Conditions of Contract

www.standards.co.nz

G. Statutory requirements

Outcome:

- To understand and comply with the applicable New Zealand statutory and regulatory requirements.

APEC Architect Performance Indicator

G1) The applicant has sufficient knowledge of the laws and regulations governing planning, building procurement and the practice of architecture in New Zealand.

Information Sources

Relevant legislation includes

New Zealand Building Act 2004

Resource Management Act 1991

Construction Contracts Act 2002

Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992

Copyright Act 1994

Registered Architects Act 2005

¹ Way in which the actual construction is arranged, ie typically how the contractor/builder is found.

Registered Architects Rules 2006
Consumer Guarantees Act 1993
Fair Trading Act 1986
New Zealand legislation can be viewed at www.legislation.govt.nz

H. Practice conduct and office management.

Outcomes:

- To establish and maintain an architectural practice.
- To conduct his or her practice of architecture to an ethical standard at least to equivalent to the code of ethical conduct.

APEC Architect Performance Indicators

H1) Knowledge of New Zealand practice models is exhibited.

H2) The applicant has knowledge of the legal constraints affecting an architectural practice as a business entity and as an employer.

The applicant should also be able to discuss professional conduct and have a good understanding of the New Zealand Code of Minimum Standards of Ethical Conduct for Registered Architects.

Information Sources

Code of Minimum Standards of Ethical Conduct for Registered Architects (from Registered Architects Rules 2006 part 3),
<http://www.nzrab.org.nz/default.aspx?Page=161>
New Zealand Registered Architects Board, www.nzrab.co.nz