

# Architects

Foreign Credential Recognition, Alternative Careers,  
and Training Options

# Career Development Manitoba

Manitoba



**Architect  
Description**

**Licencing  
Process for  
Architects**

**Alternative  
Careers**

**Training  
Options**

## What Roles do Architects in Canada Perform?



## Architects

[NOC website](#)



### Job Duties

- Conceptualize and design buildings and develop plans showing specifications, building materials, costs and construction schedules
- Prepare sketches and models for clients
- Prepare or supervise the preparation of drawings, specifications and other construction documents
- Monitor activities on construction sites to ensure compliance with specifications
- Conduct feasibility studies and financial analyses of building projects.

## Architects

[NOC website](#)



### **Employment requirements**

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited school of architecture or completion of syllabus of studies from the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC)
- Completion of a 3-year internship under the supervision of a registered architect is required.
- Registration with a provincial regulatory body

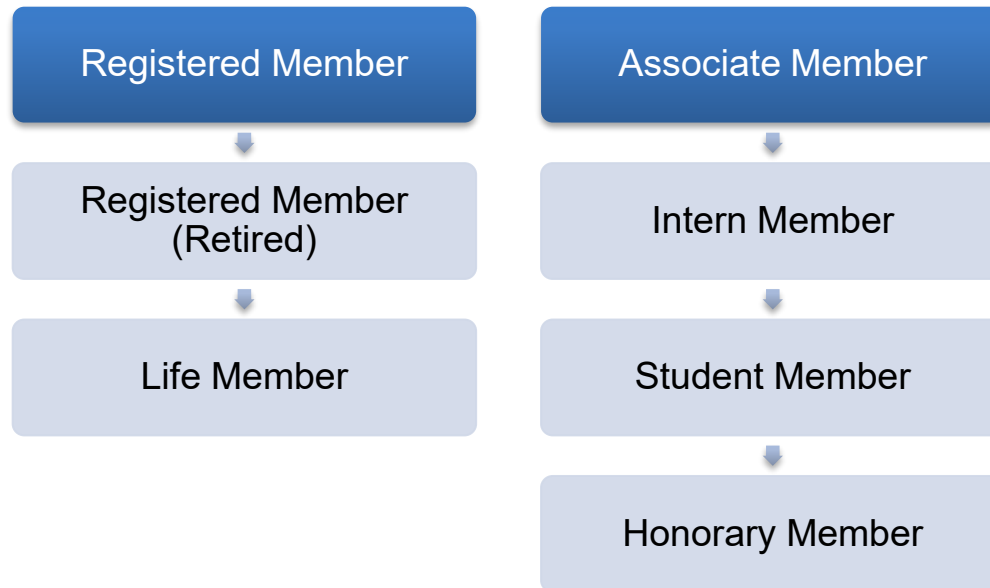


**The Manitoba Association of Architects (MAA)** is a self-governing professional association, mandated by the Province of Manitoba under The Architects Act to regulate the practice of architecture in the province.



**Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB)** - The CACB is the only body recognized by the architectural profession in Canada for the assessment of education qualifications or academic credentials. They certify the professional qualifications of broadly experienced foreign architects

## Manitoba Registration Classifications



MAA Fees: [https://www.mbarchitects.org/docs/Annual\\_Dues\\_2021.pdf](https://www.mbarchitects.org/docs/Annual_Dues_2021.pdf)

## Foreign Applicants Outside Canada and USA Obtaining An Architectural License in Canada Internships in Architecture Program (IAP)

### Steps to Obtain an Architectural Licence in Canada Document

The ten (10) provincial associations of architects in Canada adopted a standardized process for admission to the profession known as the (IAP). The IAP (also called the Intern Program) has three components:

- Education
- Experience
- Examination

\*\*Three components must be completed before a candidate can apply for a license/registration to practice architecture in Canada.\*\*

IAP Brochure:

[http://www.mbarchitects.org/intern\\_program.php](http://www.mbarchitects.org/intern_program.php)

## Education: Internships in Architecture Program (IAP)

- Involves the completion of a professional degree in architecture at a school accredited by
  - Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB) or
  - National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) in the USA.
- Applicants unable to attend university full time can complete the educational requirement through
  - The Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC) Syllabus Program. The RAIC Syllabus Program is a self-paced professional diploma program of academic studies, design studios, and practical experience.
- Foreign trained applicants must submit their academic qualifications to the CACB for a detailed evaluation/comparison to Canadian Education Standards.

