



South African Council
for the Architectural Profession



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Board Notice of 2025

The South African Council for the Architectural Profession

Rules: Continuing Professional Development and Renewal of Registration

The South African Council for the Architectural Profession has in terms of Section 36(1) of the Architectural Profession Act, 44 of 2000 made amendments to the Rules published under Board Notice 390 of 2023 dated 10 February 2023 about continuing professional development as contemplated Section 13(K) of the Act and renewal of registration as contemplated by Section 22 (2) of the Act.

The Rules will come into operation on the date of publication of the final board notice in the Government Gazette.

1. Definitions

In this Board Notice, if reference is made to the male gender, it includes the female gender; a word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned by the Act has the same meaning unless the context otherwise indicates.

“Architectural Learning Sites (ALS)” means an educational institution that offers architectural programs and that has been granted accreditation by **the Council** in terms of Section 13(b) of **the Act**;

“Approved CPD provider” means an entity that has been accredited by **the Council** to offer appropriate learning in respect of category 1 CPD activities as contemplated in clause 4.2.1 and Appendix A;

“Continuing professional development (CPD)”, means continuing education and training as contemplated in Section 13(k) of **the Act**, and also means the systematic maintenance, improvement and broadening of knowledge and skills and the development of personal qualities necessary for the execution of professional and technical duties throughout a person’s architectural career;

“Expiry date” as contemplated in Section 22(1) of **the Act**, means the 31st of December of every year;

“interactive” means, in the context of development activities, full active participation in the activities such as organization, presentation, and active discussion;

“Registered Professional” means a person who is registered in terms of section 19(2)(a) of the Act;

“The Act” means the Architectural Profession Act 44 of 2000.

“The Council” means the Council established in terms of Section 2 of **the Act**, and the context of these conditions means any committee, person, or persons duly authorized by **the Council** to perform specified functions in terms of these conditions;

“Voluntary Association” (VA) means an association, institute, or society which is recognised by **the Council** as a **voluntary association** in terms of Section 25(3) of **the Act**.

“The CPD cycle” means a period of up to five years from the date of professional registration.

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2. Registered Persons required to undertake CPD

All registered persons who are registered in a professional registration category listed under Section 18(1)(a) and (c) of **the Act** must undertake continuing education and training.

3. CPD requirements for Registered Professionals who are practicing abroad

- a) Where a system of **CPD** is being applied in any particular country, such requirements may be accepted by **the Council**, provided that documentary proof of compliance with such **CPD** requirements is submitted. This may be in the form of a certification by the relevant accrediting authority in the country concerned.
- b) The points earned as set out above will be converted to be in line with the allocation of points applicable in South Africa (i.e., 10 hours = One Point in Category 1).
- c) If no **CPD** is undertaken by the **Registered Professional** practicing abroad in terms of the above, such registered professional must, upon return to South Africa, apply for the necessary extension of time for compliance, to provide him sufficient time to obtain and claim the required CPD points for the renewal of registration.
- d) Any **Registered Professional** practicing abroad may register for CPD courses in South Africa via e-learning.
- e) **Registered Professionals** practicing abroad have the option to cancel their registration and re-register upon their return to South Africa.

4. Exemption from CPD requirements

- a) Any person whose registration was cancelled, and who no longer carries out any architectural work either in a consulting capacity, lecturing at an educational institution, or in a salaried position, is exempted from these conditions.
- b) If any Registered **Professional** referred to in clause (a) above elects to return to active architectural practice, such a person must apply to **the Council** for re-registration to the active register and will have to start attending to CPD activities whilst practicing.
- c) **The CPD Committee** may, upon receipt of a fully motivated and substantiated application from any **Registered Professional**, recommend to Council to grant full or partial exemption from the requirements of these conditions for such period as **the Council** may deem appropriate and reasonable.
- d) Each application for full or partial exemption shall be considered on its own merits.
- e) **The fully motivated and substantiated application as per clause (c) above may include: Registered Professionals who are unemployed, on long-term sick leave/terminally ill, or may currently be non-practising for other compassionate reasons, and/or family responsibility leave.**
- f) Any person who is registered as an apprentice or in a candidate category contemplated in Section 18 (1) (b) is exempted from these conditions.

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5. General CPD requirements

- a) During each five-year cycle, every **Registered Professional** must obtain a minimum of 25 CPD points to qualify for renewal of their registration in terms of section 22 (1) of the Act.
- b) A minimum of (5) five of the total number of points required must be obtained and claimed in Category 1 – Developmental Activities.
- c) In addition to the requirements set out above, a **Registered Professional** must obtain at least three points per annum, of which at least one point must be obtained in Category 1.

