



Architectural Practice Examination Part 3: Examination by Interview Candidate briefing – Session 2, 2024

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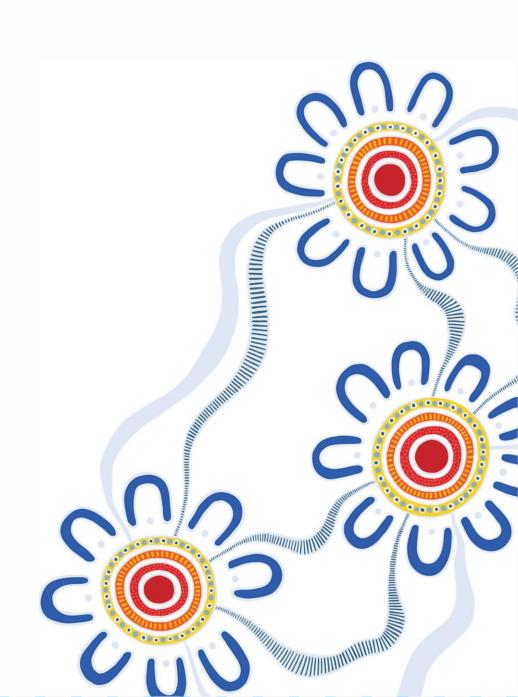
0403 617 760

Acknowledgement of Country

The NSW Architects Registration Board acknowledges, respects and values Aboriginal peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we live, walk and work. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future. We recognise and remain committed to honouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships, and continuing connection to their lands, waters and seas. We acknowledge their history here on these lands and their rich contribution to our society.

We also acknowledge our Aboriginal employees who are an integral part of our diverse workforce, and recognise the knowledge embedded forever in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander custodianship of Country and cultures.

The 'Connecting Communities' artwork used here is by Alison Williams, proud Gumbaynggirr woman.

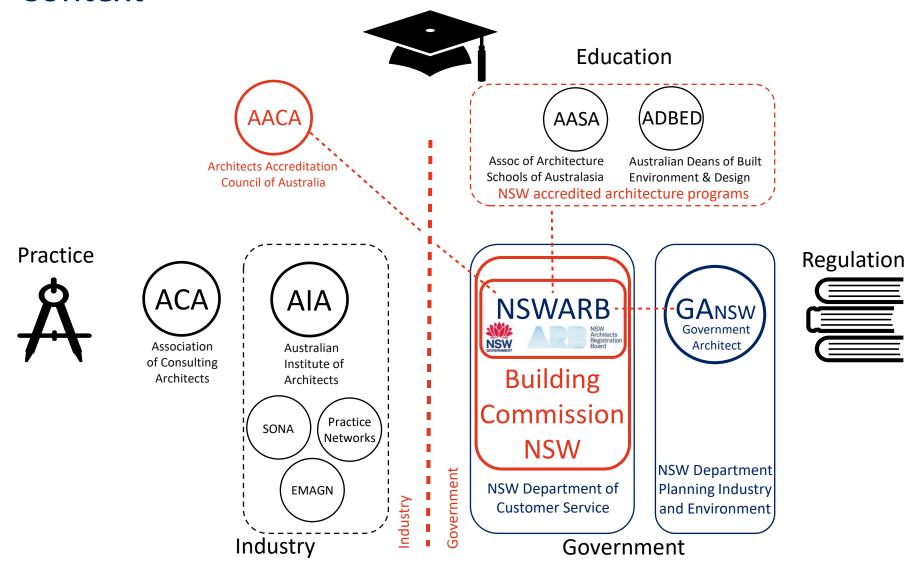


Webinar Outline

- 1. Overview of the role of the NSW Architects Registration Board
- 2. APE Part 2: National Examination Paper
- 3. APE Part 3: Examination by Interview
- 4. Part 3 Assessment Rubric for NSW Candidates
- 5. Tips for the interview
- 6. Mock interview
- 7. Questions



Context



The role of the NSW Architects Registration Board

Each state and territory of Australia has its own architect registration board, established under legislation

The NSW Architects Registration Board operates the Architects Act 2003, the legislation regulating architects in NSW.

