

**BOARD NOTICE 875 OF 2026****South African Council for the Architectural Profession****Board Notice****Guideline for Professional Fees in terms of Section 34 (2) of the Architectural Profession Act, 2000 Act 44 of 2000 ("the Act")**

The guidelines for professional fees indicated in Tables 1, 2, 3, and 4 below must be read in the context of the Framework Guideline for Professional Fees. These guidelines for professionals' fees repeal the Board Notice 672 of 2024 guideline fees. The guidelines for professional fees describe the two methods of fee calculation: project cost-based and time-based. Both methods use the definitions of the complexity of the project type derived from the SACAP Identification of Work (IDoW) published under Board Notice 27 of 2021, as set out below:

- 1) **"Low complexity projects"** means simple buildings or groups of buildings in an uncomplicated grouping with low impact on the environment:

These are structures with low-performance requirements. Structures of simple utilitarian character, design, and detail. The structures are constructed utilizing standard low-technology building methods. They require a minimum of mechanical and electrical services or equipment, and basic civil works infrastructure.

- 2) **"Medium complexity projects"** means buildings or groups of buildings in a relatively uncomplicated grouping with a medium impact on their environs:

These are structures with medium performance requirements. The structures are of average character and design or detail. The structures require non-complex structural and civil works and an average level of mechanical or electrical equipment, as could normally be handled by design-supply specialist contractors.

- 3) **"High complexity projects"** means a building or buildings in a large or complicated grouping with a significant impact on its environs:

These are structures with high-performance requirements and demanding a sophisticated level of design and detailed content to respond to specialized requirements. Complex buildings will usually incorporate comparatively large or specialized mechanical, electrical, and other specialist installations, or be of complex structural or civil design.

- 4) Further to the complexity ratings of Building Types as listed in Schedule 1 of the IDoW, the levels of complexity must be measured on a project-by-project basis.

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#### METHOD 1: Project Cost-Based Fee

The project cost-based fee in Tables 1-3 is based on the full scope of standard services provided.

**Table 1: Low Complexity**

LOW COMPLEXITY					
Cost Bracket	Value of works		Primary Fee	Plus, a secondary fee	
	From	To		Add %	On balance over
	A	B	C	D	E
1.	1	200,000.00	9,073.48	0.1402	1
2.	200,001.00	650,000.00	37,121.34	0.1173	200,001.00
3.	650,001.00	2,000,000.00	89,897.22	0.1158	650,001.00
4.	2,000,001.00	4,000,000.00	246,281.11	0.1040	2,000,001.00
5.	4,000,001.00	6,500,000.00	454,281.00	0.1024	4,000,001.00
6.	6,500,001.00	13,000,000.00	710,280.90	0.0920	6,500,001.00
7.	13,000,001.00	40,000,000.00	1,308,280.81	0.0862	13,000,001.00
8.	40,000,001.00	130,000,000.00	3,636,760.72	0.0836	40,000,001.00
9.	130,000,001.00	260,000,000.00	11,160,760.64	0.0810	130,000,001.00
10.	260,000,001.00	520,000,000.00	21,685,560.56	0.0748	260,000,001.00
11.	520,000,001.00	1,040,000,000.00	41,133,560.48	0.0722	520,000,001.00
12.	1,040,000,001.00	0	78,656,760.41	0.0704	1,040,000,001.00

**Table 2: Medium Complexity**

MEDIUM COMPLEXITY					
Cost Bracket	Value of works		Primary Fee	Plus, a secondary fee	
	From	To		Add %	On balance over
	A	B	C	D	E
1.	1	200,000.00	11,341.85	0.1753	1
2.	200,001.00	650,000.00	46,401.67	0.1466	200,001.00
3.	650,001.00	2,000,000.00	112,371.53	0.1448	650,001.00
4.	2,000,001.00	4,000,000.00	307,851.38	0.1300	2,000,001.00
5.	4,000,001.00	6,500,000.00	567,851.25	0.1280	4,000,001.00
6.	6,500,001.00	13,000,000.00	887,851.13	0.1150	6,500,001.00
7.	13,000,001.00	40,000,000.00	1,635,351.01	0.1078	13,000,001.00
8.	40,000,001.00	130,000,000.00	4,545,950.90	0.1045	40,000,001.00
9.	130,000,001.00	260,000,000.00	13,950,950.80	0.1012	130,000,001.00
10.	260,000,001.00	520,000,000.00	27,106,950.70	0.0935	260,000,001.00
11.	520,000,001.00	1,040,000,000.00	51,416,950.60	0.0902	520,000,001.00
12.	1,040,000,001.00	0	98,320,950.51	0.0880	1,040,000,001.00