6. Recording of CPD Activities

- a) Unless exempted in terms of the conditions as described in Paragraph 4 above, all **Registered Professionals** must record their **CPD** activities electronically, on their **private**, password-protected online profile that can be accessed from SACAP's website.
- b) **Registered Professionals** must claim CPD points continuously as they occur during each year.
- c) **Certificates of attendance of Category 1 activities must indicate the actual SACAP competence or specific products a registered professional was trained on, and must be uploaded with the claim for the points on the online portal.**
- d) **A certificate of attendance that does not indicate the SACAP competence or products a registered professional was trained on will not be accepted for purposes of continuing professional development and training.**
- e) Proof of any points obtained, such as a certificate of attendance of Category 1 activities, must be uploaded online to enable SACAP to evaluate the points and approve or refer back for remediation.
- f) **Registered Professionals** who are at the end of their renewal cycle must claim all CPD points for the period before the end of December of the fifth year (i.e., if the date for renewal is 2017, claims must be submitted by 31 December 2016).
- g) All documentary evidence of **CPD** points claimed must be retained for five years for auditing purposes.

7. Auditing of CPD records activities

- a) **The Council** may conduct random audits as it deems necessary and practicable of the **CPD** records of any registered professional who is required to undertake **CPD** in terms of these rules.
- b) **The Council** must advise the **Registered Professional** within 30 days after completion of an audit of the outcome of such audit.
- c) If during such an audit the **Registered Professional** is assessed as not having met the requirements, his **CPD** record and verification documentation must be referred to the CPD Committee or the delegated Committee of the **Council** for a decision regarding remedial steps

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to be taken by the **Registered Professional**. Such persons will automatically be earmarked for a re-audit during the next year.

8. Renewal of registration and Assessment against the requirements

- a) **The Council** shall notify the **Registered Professional** during the third term (July – September of the fifth year of the cycle) regarding the renewal of their registration.
- b) Electronic renewal notices shall be sent by SACAP to all **Registered Professionals**, confirming the requirements for the renewal of registration.
- c) **The Council** may call for such documentary evidence from the **Registered Professional** as it may deem necessary to approve the points claimed.
- d) **When a registered professional renews registration in terms of section 22 (1) of the Act, read with this Board Notice, such registered professional shall submit a certificate of Professional Indemnity Insurance.**
- e) **The mandatory submission of a certificate of Professional Indemnity Insurance shall serve as a condition for the renewal of registration as contemplated in section 22 (2) of the Act.**
- f) If **the Council** is satisfied that the **Registered Professional** has met the requirements of these conditions, **the Council** must indicate such decision in the applicable register maintained by **the Council** and, within 30 days of making the decision, inform the **Registered Professional** of such decision and of the fact that his registration will, subject to these rules, be valid for the next five-year CPD cycle.
- g) If the **Registered Professional** has failed to comply with the requirements of these rules, the relevant provisions about non-compliance contained in paragraph 9 below will apply. Such **Registered Professional** must be informed of the decision as well as of the implications within 30 days from the date on which the decision was made.
- h) In addition to the notification to be sent to all **Registered Professionals** due for renewal of registration, a notification shall be sent to all **Registered Professionals** at the end of the fourth year of the CPD cycle, reminding them that they will be required to renew their registration at the end of the next year.
- i) A reminder shall be sent to all Registered Professionals, on an annual basis, advising them to claim the required CPD points.

9. Non-compliance with these Conditions at the Renewal stage

- a) If the **Registered Professional** has failed to comply with the requirements of these rules, **the Council** must, within 30 days, inform the non-compliant **Registered Professional** of this fact.
- b) Such **Registered Professional** must apply for an Extension of the period of compliance. Such an extension will afford the **Registered Professional** until the end of the calendar year to ensure that they meet the requirements for renewal of registration.

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- c) An application for extension as contemplated in these rules shall not be considered without the necessary application and proof of payment of the administration fee having been submitted.
- d) The **Registered Professional** will be required to obtain and claim the necessary points for the renewal of registration, as well as the minimum number of points required per annum, during the year that the extension is granted.