The Board's role is to:

- protect consumers of architectural services by ensuring that architects provide services to the public in a professional and competent manner
- register architects and monitor their Continuing Professional Development and Professional Indemnity Insurance obligations
- discipline architects who have acted unprofessionally or incompetently
- accredit architectural qualifications for the purpose of registration and administer the Architectural Practice Examination for registration as an architect in NSW
- inform the public about the qualifications and competence of architects and the procurement of architectural services
- promote a better understanding of architectural issues in the community.



APE PART 2: NATIONAL EXAMINATION PAPER



APE Part 2: National Examination Paper

The AACA is expected to provide the NSW ARB with results for the APE Part 2 by Thursday, 10 October 2024

The NSW ARB expects to issue Part 2 results to candidates by close of business on Monday, 14 October 2024

Please be patient and we will get your results to you as soon as possible.



APE Part 2: National Examination Paper







Candidate Number

Candidate Name

National Examination Paper, April 2024

Dear

This letter contains information relating to your performance in the recent April 2024 National Examination

This includes a summary of your overall result and how your result relates to the examination Scenarios and their related performance criteria. Please note that a full list of Performance Criteria tested in the National Examination Paper is listed at the end of this letter.

The number of Performance Criteria tested in each scenario varies.

For the examination your result is Pr

Your examination score was

Performance Criteria in Examination

Perforn	ance Criteria	Included in Examination	% Correct
PC 1	Demonstrate understanding of the regulatory requirements and obligations pertaining	Yes	73
	to practice as an architect, including legislation, professional codes of conduct, and		
	obligations for continuing professional development and professional indemnity		
,	insurance.		=",""
PC 2	Be able to identify practice resources and apply practice methods and quality	Yes	50
	lassurance systems within an ethical practice management framework to comply with		_/
\ '	and facilitate efficient, consistent and timely delivery of architectural services.		
PC 3	Demonstrate understanding of the principles of project planning, considering	No	N/A
	implications for Country, environmental sustainability, communities, stakeholders and		
	project costs.		
PC 4	Be able to apply principles of project and staff planning and resource costs to establish	No	N/A
	realistic and achievable timeframes.		
PC 5	Demonstrate understanding of the essential elements of a client architect agreement	Yes	81
	across the range of procurement methods; and be able to explain appropriateness of		
	different agreements in relation to scale and type of project, including alternatives for		
	partial services and the engagement of secondary and sub-consultants.		
PC 6	Demonstrate understanding of appropriate processes for reporting and varying the	Yes	78
	scope of services provided by an architect.		
PC 7	Apply and follow processes for clear and consistent communication with clients and	Yes	88
	relevant stakeholders throughout the project, including obtaining approvals from		
	clients and stakeholders.		
PC 8	Be able to implement culturally responsive and meaningful engagement processes	Yes	75
	that respect the importance of Country and reciprocal relationships with Aboriginal		
	and Torres Strait Islander Peoples across architectural services.		
PC 9	Demonstrate understanding of contemporary and emerging building procurement	Yes	88
	methods. This involves identifying the most appropriate form of delivery for a project,		
	including associated risks, mitigation and adaptation strategies, and integrating		
	appropriate construction contracts and consultancy contracts and/or agreements.		

You will receive feedback with your APE Part 2 results
The assessors will refer to this feedback when planning how
to structure your interview

Your NEP report will be broken down PC by PC, showing whether

- that PC was included in the examination, and
- the % of correct answers relevant to that PC.







Applications are open from Tuesday, 15 October and will close at 5pm on Monday, 28 October 2024

If you wish to sit the APE Part 3 this session, you must apply during the 2-week application window.

