



South African Council for the Architectural Profession

**PREPARATION OF PORTFOLIOS FOR
RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING
(RPL) & SPECIAL CONSENT (SC)**





Architectural Professions Act No. 44 of 2000

Clause 19 - Registration

19. (2) The council must register the applicant in the relevant category and issue a registration certificate to the successful applicant in the prescribed form if, after consideration of an application, the council is satisfied that the applicant—

(a) in the case of a person applying for registration as a professional—

(i) has demonstrated his or her competence as measured against standards determined by the council for the relevant category of registration;

- having passed accredited or recognised examinations at any educational institution offering educational programmes in architecture; and

- having passed any other examination that may be determined by the council; or

- **presenting evidence of prior learning in architecture.**

(4) For the purposes of this section “**prior learning**” means the previous learning and experience of a learner, howsoever obtained, **against the learning outcomes required for a specified qualification** and the acceptance for the purposes of qualification of that which meets those requirements.



RPL and SC are defined by:

The **Architectural Profession Act** as the **previous learning and experience** of a learner, howsoever obtained, **against the learning outcomes required for a specified qualification** and the acceptance for the purposes of qualification of that which meets those requirements; and

SAQA as a process through which non-formal learning and informal learning are measured, mediated for **recognition across different contexts** and **certified against the requirements for credit, access, inclusion or advancement in the formal education and training system, or workplace.**

‘Special Consent’ is defined in the RPL Policy as “a mechanism for SACAP to grant an applicant **permission to undertake work of a building type that is outside the applicant’s category of registration** and it may only be granted to the applicant to carry out the building type on which an **applicant has demonstrated competence** on”.





PREPARING YOUR PORTFOLIO

A. **Required Competencies:**

Know the required competencies & be sure you meet with the requirements at your level of application & marry these with your portfolio examples

1. Architectural design
2. Environmental relationship
3. Construction technology
4. The structure of buildings
5. Contextual and urban relationships
6. Architectural history & theory
7. Building services & related technologies
8. Contract documentation and administration
9. Computer applications
10. Office practice, legal aspects and ethics.





KNOW THE REQUIRED LEARNING LEVELS

Entry Level Requirements:.

	<u>LEARNING LEVEL</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
A	PROBLEM SOLVING	Skill in analysing problems, identifying appropriate information for the accomplishment of tasks & to apply it to the solution of specific problems.
B	APPLICATION	Full assimilation & comprehension of Information, & the skill to correctly paraphrase it & relate it to other situations, including its practical application.
C	UNDERSTANDING	Familiarity with relevant information, without necessary being skilled to see its fullest implication or application.
D	KNOWLEDGE	Acquaintance with relevant concepts & methods, without necessary being skilled to paraphrase information.





KNOW THE REQUIRED REGISTRATION CATEGORY COMPETENCIES

REGISTRATION CATEGORY	LEARNING LEVEL REQUIREMENTS PER CATEGORY	OUTCOMES FIELD & NUMBERS									
		Architectural design	Environmental relationships	Construction technology	Building structures	Contextual & urban relationships	Architectural history, theory & precedent	Building services & related technologies	Documentation & administration	Computer application	Office practice, legal aspects and ethics
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Professional Architect	Knowledge										
	Understanding										
	Application										
	Problem Solving										
Professional Senior Architectural Technologist	Knowledge										
	Understanding										
	Application										
	Problem Solving										





KNOW THE REQUIRED REGISTRATION CATEGORY COMPETENCIES

REGISTRATION CATEGORY	LEARNING LEVEL REQUIREMENTS PER CATEGORY	OUTCOMES FIELD & NUMBERS									
		Architectural design	Environmental relationships	Construction technology	Building structures	Contextual & urban relationships	Architectural history, theory & practice	Services & related technology	Contract document administration	Computer application	Office practice, legal aspects and ethics
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Professional Architectural Technologist	Knowledge										
	Understanding										
	Application										
	Problem Solving										
Professional Architectural Draughtsperson	Knowledge										
	Understanding										
	Application										
	Problem Solving										





PREPARING YOUR PORTFOLIO

B. Your 5 Projects:

What buildings to show? Varying levels of complexity

PrArchDraught > PrArchT

IDoW permits the following additional building types at Pr.Arch.Tech. level:

Shops • Warehouses • Community halls • Swimming pools • Dormitory/hostels • Single Dwelling Unit – Simple double storey.