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Table 3: High Complexity

HIGH COMPLEXITY					
Cost Bracket	Value of works		Primary Fee	Plus, a secondary fee	
	From	To		Add %	On balance over
	A	B	C	D	E
1.	1	200,000.00	13,610.22	0.2104	1
2.	200,001.00	650,000.00	55,682.01	0.1759	200,001.00
3.	650,001.00	2,000,000.00	134,845.83	0.1738	650,001.00
4.	2,000,001.00	4,000,000.00	369,421.66	0.1560	2,000,001.00
5.	4,000,001.00	6,500,000.00	681,421.50	0.1536	4,000,001.00
6.	6,500,001.00	13,000,000.00	1,065,421.35	0.1380	6,500,001.00
7.	13,000,001.00	40,000,000.00	1,962,421.21	0.1294	13,000,001.00
8.	40,000,001.00	130,000,000.00	5,455,141.08	0.1254	40,000,001.00
9.	130,000,001.00	260,000,000.00	16,741,140.96	0.1214	130,000,001.00
10.	260,000,001.00	520,000,000.00	32,528,340.84	0.1122	260,000,001.00
11.	520,000,001.00	1,040,000,000.00	61,700,340.72	0.1082	520,000,001.00
12.	1,040,000,001.00	0	117,985,140.62	0.1056	1,040,000,001.00

## Method of Fee Calculation

- Primary Fee (C) for the applicable Cost Bracket of Value of Works.
- Secondary Fee (D) for the applicable Cost Bracket of Value of Works.
- Calculated as (Applicable Value of Works minus Column E) X% in terms of Column D.

**Example:** Fee Calculations – From tables above.

Complexity	Low Complexity	Medium Complexity	High Complexity
Value of Works	R3,000,000	R3,000,000	R3,000,000
Primary Fee	R246,281.11	R307,851.38	R369,421.66
Secondary Fee	$(R\ 3\ 000\ 000 - R\ 2\ 000\ 001) \times 10.4\%$	$(R\ 3\ 000\ 000 - R\ 2\ 000\ 001) \times 13.00\%$	$(R\ 3\ 000\ 000 - R\ 2\ 000\ 001) \times 15.6\%$
	R 999 999 x 10.4%	R 999 999 x 13%	R 999 999 x 15.6%
	R103,999.90	R129,999.87	R155,999.84
Professional Fee	Primary Fee + Secondary Fee	Primary Fee + Secondary Fee	Primary Fee + Secondary Fee
	R246 284.11 + R103 999.90	R307 851.38 + R129 999.87	R369 421.66 + R155 999.84
	R350,281.00	R437,851.25	R525,421.50

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#### METHOD 1: Time-Based Fee

Description – Estimate the number of hours needed to carry out the agreed scope of work using the table below and the preferred method.

**Table 4: Hourly Rates Table**

Principal/Staff Category	Experience/Work Context	Rate Per Hour (excluding VAT)	Rate per hour (excluding VAT)	Rate Per Hour (excluding VAT)
		Method 1 - Gross Annual Remuneration	Method 2 - Guideline Rate Calculated by SACAP	Method 3 - DPSA Hourly Fee Rates for Consultants
1 Principals	Specialist	22.5% per R100.00 or part thereof of the total annual cost of employment	R3 313	Commensurate with Level 14, 15, and 16 salary bands
	More than 10 years of experience	20% per R 100.00 or part thereof of the total annual cost of employment	R2 663	Commensurate with Level 14, 15, and 16 salary bands
	Less than 10 years of experience	18.5% per R100.00 or part thereof of the total annual cost of employment	R1 991	Commensurate with Level 12, 13, and 14 salary bands.
2a. Salaried Staff	Associates and managers	17.5% per R100.00 or part thereof of the total annual cost of employment	R1 420	Commensurate with Level 11, 12, and 13 salary bands
2b. Salaried Staff	Registered architectural professionals performing work of an architectural nature and carrying direct responsibilities for activities related to a project.	16.5% per R100.00 or part thereof of the total annual cost of employment	R960	Commensurate with Level 9, 10, 11, 12 salary bands
2c. Salaried Staff	Registered architectural professionals performing work of an architectural nature under direction and control.	15% per R 100.00 or part thereof of the total annual cost of employment	R571	Commensurate with Level 7, 8, 9, 10 salary bands
2d. Salaried Staff	Staff performing work under direction and control to support architectural work outputs.	12.5% per R100.00 or part thereof of the total annual cost of employment	R408	Commensurate with Level 6, 7, and 8 salary bands