10. Failure to comply with these conditions

- a) Any Registered Professional who fails to undertake CPD activities or to comply with these rules shall be charged with improper conduct for failure to comply with Rule 2.4, and the provisions of Sections 27(3), 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, and 33 of the Act apply *mutatis mutandis* in respect of such person.
- b) A Registered Professional found guilty of failure to comply with Rule 2.4 by a duly constituted Disciplinary Tribunal shall be fined in terms of Section 32 (3) (ii) of the Act.
- c) The fine is calculated in terms of the Adjustment of Fines Act, 1991 (Act No. 101 of 1991) by the ratio of one year's imprisonment. The ratio for one-year imprisonment is (twenty thousand) R20,000. The ratio is based on section 92 of the Magistrate Court Act, 1944 (Act 32 of 1994), read with Government Notice R1411 (GG 19435) of October 1998.

11. Right to appeal

The provisions of Section 24(1) and 24 (3) of the Act apply *mutatis mutandis* in respect of a person who is aggrieved by a decision of **the Council** to refuse the renewal of the person's registration.

12. Deregistration

- a) If the **Registered Professional's** registration is cancelled due to non-payment of his annual fee in terms of Section 20(1)(a)(iii), the **Registered Professional** must apply for re-registration and may not practice his profession until he has been re-registered.
- b) Such **Registered Professional** must accrue and claim at least two penalty CPD points from Category 1, within 12 months of reregistration. These points are required in addition to the points normally required per annum. This implies that a **Registered Professional** who re-registers, after his/her registration has been cancelled due to non-payment, will be required to claim a total of 27 CPD points during the particular CPD cycle. A total of seven of these points must be claimed in Category 1.
- c) If the Registered **Professional** failed to obtain two penalty CPD points from Category 1, within 12 months of reregistration, such **Registered Professional** must apply for the necessary extensions and obtain the required CPD points within the extension period.
- d) In addition to the original registration date, a current registration date, being the date of reregistration, will be noted on the **Registered Professional's** online profile. The 5 (five) year CPD cycle will be determined by the current registration date.

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13. Approval of Providers of CPD Activities

- a) **Voluntary Associations** and **Accredited Architectural Learning Sites** are approved to offer Category 1 CPD activities.
- b) **Voluntary Associations** are approved to validate and monitor Category 1 CPD activities offered by providers who have not been approved in terms of these rules. This includes the allocation of appropriate points to such activities.
- c) **Voluntary Associations** may charge an appropriate fee to recover costs reasonably incurred for validating such activity.
- d) Whenever a Voluntary Association validates Category 1 CPD, it must ensure accessibility of the activity to registered professionals (Location), the costs, and the relevance of the activity.
- e) **It is mandatory that Voluntary Associations indicate the relevant SACAP Professional Competency on the CPD Certificates for the Category 1 CPD events. SACAP will no longer accept Category 1 CPD points if the provided CPD certificate does not indicate the SACAP Professional Competencies or the specific products.**
- f) The Council has the right to review any CPD Category 1 activities validated by Voluntary Associations and ensure that such CPD activities are relevant and contribute to the development and maintenance of professional competencies.
- g) The Council shall not be prohibited from offering CPD activities to Registered Professionals.

14. Approval of CPD Activities

Subject to the definition of **CPD** as set out in this document, a **voluntary association** should, in approving a Category 1 **CPD** activity, take into consideration the following:

- (a) The activity should serve to maintain or enhance the knowledge, skills, and competence of all those who participate in it;
- (b) The activity should meet an educational and developmental need and provide an effective learning experience for the participants.
- (c) The depth and breadth of the subject matter covered must be appropriate;
- (d) The subject covered should provide a balanced view and should not be unduly promotional;
- (e) Courses may be assessed by obtaining feedback from participants.
- (f) CPD providers must have a testing mechanism to assess whether the activity contributed to the competence and skills of a Registered Professional and the extent to which the activity has met the educational and developmental needs of the Registered Professional.
- (g) All Category 1 CPD Activities shall be validated in alignment with the following Professional Competencies, amongst others:

(i) Architectural Design

(ii) Environmental relationships



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- (iii) Construction Technology
- (iv) The structure of buildings
- (v) Contextual and urban relationships
- (vi) Architectural history, theory, and precedent
- (vii) Building services and related technologies
- (viii) Contract documentation and administration
- (ix) Computer applications
- (x) Office practice, legal aspects, and ethics

- h) Any provider who desires validation of a Category 1 CPD activity must apply to a **voluntary association** for approval of such activity.
- i) Any registered professional who intends to undertake a CPD activity offered by a provider other than a **voluntary association** or **accredited educational institution** should ascertain whether such activity is approved in terms of these rules.
- j) An approved CPD activity is valid for such period as specified by **the Council** from time to time.

ANNEXURES

Annexure A table reflects a summary of the calculation of the CPD points and the required points per annum, as well as over the five-year cycle.

Further information on the categories of activities and the requirements can be found in **Annexure 'B'**.

