

Eligibility Certificate

PATHWAY FOUR – EQUIVALENT QUALIFICATIONS 2009

Pathway Four is for applicants with architectural qualifications that are not recognised qualifications from New Zealand or Australia. These applicants must first obtain an **Eligibility Certificate** to then apply for registration under Pathway 1. For this, applicants must satisfy the NZRAB **Qualifications Committee** that their qualifications are equivalent to a recognised New Zealand or Australian degree in Architecture.

You may need to complete a New Zealand Professional Practice course to achieve equivalency. This course would be at a senior level (4th or 5th year) within an accredited architecture programme at Unitec, University of Auckland or Victoria University of Wellington (available online as Graduate Diploma in Building Management paper GDPM 817). **If you have passed this course, please include evidence from the university with your application.**

Applicants must follow the processes outlined below. The Board can require an applicant to be assessed by interview, should that be considered necessary.

Step One – Application

Each applicant is required to:

1. Submit an application using the Pathway Four application form with the appropriate fee.
2. Provide a certified, translated copy of his or her qualification, including transcripts of course material that record the papers or courses taken and the grades achieved. (Note: provide evidence of passing any NZ university architectural courses or papers)
3. Provide evidence of competence in the English language, where the applicant has **not** studied at a New Zealand university or where the medium of instruction for the applicant's Architecture degree was **not** English. The options are:
 - a test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) 575 with, preferably, a TWE of 5; or 237 on the computer-based test; or 90 on the internet-based test with (preferably) a writing score of 20; or
 - an International English Language Testing System (IELTS) (general) overall band of 6.5, with no sub-score below 5.5 in the four test modules (Listening, Reading, Writing, Speaking); or
 - a Certificate in Advanced English (CAE) grade B / CPE grade C; or
 - a letter from the applicant's employer confirming that his or her English is satisfactory in the context of architectural practice.

Step Two – Assessment of Qualification

1. Once the application has been received, the **Qualifications Committee** determines if the applicant's overseas qualification is equivalent to a recognised degree in architecture.
2. If the applicant's qualification is assessed as **not** being equivalent, the applicant is advised as to what additional study is required to enable the applicant to attain eligibility.