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## Example of Time-Based Fee Calculation

Total Annual Cost of Employment			
Divided by R100,00			
Multiply by the guideline percentage.			
Example: Time-based Fee Calculations – From tables above.			
	1. Principal with more than 10 years of experience	2b. Salaried Staff	2d Salaried Staff
Monthly Cost of Employment	R80 000	R40 000	R15 000
Annual Cost of Employment	R960 000,00	R480 000,00	R180 000,00
R100 or part thereof (Annual cost divided by R100.00)	R9 600,00	R4 800,00	R1 800,00
	x	x	x
Percentage to be applied	20%	16,50%	12,50%
Hourly Rate	R1 920,00	R792,00	R225,00

## Guidelines for reimbursement of expenses

Disbursement Expense Item	Guiding Principle for Disbursement Expenses
<b>Specialized Professional and other services</b>	
Payments are made on behalf of a client for fees and other charges for specialized professional and other services.	At cost plus, a minimum of 10% for attendance where a project cost-based fee applies, and/or where there is no time-based reimbursement for attendance.
<b>Travel</b>	
<b>Travel time</b>	For a time-based fee, rates are issued by the National Department of Public Works & Infrastructure, or similar.  For a project cost-based fee, 100% of an hourly rate for travel greater than 30 minutes and 50km per trip (being 1 hour and 100km per return trip) or as negotiated between the client and the architectural professional.
<b>Travel mileage</b>	Rates for reimbursable expenses issued by the National Department of Public Works and

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	Infrastructure, the disbursement tariffs issued by the National Department of Transport, employee guidelines issued by the South African Revenue Services, or the vehicle rates calculator of the Automobile Association (AA), or similar.
Parking	At cost
Toll fees	
Car hire	
Airfare	
Train	
Bus	
Taxi	
<b>Substance</b>	
Accommodation	At cost, as per the standard prescribed by the client, at least a 3-star hotel/lodge
Subsistence allowance	Rates for Reimbursable Expenses issued by the National Department of Public Works and Infrastructure, or the disbursement tariffs issued by the National Department of Transport, or employee guidelines issued by the South African Revenue Services, or similar.
Special daily allowance	
<b>Postage</b>	
Postage	At cost
Special postage	At cost plus a minimum of 10% attendance, where a project cost-based fee applies, and/or where there is no time-based reimbursement for attendance.
Courier	
<b>Documentation</b>	
Typing of original/master per A4	Rates for Reimbursable Expenses issued by the National Department of Public Works and Infrastructure, or the disbursement tariffs issued by the National Department of Transport, or similar.
Duplicating on white paper (A3 & A4 sizes)	
Duplicating on colored paper (A3 & A4 sizes)	
Duplicating in colour (A3 & A4 sizes)	
Document binding	
Duplicating of drawings (A3 to A0 sizes)	
Plotting on 80g plain paper (A3 to A0 sizes)	
Plotting on 80g plain paper in colour (A3 to A0 sizes)	
Plotting on quality paper (A3 to A0)	
Plotting on quality paper in colour (A3 to A0)	
Purchase of documents required for the project	

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Removal, portable data storage medium with project-related information	
Special Quotes	
Maps	At cost, plus a minimum of 10% for attendance where a project cost-based fee applies and/or where there is no time-based reimbursement for attendance.
Models	
Presentation materials	
Photography	
Artwork	
Other	
Any other disbursement requested by and/or agreed to by the client.	At cost, plus a minimum of 10% for attendance where a project cost-based fee applies and/or where there is no time-based reimbursement for attendance.

### Framework for guidelines for professional fees in respect of architectural services rendered by the registered architectural professionals, published in terms of section 34 (2) of the Act

#### 1. Introduction

- a) In terms of section 34 (2) of the Act, the South African Council for the Architectural Profession, hereafter referred to as SACAP, must annually, after consultation with the Voluntary Associations, determine guidelines for professional fees and publish those fees in the *Gazette*.
- b) The Guidelines for professional fees shall be in line with the principles referred to in section 4(k)(v) of the Council for the Built Environment Act 43 of 2000, which stipulate that “the principles upon which Council must base guidelines for professional fees should be per any legislation relating to the promotion of competition”.
- c) The guideline for professional fees is published annually in the Government Gazette as a guideline only and does not amount to direct or indirect price fixing. The guideline professional fees are deemed as a guide to provide fair and reasonable remuneration to the architectural professional to provide for an appropriate level and quality of service in terms of the Standard of Service.