ANNEXURE A

This table reflects a summary of the calculation of the CPD points and the required points per annum, as well as over the five-year cycle.

Further information on the categories of activities and the requirements can be found in **Annexure 'B'**.

| CATEGORY 1 DEVELOPMENTAL ACTIVITIES | | |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ACTIVITY | POINTS REQUIRED PER ANNUM | POINTS TO BE CLAIMED PER 5-YEAR CYCLE |
| Attendance of structured educational/developmental meetings (conferences, seminars, workshops, lectures, etc.) <ul style="list-style-type: none">Presented or validated by SACAP-Recognised Voluntary Associations; orPresented by accredited SACAP Architectural Learning Sites | Compulsory 1 Point | Compulsory 5 Points |
| Mentoring architectural students in the studio at any of the accredited SACAP Architectural Learning Sites (ALS) voluntarily for at least 4 hours per week over a year, for a maximum of 3 points per year | | |

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| Active Membership in one or more recognized Voluntary associations, with supporting information on participating in Voluntary Association activities | Full financial year membership Record of the member's annual activities 1 point (not compulsory) | 1 point | |
|---|--|---------------------------|------------------|
| Adjudication of awards and recognized architectural competitions. | 1 point (not compulsory) | 5 points (not compulsory) | |
| CATEGORY 2 WORK-BASED ACTIVITIES | | | |
| ACTIVITY | CALCULATION OF POINTS | MAXIMUM TO BE CLAIMED | |
| | | Per Annum | Per 5-year Cycle |
| a. Architectural work: • Project work; or • Lecturing at an accredited SACAP Architectural Learning Site (ALS) | 400 hours = 1 point | 2 Points | 10 Points |
| b. In-house training or mentoring of: • Apprentices (registered as such with SACAP) • Candidates (registered as such with SACAP) • Architectural students, as required by validated architectural programmes | 50 hours = 1 point | 1 Point | 5 Points |
| CATEGORY 3 INDIVIDUAL ACTIVITIES | | | |
| ACTIVITY | CALCULATION OF POINTS | MAXIMUM TO BE CLAIMED | |
| | | Per Annum | Per 5-year Cycle |
| a. Membership of one or more SACAP-Recognised Voluntary Associations | 1 Full financial year membership = 1 point | 1 Point | 5 Points |
| b. Individual activities | As per the table in Annexure 'B' | 3 Points | 15 Points |

Categories of CPD activities

1. Category 1: developmental activities

- a) Points for this category can be claimed for the Attendance of structured educational/developmental activities provided; such activities are validated by a recognised Voluntary Association or Accredited Learning Sites.

- Workshops
- Conferences
- Congresses
- Lectures
- Seminars
- Refresher Courses
- E-learning
- Awards adjudication



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- b) Attendance of any programmes by the accredited Schools of Architecture at the accredited Architectural Learning Sites (ALSs).
- c) Mentoring architectural students at any of the ALSs will be acknowledged for a maximum of 3 points per annum.
- d) The mentor will be required to spend at least four hours per week assisting and mentoring the students at the university.
- e) The university has to complete a report on the mentoring that was done. This report will serve as confirmation of the CPD points claimed.
- f) All mentors must be listed as such with SACAP.
- g) Registered professionals appointed to participate in Awards adjudication by recognised Voluntary Associations and/or any other built environment entity or organisation.

2. Calculation of points

- a) Save for the mentoring of architectural students, as set out above, 1 Point will be allocated for attendance of a 10-hour activity, depending on whether participation is **interactive** or **non-interactive**.
- b) A full-day activity will be regarded as being for 10 hours, and a half-day activity will be considered as five hours and hence half a point.
- c) The points to be claimed for attendance of Category 1 CPD activities will normally be determined by the VA or ALS accrediting the activity and will be indicated as such.

3. Number of points to be claimed

- a) It is compulsory to claim at least one Point from Category 1 annually.
- b) This implies that a **minimum of five Points** is required from this category at the end of the five-year cycle to renew the registered person's registration.
- c) It further implies that five points may be accrued and claimed in Category 1 within a calendar year and may therefore be claimed for the full five-year CPD cycle.

| Category 1 | Activities | Calculation of Points | Per Annum | | Over 5-Year Cycle | |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------------|--------------------|------------|---------------------|------------|
| | | | Minimum | Maximum | Minimum | Maximum |
| Developmental Activities | Interactive: • Workshops • Conferences • Congresses • Awards Adjudication | 10 hours = 1 point | 1 Point Compulsory | No Maximum | 5 Points Compulsory | No Maximum |
| | Non-interactive: • Workshops • Conferences • Congresses • Lectures • Seminars • Refresher Courses | | | | | |

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|--|------------------------------|---|--|----------|--|
| | | | | | |
| | Mentoring of students at ALS | At least four hours per week, over 32 weeks | | 3 Points | |

1. Category 2: Work-based activities (Architectural work)

- a) Registered persons also improve their knowledge and competence by performing their day-to-day architectural responsibilities. Points can be claimed in this category for architectural-related work (including management) and Full-time lecturing at an accredited ALS

2. Calculation of points

- a) One point for 400 hours per year for architectural-related work and lecturing.

