

Architectural
Practice Board of
South Australia

archboardsa.org.au



Brief Introduction to the changes to the

2024 ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE EXAMINATIONS

June 2023

2024 APE – Architectural Practice Examination

2024 APE

- The 2024 Architectural Practice Examination [APE] has been modified to suit the new 2021 National Standard of Competency for Architects [NSCA] including a new logbook, longer examination and a suite of supporting information on the AACCA website.
- A formal PowerPoint presentation is being prepared by the AACCA.
- A substantial amount of information including the 2021 NSCA, the 2021 NSCA Explanatory Notes and Definitions, the APE Handbook and the new online logbook are available to download at:
[2024 Architectural Practice Examination | Architects Accreditation Council Of Australia \(aaca.org.au\)](https://www.aaca.org.au/2024-Architectural-Practice-Examination)
- Information sessions about the APE 2024 are likely to occur in October or November of 2023. This is to avoid confusion with the current session of the APE.
- The following is a brief outline of the changes with the new NSCA and Performance Criteria.

2024 APE – Architectural Practice Examination

Competencies

Current 2015 NSCA

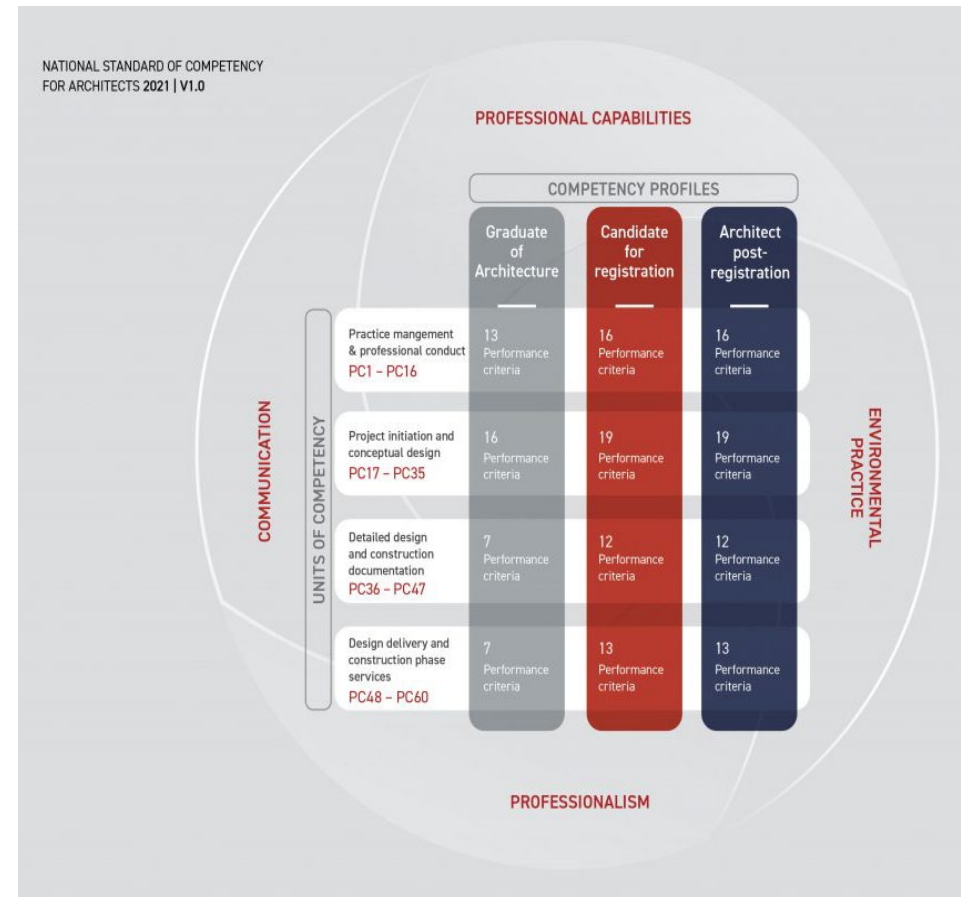
The 2015 NSCA consists of 4 Units of Competency covering Design, Documentation, Project Delivery and Practice Management which contain 70 individual Performance Criteria and 5 Knowledge Domains that underpin all Performance Criteria.

