



BOARD OF ARCHITECTS OF TASMANIA

Newsletter – December 2022

Amendments to Architects Act and New Regulations

The [Architects Amendment Act 2020](#) received Royal Assent on 17 November 2020 however is not yet operational as the Regulations and associated documentation have yet to be finalised.

The main changes contained in the Amendment Act and new Regulations included the introduction of Continuing Professional Development (CPD), Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII) requirements, adoption of a Code of Practice by the Board and allowing the Board to create Classes for registration with different requirements including the registration of architectural firms.

The initial Classes are:

- **Practising Architect**
 - required to be covered by appropriate Professional Indemnity Insurance,
 - comply with the Code of Practice, and
 - comply with the Board's CPD requirements

- **Non-practising Architect**
 - can apply to the Board for an exemption from PII requirements
 - comply with the Code of Practice, and
 - comply with the Board's CPD requirements
(retired architects can apply for an exemption)

- **AMR Practising Architect**
 - AMR legislation complying interstate architect
 - required to be covered by appropriate Professional Indemnity Insurance,
 - No fee required

- **Architectural Firm**
 - required to have at least one Tasmanian registered Practising architect nominated as a responsible architect
 - required to be covered by appropriate Professional Indemnity Insurance,

2023 Renewals

With the uncertainty relating to the legislation, the distribution of the 2023 Renewals have been delayed until approximately 19 December 2022 and therefore the due date for payment will be extended to 15 February 2023, however if not paid before 1 March 2023 your registration will lapse and your name removed from the register.

If an architect re-applies for registration:

- **within two years**, they would need to complete a new application form, provide a brief curriculum vitae of architectural work in the past five years and pay the appropriate fees.
- **After two year but within 5 years** they would need to complete a new application form, provide a brief curriculum vitae of architectural work in the past five years, pay the appropriate fees and sit an Experienced Architects Assessment interview.
- **After 5 years** they would need to complete a new application form, provide a brief curriculum vitae of architectural work in the past five years, pay the appropriate fees and sit the Architectural Practice Exam.

Automatic Mutual Recognition (AMR)

As all the necessary legislation has not been finalised, AMR has not commenced for Architects yet.

Therefore, all architects registered in Tasmania are required to pay the 2023 renewal invoice.

Continuing Professional Development for Practising Architects

Practising architects are required to comply with the Board's CPD requirements by undertaking at least twenty (20) hours of acceptable CPD per year with **at least 10 hours of CPD required to be Formal CPD. Formal CPD hours must relate to a minimum of 2 units (with a maximum of 5 hours in any one unit)**, of the National Architecture Competency Standards – Design, Documentation, Practice Management and Project Management. The Board's Guidelines relating to acceptable CPD and Formal CPD requirements are included with this email.

A record submitted to another Architects Board in Australia for renewal of registration in the last 7 months will be acceptable, provided it meets the Tasmanian Board's requirements.

Architects must retain their CPD records for a period of 5 years.

With the Amendments to the Act and Regulations not being operational yet and CBOS not providing funding to the Board to monitor and audit CPD on its behalf, the **Board will not be seeking CPD records** from architects as part of the 2023 renewal process. **CBOS may require architects to provide CPD information to it.**

Registration of Architectural Firms

To increase consumer protection and awareness of who are the responsible architects within a firm, the changes to the legislation will introduce the requirement for all firms offering architectural services and using the term architect, architectural or a derivative of those terms to be registered. As AMR legislation only applies to individuals and not firms, all firms offering architectural services in Tasmania need to apply for registration.

An Architectural Firms application for registration Form will be sent to responsible architects on our current list of Tasmanian Architectural Firms and any other firms we become aware of once the legislation begins operation.

Firms need to nominate a Tasmanian registered practising architect to apply on its behalf and provide details of the firms professional indemnity insurance and a list of architect employees/partners/directors/beneficiaries covered by the insurance to overcome the need for each practising architect to provide details.

Duplication of Registration and Licensing with CBOS

When the amendments to the Act become operational, all the requirements for licensing with CBOS will be covered by the Architects Act. The Board is in discussion with the Department of Justice regarding making the necessary changes for the Board to become the primary body to regulate architects in Tasmania and to overcome the need to be regulated by two bodies.

This process will involve a review of fees charged as the Board will be taking on additional responsibilities including the requirements for all practising architects and firms to have an appropriate level of professional indemnity insurance and all architects to comply with the Code of Practice including continuing professional development requirements.

Upgrade to Website and Online Facilities

Once the Amended legislation becomes operational, the Board will be upgrading its website and moving most of its processes online including applications, notifications, renewals, submission of professional indemnity advice and continuing professional development recording.

Architectural Practice Exam – Next exam closing date for Parts 1 & 2 – 27 January 2023

The closing date for [applications](#) for Session 1 of the Architectural Practice Examination is Friday 27 January 2023 with the Part 2 exam to be held on Tuesday 18 April 2023 via remote on-line proctoring. Please refer to the [AACA website](#) for more information.

The closing dates for Parts 1 & 2 applications for the second session is Friday 10 July 2023 with the Part 2 written paper to be held on 19 September 2023.

Candidates are required to record a minimum of 3,300 hours of practical experience in their logbooks ranging over all 15 Performance Criteria.

In 2022 there was a total of 5 applicants, with 3 of the applicants now registered as architects.

2024 Architectural Practice Exam Changes

Starting in 2024, the Architectural Practice Examination will follow the [2021 National Standard of Competency for Architects \(NSCA\)](#) using a new AACA logbook online.

For more details and access to the new log book please refer to :
<https://aaca.org.au/architectural-practice-examination/2024ape/>

This page also includes access to 2024 APE Online video resources.

Accreditation of Master of Architecture Course at University of Tasmania

Due to COVID and building works at the University the National Panel visit to the University for reviewing the accreditation of the Master of Architecture course had been deferred. The Panel visited the University between 31 October and 2 November 2022.

The Board has now received a Report from the Panel to consider.

Current Registrations

Currently there are 615 architects registered in Tasmania, with 312 having postal addresses in outside Tasmania.

This calendar year has seen 56 registrations processed.

Board of Architects of Tasmania - University of Tasmania Prize for Professional Studies

The Board of Architects Prize for Professional Studies recognises excellent achievement in Professional Studies in the Master in Architecture by a student at the University of Tasmania. The Prize is based on meritorious achievement in aspects of architectural education related to readiness for professional practice based on selected performance criteria in the National Standard of Competency for Architects (NSCA). These criteria include parts of the Elements in NSCA which are defined in relation to architectural education by the curriculum of Architecture Program at the University of Tasmania.

The Board's University prize valued at \$ 1,500 was awarded to **Kylie Hunt for 2021.**

The Board wishes all architects, staff and family a very happy and safe festive season and a prosperous new year