## Experience: Internships in Architecture Program (IAP)

- Interns in the IAP have an Employer and a Mentor. The Employer supervises and directs the Intern daily, while the Mentor is an architect who acts in an advisory capacity.
- An Intern must complete a minimum of **3,720 hours** of mandatory experience in specified areas of architectural practice, in an approved employment setting.
- Experience must be documented in the Canadian Experience Record Book, which is included with the Intern Program manual. The experience forms must be signed by the Employer and Mentor.
- To enroll as an Intern, an individual's academic qualifications must be certified by the Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB).
- Candidates who are actively enrolled in the RAIC Syllabus Program are also eligible to start logging experience as a Student Member of the MAA after completing Part 1 of the RAIC Syllabus Program.

## Examination: Internships in Architecture Program (IAP)

- **The Examination for Architects in Canada (ExAC)** was jointly developed by the Ontario, Quebec and Alberta Associations of Architects and is intended to test the minimum standards of competency acquired by an Intern during the Internship period.
- The ExAC is administered in a paper and pencil format. **Interns must have 2800 hours of experience recorded in the Canadian Experience Record Book** and submitted for approval to the MAA and it is recognized for licencing throughout Canada.
- The ExAC is comprised of four sections (Sections 1 – 4), which must be completed over a period of two consecutive days.
- Study materials for the ExAC are available from the MAA office. In Manitoba, you must be an Intern Member of the MAA to be eligible to sit for the ExAC.

## The Broadly Experienced Foreign Architect (BEFA) Program

- An alternative pathway to licensure for foreign licensed architects.
- It was developed by [the Regulatory Organizations of Architecture in Canada \(ROAC\)](#) and is administered by [the Canadian Architectural Certification Board \(CACB\)](#).
- The Program assesses the broadly based experience of foreign architects against the Canadian Standard of Competency for Architects.
- BEFA Certification allows you to apply for licensure as an architect in the Provincial/Territorial Association you have chosen to register.

# Broadly Experienced Foreign Architect (BEFA) Certification Process

## Eligibility:

- Completed an architectural education/degree.
- You have practiced as a licensed/registered architect in a foreign jurisdiction. If registration/licensure was not required to practice as an architect in the jurisdiction(s) of origin, the equivalents of registration/licensure in that/those jurisdiction(s) may be considered.
- You have at least seven years of post-registration/licensure experience in architecture within the last twelve years.
- You will have obtained at least six months of relevant experience in Canada before the assessment interview. This experience:
  - a. Must be gained within three years before the date scheduled for the assessment interview.
  - b. Must be gained under the personal supervision and direction of a registered/licensed architect within Canada.
  - c. Must expose applicants to the practice and regulatory requirements of architecture in Canada.

## Broadly Experienced Foreign Architect (BEFA) Certification Process

### Demonstration of Competency

- Completed an architectural education/degree.
- You will be required to prove your competencies in [twelve categories](#) that illustrate the role of an architect throughout an entire project.
  - Programming
  - Site and environmental analysis
  - Schematic Design
  - Engineering systems- Structural, Mechanical, Electrical, Civil
  - Building Cost Analysis
  - Code Research
  - Design Development
  - Construction Documents
  - Procurement and Contract Award
  - Construction Phase
  - Management of the Project
  - Professionalism and Professional Practice

[Requirements of the demonstration of competency of the BEFA Program video library](#)

## Broadly Experienced Foreign Architect (BEFA) Certification Process

### Interview

- The interview is conducted by the same panel of three architects that assessed the competency demonstration submission.
- The applicant is required to bring documentation from no fewer than two projects (in a hardcopy format) to the interview session. These do not have to be Canadian projects. The panel may request that the applicant bring documents.
- The interview is like an oral exam. It is a respectful discussion among colleagues and is intended to provide the assessors an opportunity to further review the submission, obtain all necessary clarifications regarding the applicant's experiences and knowledge, and better understand the extent of your familiarity with areas of practice and/or regulation of the practice of the profession in Canada.

## Broadly Experienced Foreign Architect (BEFA) Certification Process

### Application Fees

The total fee for the three phases of the BEFA application is \$6,983.40.

**Eligibility:** \$1,222.10 (\$1,081.50 + HST)

**Demonstration of Competency :** \$3,200.72 (\$2,832.50 + HST)

**Interview :** \$2,560.58 (2,266.00 + HST)

The fees are paid at the beginning of each phase and are non-refundable

## Mutual Recognition Agreements

**MAA participates in the following reciprocity agreements, offering mobility for registered architects**

Canadian Reciprocity Agreement (within Canada)

Mutual Recognition Agreement with NCARB  
(USA/Canada)

Tri-National Agreement (USA/Mexico/Canada)

Mutual Recognition Agreement with Australia and New Zealand

## Professional Certification Contacts

### **Manitoba Association of Architects**

Suite 101, 177 Lombard Ave.

Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 0W5

Website: <https://www.mbarchitects.org/index.php>

Phone: 204-925-4620

Fax: 204-925-4624

E-mail: [info@mbarchitects.org](mailto:info@mbarchitects.org)

## Language Requirements

**Do you Speak English?**

No English language requirements for certification

English or French is required to work with contractors and trades

English or French proficiency improves chances of success

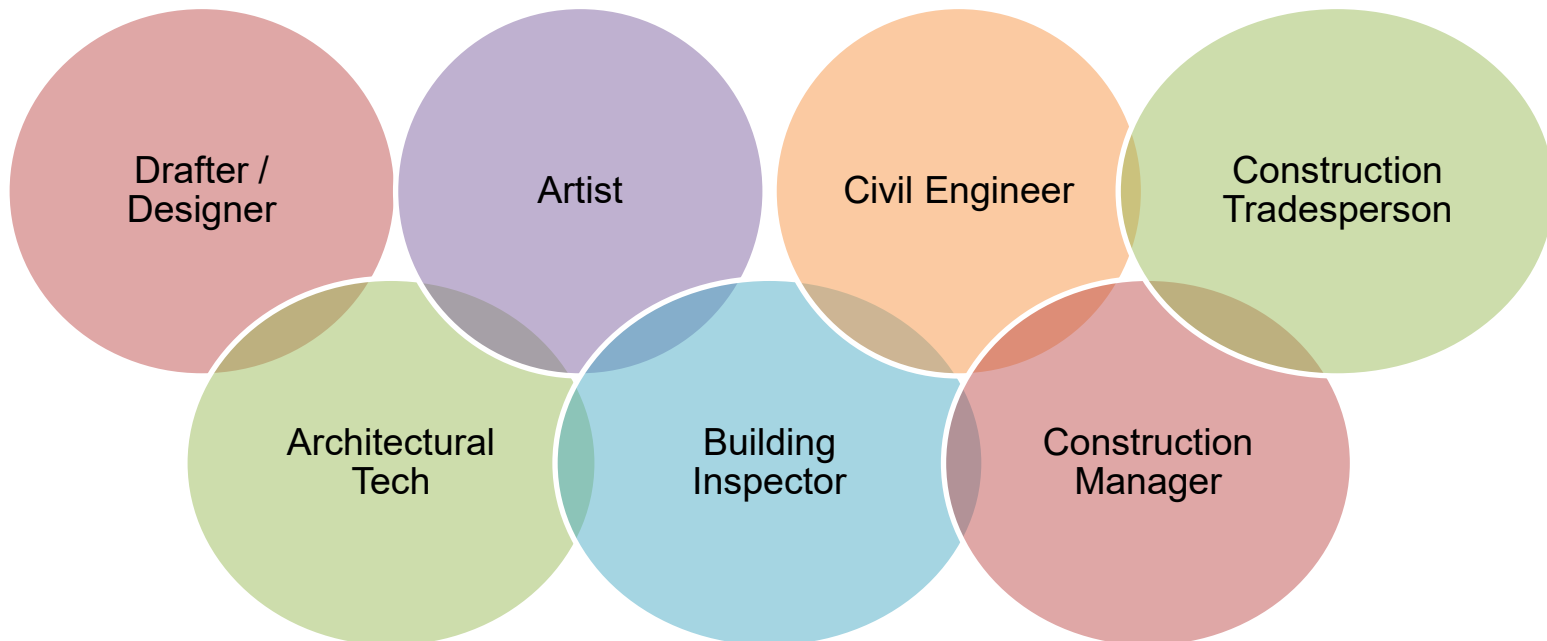
***Parlez vous Français?***



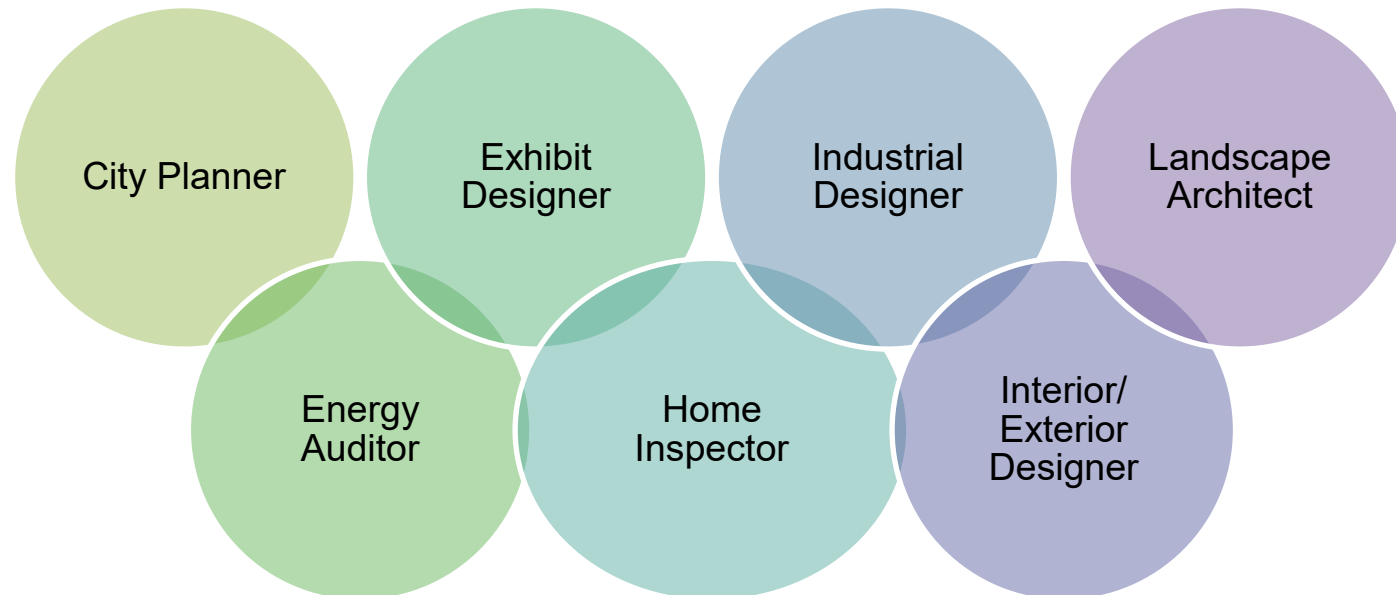
## Alternative Careers for Architects



# Career Development Manitoba



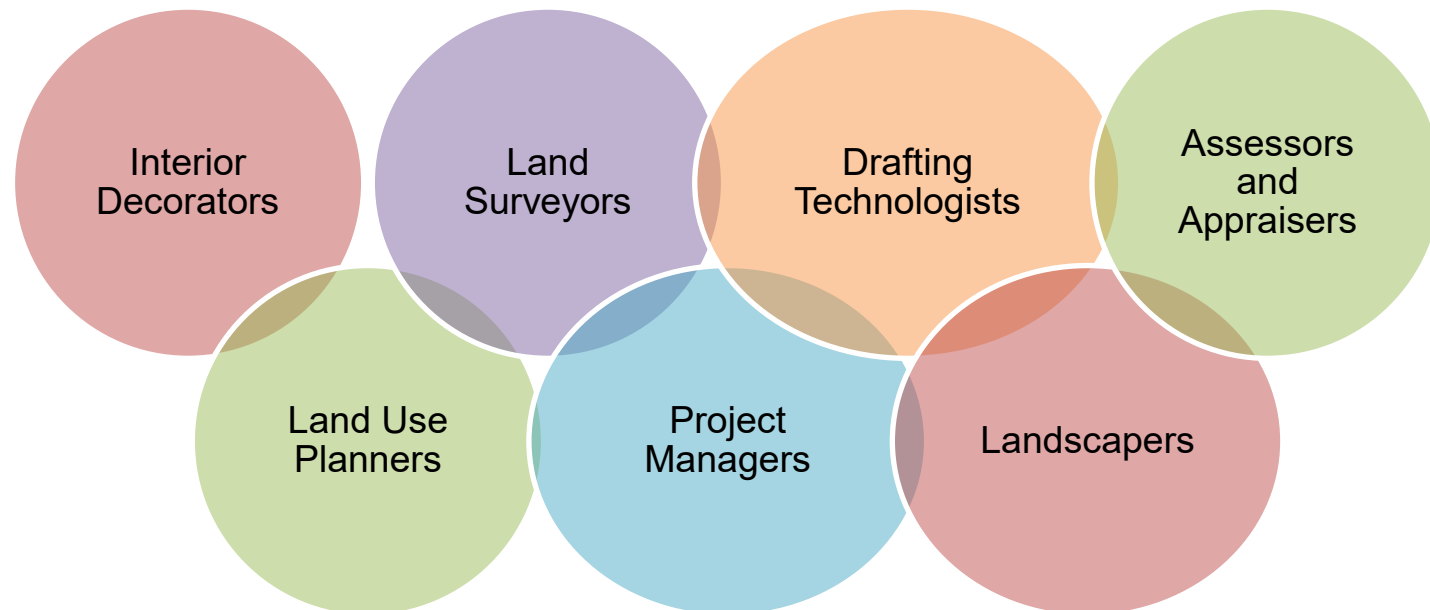
For more information visit [NOC website](#)