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#### 2. Purpose

- a) The Council of the Built Environment (CBE) Policy Framework on the determination and review of guidelines for professional fees for built environment professions stipulates that the guideline for professional fees is determined and published as a guide only and not as prescribed fees that registered professionals are entitled to charge.
- b) Guideline for professional fees is, for guidance required to promote market efficiency and redress consumers and the public information deficit, relative to the professional's knowledge and expertise. The guideline for professional fees is not prescribed or set as maximum or minimum mandatory fees to be charged for professional services rendered, but serves as a guideline.

#### 3. Principles

- a) The guideline for professional fees is based on the cost of works as per the fee survey undertaken by SACAP, the Building Costs Index, and the inflation rate. As per the CBE Policy Framework on determination and review of guidelines for professional fees for built environment professions, the guideline for professional fees takes into consideration a reasonable rate of return on investment, intellectual capital, effort, and, most importantly, risk.
- b) The guideline for professional fees tables has been split into 3 complexities to align with the Identification of Work policy Board Notice 27 of 2021.
- c) The guideline for professional fee tables represents the fees for full service by a hypothetical average-sized architectural practice, practicing responsibly and sustainably. This means that the tables are not meant to fit any one specific project perfectly and, in almost all cases, should be adjusted up or down concerning specific project conditions.
- d) Unless otherwise agreed, in writing, by the architectural professional, the information produced about a single project is authorized for use only on that project and may not be used for another project, in whole or in part.



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- e) The guideline for professional fees is expressly not suitable for use in a basket of professional fees calculation, where all professional fees are reduced to fit a required overall fee basket. Reduction of fees in this manner, without due regard to a concurrent agreed reduction of service, is strongly discouraged because the quality of service will be impacted negatively to the detriment of the client.

#### 4. General provisions

The guideline for professional fees published under Gazette No. 51352 Board Notice 672 of 2024 is hereby repealed. The new board notice shall apply once it is published in the Gazette in terms of section 34 (2) of the Act.

#### 5. Definitions and interpretations

In this document, unless the context otherwise indicates, an expression or word hereunder shall mean:

**SACAP** means the South African Council for the Architectural Profession.

**Act** means the Architectural Profession Act 44 of 2000;

**An agreement** means a written agreement between a client and the registered professional.

**Alteration** in terms of Clause 23 means a change in a building or facility that affects or could affect the usability of a building or facility or portion thereof;

**In terms of Clause 24** means projects that increase, expand, or extend a facility's gross floor area or height of a facility are considered additions.

**Registered Person** means a person registered in one of the categories of professionals and candidates referred to in section 18 of the Act;

**Architectural professional** means a person registered in one of the categories of professionals referred to in section 19(2)(a) and (b);

**Architectural Practice** means a juristic person appointed to provide the architectural service for the project.

**Board notice** means the notice containing the guidelines for professional fees which, in terms of section 34(2) of the Act, is published annually by SACAP in the Government Gazette;

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**Budget** means the anticipated cost of the project and/or works, provided that estimates on which the budget is based shall be deemed to be valid for a period not exceeding 3 months.

**Building contract** means the Joint Building Contracts Committee (JBCC) Principal Building Agreement or any other building contract entered into between the client and the contractor.

**Client** means the party appointing the architectural professional or practice to perform the services or any part thereof referred to in this document.

**Consultant** means a professional person/s or entity/entities appointed by the client to provide services in respect of the project;

**Construction documentation** means graphic representations, plans, sections, elevations, site plans, specifications, construction details, service coordination information, schedules, and such other details and descriptions as are within the reasonable competence of an architectural professional, which are sufficient to indicate the scope of the works.

**Contract** means an agreement entered into by the client with a contractor for the execution of the works or part thereof; it may also be referred to as the building contract.

**Contractor** means the entity or entities contracting with the client for the execution of the works or part thereof;

**Inspection** means such periodic visits to, or in connection with the works, by the architectural professional as are necessary to establish the conformity of the work to the contract documentation and quality in terms of the acceptable industry standards, and to provide on-site clarification and further information during the progress of the work.