The 2024 APE is a new exam – there is no transition period

- If you are re-sitting the APE Part 3 Interview you will need to re-submit your Part 1 documents
 - New documents must reference the 2021 NSCA and map your experience to the 35 mandatory Performance Criteria from the 2021 NSCA
 - The new online AACA Logbook must be used the old Excel template is no longer valid
 - New Statement of Practical Experience
 - Plus other documents and NSW Statutory Declaration signed by a Justice of the Peace (JP), Notary Public or Solicitor
- If you are re-sitting the APE Part 3, your **Part 1 documents will not be re-examined by the NSW ARB** (ie. you will not be required to re-sit Part 1). However, the documents need to be updated because they will be issued to your assessors for the Part 3 Interview
- All APE Part 3 submissions must be in the new 2024 format



Session 2, 2024 APE Part 3 interviews

- Interviews will be held in November 2024 and will run until all candidates have been interviewed
- You can choose your preferred interview timeslot
- Plan to take the whole day off work
- Don't be in a rush on the day make sure you allow enough time to arrive at the NSW ARB well before your
 interview is due to start so that you are as relaxed as possible
- Don't forget your rights under the Architects Award 2020 to take leave from work to attend the interview



MA000079

Architects Award 2020

13.6 Student or graduate study leave

(a) A Graduate of Architecture must after due notification to the employer be allowed leave of absence with pay to attend courses, study for and attend the Architectural Practice Examination (APE) which comply with the Architects Registration Board's Requirements. The duration of which is not to exceed 4 days maximum time for study and attendance at written and/or interview based examinations for each APE examination period for which they present.



Interviews will be conducted in person at the NSW Architects Registration Board Level 2, 156 Gloucester Street, The Rocks (near Wynyard Station)



Make yourself known at reception when you arrive and show your ID

- You cannot take anything into the interview room leave bags and other items with staff at reception
- Take a seat, have a drink of water, and try to relax
- Talk to the other candidates sitting next to you to loosen up
- Admire the office fitout by Harry Seidler & Associates...
- There will be 3 interview rooms running in parallel
- One of your assessors will take you to your room

NSW Architects Registration Board

Interviews will be conducted in person at the NSW Architects Registration Board



One of your assessors will take you to your interview room

- No personal notes or other reference material (hardcopy or electronic) are to be consulted during the interview
- Bags, phones, smart watches and other devices may not be taken into the interview room – leave with staff at reception
- At least one of your assessors will be taking notes pay no attention to this and focus on answering the questions to the best of your ability



What to expect in the interview

- Conducted by 2 assessors, each of whom has at least 5 years practice experience as a registered architect
- Runs for between 45 minutes 1 hour duration
- Purpose is to provide your assessors with an overview of your experience and your ability to deal with practice issues







Content of the interview

Your assessors are given your **Document 1** plus your **APE Part 2 results**

The Part 3 interview will draw content from multiple sources to test across the breadth of the 48 relevant Performance Criteria from the 2021 NSCA:

- Your Logbook
- Your Statement of Practical Experience (SoPE)
- Your results from the Part 2 National Examination Paper (NEP)
- Performance Criteria that are exclusively assessable in Part 3
- Areas of risk identified by the architect registration boards nationally

Assessors will usually include some hypothetical scenarios.



How will your assessors structure the interview?

- Every interview is different because it draws on content unique to your personal experience, strengths and weaknesses
- Assessors will structure the interview to test your knowledge and understanding, as well as your applied problem solving and interpersonal skills in a professional context

Knowledge and understanding:

You will be asked probing questions to measure your understanding of facts, concepts, principles and procedures that underlie professional practice.

Applied problem solving:

You may be asked a series of related questions to test your ability to apply your theoretical knowledge to a practice-based scenario(s).

• Interpersonal skills:

Your communication and people skills necessary to support professionalism in your work will also be observed.





What are your assessors looking for?