Show **UNDERSTANDING** over ALL Competency Fields & **APPLICATION** over most

PrArchT > PrSArchT

Multi-storey/ underground car parks • Supermarkets • Banks • Purpose-built shops • Office developments • Garages/ showrooms • Department stores • Restaurants • Bus stations • Civic centres • Religious and crematoria • Sheriff courts • Courts of session • Nursery/first schools • Primary school • Speculative factories & warehouses • Transport garages • Surgeries (Doctor's consulting rooms) • Dental surgeries (Dentist's consulting rooms) • Squash courts • Barracks • Student housing • Hospitality, B+B, guesthouses & self-catering units • Single Dwelling Unit – complex design criteria

Show **APPLICATION** over ALL Competency Fields & **PROBLEM SOLVING** over some





PREPARING YOUR PORTFOLIO

B. Your 5 Projects:

What buildings to show?

PrSArchT > PrArch

Shopping centres • Food processing units • Breweries • Telecommunications/computer buildings • High-risk research/production • Research/development labs • Radio/TV/recording studios • Community centres • Branch libraries • Fire stations/Ambulance • Railway stations • Airports • Police stations • Prisons • Postal buildings • Broadcasting • Specialist libraries • Museums and art galleries • Theatres • Opera houses • Concert halls • High courts • Secondary school • University complexes • University laboratories • Assembly/machine workshops • Purpose-built factories • Clinics • Health centres • General hospitals • Nursing homes • Teaching hospitals • Hospitals • Laboratories • Sports halls • Leisure complexes • Specialized complexes • State-Aided Housing • Private Apartment blocks • Hotels • Special Needs Housing • Housing for the frail and elderly

Show **PROBLEM SOLVING** over ALL competency fields (excl. computer applications).
Evidence of advanced skills in dealing with complex architectural projects.





PRE-SCRUTINY ADVISORY NOTES

As the Applicant's prior learning is **evaluated against 10 defined competencies**, it is essential that they show/describe to the Assessment Panel how their **5 chosen projects** in their portfolio have **responded to all of the competencies relevant at the skills level being applied for**.

For example (but not limited to):

1. Architectural design – Show any conceptual work, Client's brief, aesthetics, building codes;
2. Environmental relationships – Orientation, sustainability, water and waste, XA, etc;
3. Construction technology - Material choices and why? Detailing, etc;
4. Building structures - Any engagement with Engineers; the structural considerations;
5. Contextual & urban relationships – Any design considerations related to the building & its relationship to its neighbours in its micro/macro-context;
6. Architectural history, theory & precedent – Design considerations related to the history of the area, theoretical underpinning of the design work and examples of precedent drawn from in the projects;
7. Building services & related technologies – Drainage, municipal services etc;
8. Contract documentation & administration – Written agreements with Clients. Building contracts, records, etc;
9. Computer applications – Experience on CAD and other packages;
10. Office practice, legal aspects and ethics – Their role in the practice, management.

FAILURE TO MEET WITH THESE COMPETENCIES MAY RESULT IN THE APPLICANT NOT MEETING WITH THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR PROGRESSION.





YOUR FIVE PROJECTS – What Drawings to Present? What to Discuss? What may be Asked?

1. Architectural design – Conceptual Sketches – rough workings to final presentation.
Photos of project progress on site.
2. Environmental relationships – Discussion (orientation - plans/ elevations/ fenestration/ water etc)
3. Construction technology – A section and/or selected details;
4. Building structures - A section and/or selected details - discussion;
5. Contextual & urban relationships – Streetscape, scale, neighbourliness
6. Architectural history, theory & precedent – Possibly history of the area, research of style/estate planning guidelines, local materials;
7. Building services & related technologies – An example of a services drawing;
8. Contract documentation & administration – Usually covered under discussion;
9. Computer applications – Evidence of drawings / Discussion;
10. Office practice, legal aspects and ethics – Discussion





THE INTERVIEW

1.

- Welcome by the assessment chairperson

2.

- Applicant has 5 minutes to introduce themselves.

3.

- Applicant has 25 minutes to present their portfolio and talk about their 5 projects (5 projects x 5 minutes each)

4.

- The interview panel will ask questions (approx. 15 minutes).

5.

- Applicant will depart the interview & the panel will discuss findings





THE END

THANK YOU