For more information visit [NOC website](#)

# Career Development Manitoba

Manitoba



For more information visit [NOC website](#)

## Alternative Training Options



## Red River College

- Civil Technician Certificate program (classroom and distance delivery)
- Civil Engineering Technology Diploma
- Architectural/Engineering Technology Diploma
- Geomatics Technology Diploma
- Structural Engineering Technology Diploma

## Red River College Construction Management Programs

### Construction Management

- Duration: Four-year (44-month) degree program.

### Construction Management Certificate program.

- Part-time (classroom and online learning)

## Winnipeg Construction Association (Online Courses)

- Communications, Negotiation and Conflict Resolution
- Construction Project Management
- Construction Law
- Introduction to Building Information Modeling (BIM)
- Introduction to Construction Estimating
- Construction Industry Ethics

## Career Planning Can Help You

**Enter the workforce**

**Plan for education**

**Deal with changing workplace demands**

**Anticipate trends or changes**

**Upgrade or maintain your skills**

**Develop skills for managing your career**

## Reflecting on Barriers and Strengths



## Setting Short and Long-term Goals

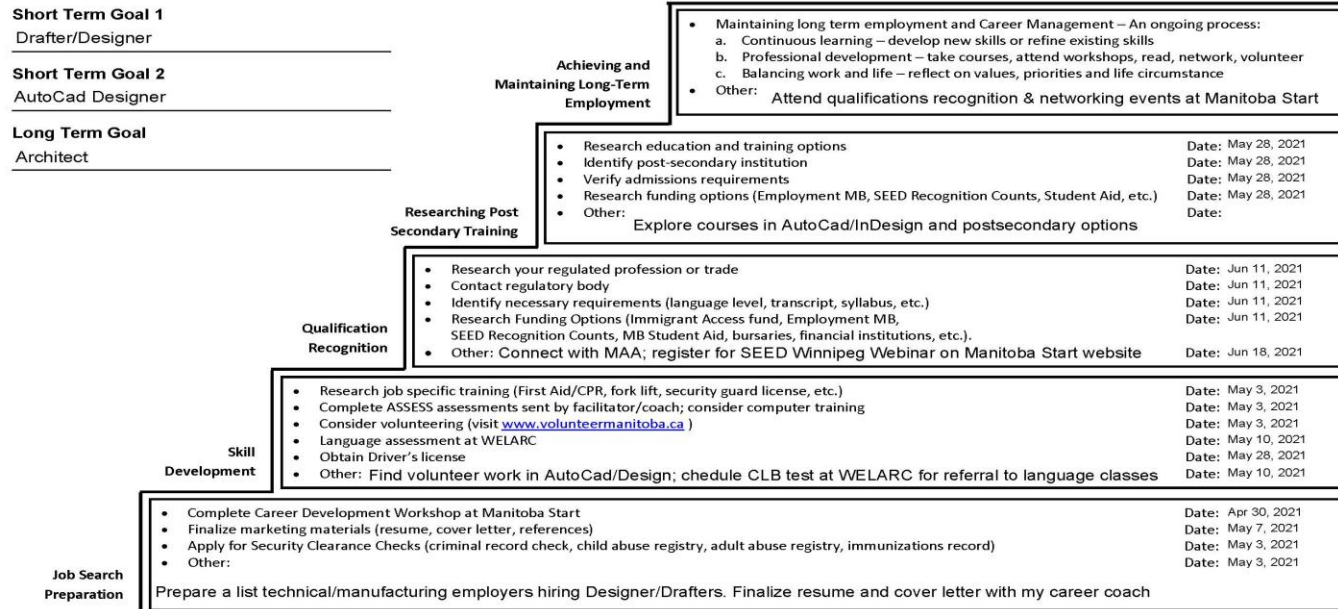
**Set SMART Goals**  
What? When?  
How?

**How much time do you have to complete each step?**

**What resources might you need?  
Who can help?**

## Career and Education Plan

Name and Client ID: Martin Allen (12345)



# Career Development Manitoba



If you require additional information about Foreign Credential Recognition, please contact the FCR Navigator [fcr@manitobastart.com](mailto:fcr@manitobastart.com)

If you are not currently a Manitoba Start client, register with us:

- Call front desk at 204-944-8833
- Visit in person
- Complete our online [registration form](#) to receive career development support.

Good luck with your career planning and work search!