The assessors will ask questions to draw out your experience and to confirm whether, on balance, you have demonstrated that you possess the technical knowledge and skills, and professional application of these skills in architectural practice, to be able to perform to the standard expected of an architect in Australia

You will be asked questions to confirm whether

- your work experience has allowed you to develop experience and skills against the required Performance Criteria
- there are any weaknesses in your knowledge of the facts
- you can apply your knowledge to a practical situation(s)
- you can demonstrate the communication and interpersonal skills necessary for professional practice



NSW ARB expectations of APE assessors

Your assessors must

 Conduct an interview that covers the range of expected skills, knowledge and behaviours as defined by the 2021 NSCA

and

• Use the *Part 3 Assessment Rubric for NSW Candidates* to structure the interview and determine the interview outcome

The Rubric supports a criterion-referenced process for assessing candidates against the relevant PCs for the 2021 NSCA and the determination of an interview outcome that is defensible and evidence-based

All 7 Topics in the Rubric must be covered by your assessors during the interview







Your assessors will be using an assessment rubric to support a defensible assessment decision

The NSW assessment rubric has the following features:

- Thematic clustering of PCs into 7 Topics making it easier to cover the breadth of 48 PCs in a 1-hour interview
- Expectations of performance are explicit and drawn from the 2021 NSCA Explanatory Notes and Definitions, individual PCs (where no explanatory note exists), and learning outcomes in the APE 2024 Support Material
- The threshold for marking a candidate as a FAIL is clearly defined
 - To PASS, you MUST BE marked SATISFACTORY for all 7 Topics
 - The threshold for a candidate being NOT SATISFACTORY in a Topic is established by the number of not satisfactory PCs
- The assessment rubric will form the basis of NSW ARB feedback to unsuccessful candidates in the results letter sent to them, assisting them to improve and eventually reach their goals.

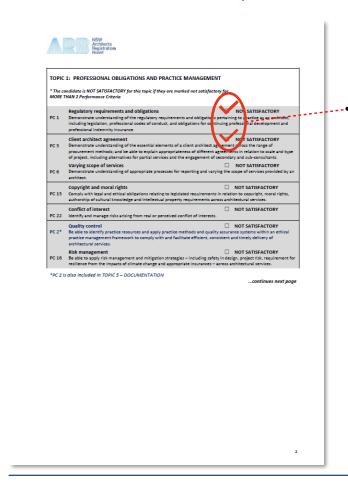


At the end of the interview after you have left the room, your assessors will determine the interview outcome

	APE Part 3 Assessment Rubric for NSW Candidates				
Candidate name	:			_	
Interview DATI	ii .	Intervie	w START:	FINISH:	
* comments must b	ments on the candidate	is a FAIL	at interview.		
Final result	PASS* In order to PASS, th	☐ FAIL e candidate must be n	marked SATISFACK	TORY for all 7 Topics	
Final result Assessor 1			marked SATISFAC	TORY for all 7 Topics	



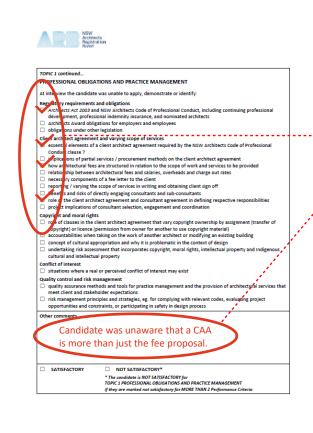
At the end of the interview, assessors will



Determine individual PCs that were NOT SATISFACTORY during the interview



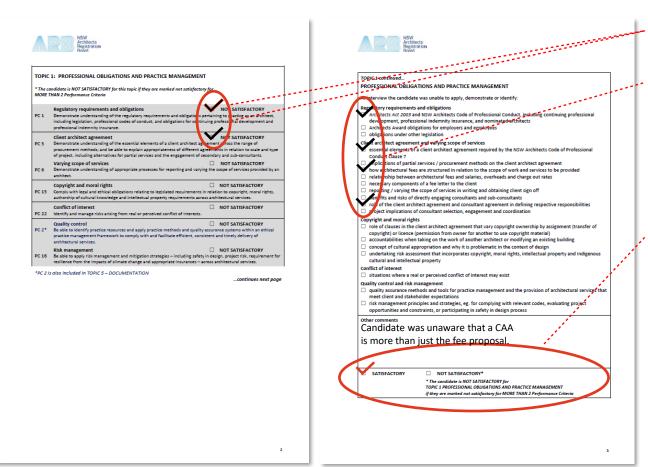
At the end of the interview, assessor will



