

Academic Qualifying Assessment (AQA)

Under Rule 3.1 of the HKIA/ARB Professional Assessment Handbook, a graduate from a non-HKIA accredited or recognised school of architecture may apply for an Academic Qualifying Assessment if he/she wishes to sit for the Professional Assessment to become an HKIA Member and a Registered Architect. The following sets out the guidelines for the AQA.

1) Eligibility

The applicant must graduate from a 5-year full-time or equivalent course in architecture from a tertiary school of national standing. The Professional Assessment Committee (PAC) shall have the final decision as to the acceptance of such a degree or diploma.

2) Application

The applicant should make his/her application to the PAC via the HKIA Secretariat. The application should contain the following material:

- A letter of application addressed to the Chairman of the PAC.
- A CV complete with the applicant's personal information and academic history.
- One copy each of his/her HKID, the certificate/diploma of graduation, the transcript issued by the concerned school/university in English or Chinese specifying all the academic subjects taken and grades achieved by the applicant in the year of his/her graduation, and a recent photograph.
- A portfolio of the applicant's thesis design project, and other dissertations carried out in the year of graduation.

3) Assessment

Upon the receipt of all the material specified above, the PAC Chairman shall, within 60 days, convene an AQA Panel for the assessment, if the applicant will be acceptance as promising an equivalent standard from a graduate of an HKIA accredited or recognized school. The Panel shall consist of 1 Chairman and 2 Members:

- The Chairman of the Panel shall be an HKIA Member nominated by the PAC Chairman.
- One Member each shall be a senior teaching staff, also an HKIA Member, nominated by the Heads of Departments of Architecture of the Hong Kong University and the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

The Panel shall meet at the HKIA premises to carry out the AQA. The Chairman and the Members shall each have an equal vote in deciding on the result of the AQA, and the recommendation of the Panel shall be submitted to PAC for endorsement and that the decision shall be notified to the applicant by the Secretariat. At the discretion of the Panel, the applicant may be asked to attend an interview.

4) AQA Fee

The fee to be charged to the applicant shall be \$6,000.00, payable in advance. (Note: \$2,000 each to be donated to HKU and CUHK)

24 June 2005

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