3. Number of points to be claimed

- a) A maximum of two points (for 800 hours) may be claimed in respect of this activity per annum, and thus 10 points over the five-year cycle.

1. Mentoring

- a) The points can be claimed for the mentoring of Apprentices and Candidates registered with SACAP; and/or
b) Architectural students as required as part of their validated programme.
c) In-house training sessions organised by an employer/architectural company and career guidance for apprentices and candidates may also be presented under this category.

2. Calculation of points

One point can be claimed for 50 hours of mentoring.

3. Number of points that can be claimed

A maximum of one CPD point can be claimed in this category per annum. This implies that no more than five points can be claimed for this activity over the five-year cycle.

| Category 2 | Activities | Calculation of Points | Per Annum | | Over 5-Year Cycle | |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------------|----------------|----------|-------------------|-----------|
| | | | Minimum | Maximum | Minimum | Maximum |
| Work-based Activities | A. Architectural work or Full-time Lecturing | 400 Hours = 1 Point | Not compulsory | 2 Points | Not compulsory | 10 Points |
| | B. Training or mentoring of Registered Apprentices, Candidates, and/or Full-time students | 50 Hours = 1 Point | | 1 Point | | 5 Points |

1. Category 3: individual activities

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- a) Active membership of one or more voluntary associations recognised by SACAP. A point can be claimed in this category for being a member of a SACAP-recognised voluntary association.

2. Calculation of points

- a) One point can be claimed for **active** membership of a full financial year of one of the SACAP recognised voluntary associations.

3. Number of points to be claimed

- a) A maximum of one point can be claimed in this category per annum.

1. Individual activities

- a) Except for post-graduate studies, points can be claimed under the individual categories listed in the table below.

2. Calculation of points

- a) One point can be claimed for every 10 hours of participation in the listed activities.

3. Number of points to be claimed

- a) The maximum number of points that can be claimed for these activities per annum, and during the five-year cycle, is indicated in the table below.

| Category 3 | Activities | Calculation of Points | Per Annum | | Over 5-Year Cycle | |
|-----------------------|---|--|----------------|----------|-------------------|-----------|
| | | | Minimum | Maximum | Minimum | Maximum |
| Individual Activities | A. Membership of 1 or more SACAP-recognised VA | 1 Point for membership of a full financial year | Not Compulsory | 1 Points | Not Compulsory | 5 Points |
| | B. Points can also be claimed for the following individual activities. | | | | | |
| | - Relevant postgraduate degree | 3 points per year | Not Compulsory | 3 Points | Not Compulsory | 15 Points |
| | - Other relevant postgraduate qualifications | 2 points per year of study | | | | |
| | - Evaluation of Master's or Doctorate theses as an external examiner | 2 points per year | | | | |
| | - Supervision of students undertaking post-graduate studies | 2 points per year | | | | |
| | - Oral examinations of the final year and postgraduate studies | 1 point for every 10 hours of active involvement | | | | |
| | - Validation of educational programs for accreditation purposes | 1 point for every 10 hours of active involvement | | | | |
| | - Publication of refereed articles: • Single author • Two authors | • 2 points per article • 1 point per article | | | | |
| | - Publication of professional or technical articles | 1 point per article | | | | |

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| | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| - | Papers presented at conferences or congresses | 1 point each | | | | |
| - | Presenter at workshops, seminars, refresher courses, etc. | 2 points for 10 hours | | | | |
| - | Part-time lecturing to undergraduate and postgraduate students | 1 point for every 10 hours | | | | |
| - | Participation in statutory professional, institutional and technical, or nontechnical committees | 1 point for every 10 hours of active involvement | | | | |
| - | Self-study, which includes but is not restricted to studying journals or electronic or computerised material. Activities under this item must be verified. | | | | | |
| - | Relevant community activities | | | | | |
| - | Specialist activities such as arbitrator, mediator, forensic architecture, environmental impact assessment, etc. | | | | | |
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