- Identify relevant competency content that supports any NOT SATISFACTORY PCs they have determined
- They may also include commentary where appropriate
 - The NSW ARB feedback letter to unsuccessful candidates will list the PCs for which the candidate was found "Not Satisfactory"
 - This will be supplemented by the relevant competency content that the assessors identified as not demonstrated by the candidate
 - The feedback to unsuccessful candidates may also include commentary made by assessors in their "Other comments" where relevant



At the end of the interview, the assessors will



- Determine individual PCs that were NOT SATISFACTORY during the interview
- Identify relevant competency content that supports the NOT SATISFACTORY PCs they have determined
 - Determine whether the candidate is SATISFACTORY or NOT SATISFACTORY for each Topic based on the number of PCs marked Not Satisfactory



To Pass the Part 3 Interview overall, you must be marked SATISFACTORY for all 7 TOPICS

Whether you are SATISFACTORY or NOT SATISFACTORY for each Topic will be based on the number of PCs marked NOT SATISFACTORY, as follows

TOPIC 1 PROFESSIONAL OBLIGATIONS AND PRACTICE MANAGEMENT

7 PCs in total – The candidate is **NOT SATISFACTORY for this Topic if MORE THAN 2 PCs** are marked not satisfactory

TOPIC 2 PROJECT COMMENCEMENT

12 PCs in total – The candidate is **NOT SATISFACTORY for this Topic if MORE THAN 3 PCs** are marked not satisfactory

TOPIC 3 COMMUNICATION

5 PCs in total – The candidate is **NOT SATISFACTORY for this Topic if MORE THAN 2 PCs** are marked not satisfactory

TOPIC 4 ENVIRONMENTAL

4 PCs in total – The candidate is **NOT SATISFACTORY for this Topic if MORE THAN 1 PC** is marked not satisfactory

TOPIC 5 DOCUMENTATION

12 PCs in total – The candidate is **NOT SATISFACTORY for this Topic if MORE THAN 3 PCs** are marked not satisfactory

TOPIC 6 PROCUREMENT

7 PCs in total – The candidate is **NOT SATISFACTORY for this Topic if MORE THAN 2 PCs** are marked not satisfactory

TOPIC 7 CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION

6 PCs in total – The candidate is **NOT SATISFACTORY for this Topic if MORE THAN 1 PC** is marked not satisfactory



TIPS FOR THE INTERVIEW



Preparation is key

- Refresh your memory of what you recorded in your Logbook and wrote in your Statement of Practical Experience
- Brush up on the 48 relevant PCs from the 2021 NSCA
- 5 PCs are not assessed in any other part of the APE and are therefore highly likely to be assessed in the interview:

PC 3 Project planning

Demonstrate understanding of the principles of project planning, considering implications for Country, environmental sustainability, communities, stakeholders and project costs.

PC 8 First Nations engagement

Be able to implement culturally responsive and meaningful engagement processes that respect the importance of Country and reciprocal relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples across architectural services.

PC 10 Environmental responsibilities – whole life carbon

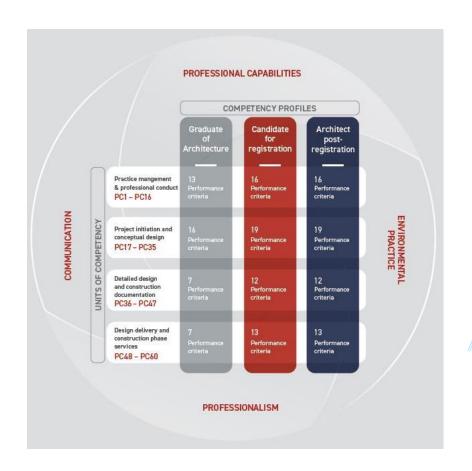
Demonstrate understanding of the whole life carbon implications of procurement methods, materials, components and construction systems.

PC 34 Communication with stakeholders

Communicate conceptual design proposals and associated information to clients, stakeholders and communities using appropriate and culturally responsive methods appropriate to different audiences.