New 2021 NSCA

The 2021 NSCA also consists of 4 Units of Competency now covering:

- Practice Management and Professional Conduct
- Project Initiation and Conceptual Design
- Detailed Design and Construction Documentation
- Design Delivery and Construction Phase Services

which contain 60 individual Performance Criteria over three professional capabilities and three competency profiles.



2024 APE – Architectural Practice Examination

2021 NSCA vs 2015 NSCA

The 2021 National Standard of Competency for Architects differs from the 2015 version in the following ways:

Competency Profiles

Presentation into three competency profiles, making it clearer for the profession, academia and the consumer to understand:

- Graduate of Architecture,
- Candidate for Registration as an Architect, and
- Architect Post-Registration

Units of Competency

Reorganised into four units of competency for ease of understanding. This replaces the previous hierarchal four units, and nine elements of practice:

- Practice Management and Professional Conduct
- Project Initiation and Conceptual Design
- Detailed Design and Construction Documentation
- Design Delivery and Construction Phase Services

2024 APE – Architectural Practice Examination

2021 NSCA vs 2015 NSCA continued

Professional Capabilities

Similarly, the five knowledge domains have been replaced by three professional capabilities:

- Professionalism
- Communication
- Environmental Practice

Performance Criteria

Reduction in repetition of competencies that were slightly nuanced has resulted in the Performance Criteria going from 70 down to 60. 47 of which will be tested across the Architectural Practice Examination from 2024 onwards.

Competencies

New and expanded competencies for the 2021 NSCA include:

- Recognition of First Nations principles in designing for Country
- Broadened sustainability competencies
- More specific NCC competencies

2024 APE – Architectural Practice Examination

ACA Resources

2021 NSCA

[2021-NSCA.pdf \(aaca.org.au\)](#)

Explanatory Notes

[2021-NSCA-Explanatory-Notes.pdf \(aaca.org.au\)](#)

Architectural Practice Examination Candidate Handbook

[APE-2024-candidate-handbook.pdf \(aaca.org.au\)](#)

APE Information Sheet

[APE-information-sheet.pdf \(aaca.org.au\)](#)

APE Support Material

[APE-2024-support-material.pdf \(aaca.org.au\)](#)

APE Checklist

[APE-checklist.pdf \(aaca.org.au\)](#)

APE submission PC Report

[APE-submission-pc-report.pdf \(aaca.org.au\)](#)

APE NSCA Mapping

[APE-NSCA-mapping.pdf \(aaca.org.au\)](#)

2024 APE – Architectural Practice Examination

AACA Video Resources

APE 2024 Videos

All 5 videos (video 1 +2, and 3 x NCC videos) can be accessed here:

<https://aaca.org.au/architectural-practice-examination/online-video-resources/>

Video 1: 30 mins. 2021 National Standard of Competency for Architects,

How the NSCA is used and influences the Architectural Practice Exam

Direct access link: <https://youtu.be/68SOidRME-Y>

Video 2: 30 mins. Architectural Practice Exam Part 1, 2 + 3,

For candidates applying from 2024, what to expect, tips and guides for how to use the AACA resources

Direct access link: <https://youtu.be/-IJejEbsqgw>

FREE 1 hr Formal CPD for registered architects.

Registered architects are encouraged to access the above 2 videos as a combined 60-minute video, which will unlock FREE 1 hr Formal CPD.

Refer the red button “AACA Online Learning Platform” 1 Formal CPD

2024 APE – Architectural Practice Examination

ANY QUESTIONS?

Architectural Practice Board of South Australia

archboardsa.org.au



Thank you for your attendance.

June 2023