PC 50 First Nations engagement

Be able to continue engagement with relevant Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples throughout all stages of the project and its delivery in a meaningful, respectful and appropriate way.











Candidate Number

Candidate Name

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	methods. This involves identifying the most appropriate form of delivery for a project,		
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Preparation is key – carefully review your NEP report to confirm any weakness

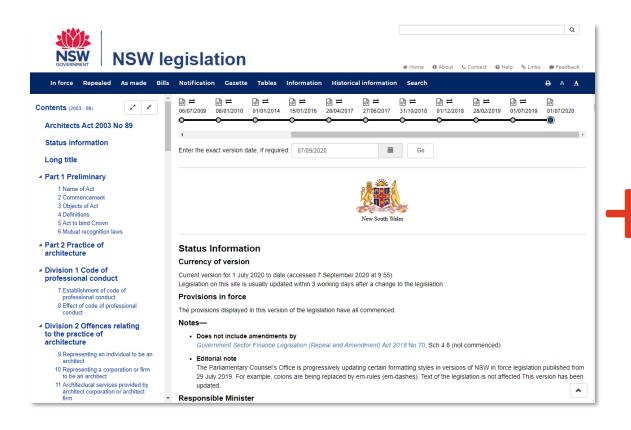
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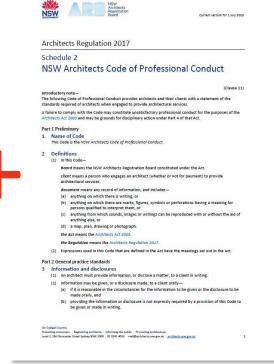
- The PCs that were least successfully answered in the NEP may be tested again in the Part 3 Interview
- Review your NEP report to confirm if there are weaknesses in
 - your knowledge of the facts
 - your ability to apply facts to a practical situation
 - your capacity to communicate effectively in a professional scenario



Preparation is key

Brush up on the Architects Act 2003 and NSW Architects Code of Professional Conduct





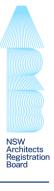


Preparation is key

The architect registration boards have previously identified certain knowledge areas as presenting a high risk to consumers of architectural services nationally

Common areas of weakness:

- · Evaluation and integration of regulatory requirements
- Application of principles controlling planning, development and design for the project site
- Building Codes and Standards, particularly core National Construction Code (NCC) requirements and selection/specification of materials
- Provision of cost information, implementation of cost controls and budget management
- **Contract Administration**, particularly certification of monetary claims, variations, Practical Completion, extensions of time, defects and rectification of these during the construction period, and other administrative responsibilities under the contract
- **Procurement methods** identification and assessment of relevance and application to the project
- Architects' liability arising from secondary consultants
- Copyright
- Client Architect agreements and termination



On the day of the interview

- Try not to be nervous this is a rare opportunity to talk about the depth of your experience with other architects who are genuinely interested
- Keep referring to your projects in your answers to the assessors' questions
- Remember that the assessors are not trying to "catch you out" they want you to do well
 at interview
- You are not expected to "know everything" you should demonstrate that you also know where to look for information / find answers if you don't know
- Expect to be thrown a few hypothetical scenarios for example, if you have predominantly worked on multi-storey commercial buildings, you might be asked about a project at a different scale such as a small public building or a house
- You should be able to demonstrate transferability of skills to other scales of practice



When will you receive the interview result? What happens if you Fail?

- You should receive the result of your interview within 3 business days
- Do not ask your assessors for the result they are not allowed to tell you on the spot
- If you are found not to have met the required standard, you will be provided with feedback that will assist you to improve and hopefully pass the interview next time
- You can apply to re-sit the APE Part 3 interview in the next session, if eligible
- You have up to 2 years to complete the Part 3 Interview from the date you were notified of your success in Part 2
- When applying to re-sit the APE Part 3 you must submit an updated Logbook, a revised Statement of Practical Experience and a new NSW Statutory Declaration attesting to the accuracy of the documentation submitted





MOCK INTERVIEW



Questions?

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