**Inspect** shall carry the same meaning;

**Practical completion** means the stage of completion where the works or a section thereof are certified by the principal agent as substantially complete, free of patent defects other than minor defects, and can effectively be used for the purpose intended.

**Principal Agent** means the person appointed and authorized to fulfill the obligations of the principal agent in the agreed form of the construction contract;

**Principal consultant** means the person appointed and authorized by the client to lead the consultants in all matters, including design and technical coordination.

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**Project** means the development for which the architectural professional and consultants are appointed and may not be limited to the works.

**Specialist** means an architectural professional highly skilled in a specific and restricted field.

**Principal** means the proprietor, partner, director, or member who bears the risks of practice and takes full responsibility for the potential liabilities of practice.

**Works** means all work executed or intended to be executed according to the building contract.

#### 6. Interpretation

**The hourly rates** shall be deemed to include establishment charges and charges for time expended by clerical staff.

**The words** "advise", "appoint", "approve", "authorize", "certify", "consent", "decide", "delegate", "designate", "instruct", "issue", "notify", "object", "reply", "request", and "specify" shall indicate an act required to be carried out in writing;

**All monetary amounts** exclude VAT, which shall be added to any amounts that become due and payable, provided the service provider is registered for VAT.

**Notice in terms of service agreements** shall be deemed to have been duly received when delivered by hand on the day of the delivery; sent by registered post 7 (seven) days after posting, and sent by e-mail on delivery/read receipt confirmation or 3 (three) days after transmission.

#### 7. The Architectural professional service

**7.1** A client appoints an architectural professional to provide a service for a project as contemplated by the Architectural Profession Act, the National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act 103 of 1977 as amended, and the South African National Standards SANS 10 400 and other applicable statutory legislation.

**7.2** The architectural professional accepts the appointment to exercise reasonable professional skill, care, and diligence in the performance of obligations, for a fee as defined in a written agreement.

**7.3** Registered persons may be appointed for a standard service as architectural professionals, principal consultants, and principal agents. Furthermore, services in

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addition to the standard service may be included, and these non-exhaustive additional services may be included as the parties may deem appropriate.

#### 8. Fee description

The calculation of fees based on a percentage of project cost is the standard basis for determining professional fees and represents the accepted basis by the Built Environment Professions for remuneration of professional services. Such fees are referred to as project cost-based fees.

An alternative to project cost-based fees can be negotiated; for example, time-based fees or cost-per-building area fees.

#### 9. Project cost-based fee

**9.1** A project cost-based fee is appropriate when there is a well-defined scope of service for the architectural professional. Such a fee is based on a budget for the works for fee calculation purposes and shall be adjusted on the final cost of the works.

**9.2** The project cost-based fee results in a sliding scale, which arises from the series of percentages related to the value of the works and its complexity, low, medium, or high, as defined in the guideline profession fees board notice. The primary fee is stated as an appropriate value to smooth the sliding scale.

**9.3** The adjustment provided in the guidelines for professional fees is based on the reduced aggregate of the value of the works and/or projects from which the budget for the works for fee purposes is derived. This arises from the provision that fees for architectural services are calculated on the total value of the works and represent an average over all elements of the works and/or project.

**9.4** Where a fee is calculated as a project cost-based fee, the fee consists of a primary fee (Column C) plus a secondary fee. The secondary fee is calculated as a percentage (Column D) of the value of the works per cost bracket indicated in Column E. *Refer to the guidelines for professional fees.*

**9.5** Whenever the project cost base fee structure is revised and published as a Board Notice in a gazette, the new rates shall apply to work performed after the effective date of the new annual guidelines for professional fees. Alternatively, in terms of a written agreement between the architectural professional and the client.

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**9.6** The formula and examples thereof are in the guidelines for professional fees.

**9.7** Where an architectural professional has undertaken work to change the agreed design and the fee is not covered by an increase in fees relative to the construction cost, a time-based fee may be agreed for this change.

**10. Time-based fee**

**10.1** Where the scope of service is not clearly defined, or the service relates to small-scale projects, or the service is of an unusual or specialized nature, a time-based fee is recommended to be used as the basis of remuneration. Where fees for architectural professional services are time-based, such fees may be based on an hourly rate as set out in the guidelines for professional fee board notice.

**10.2** Where an architectural professional has undertaken work to change the agreed design and the fee is not covered by the agreed time-based fee, additional fees may be agreed upon.

**10.3** Where the Architectural Professional is required to redo or alter work already completed to give effect to a cost saving, there shall be an additional fee for this work calculated on a time charge basis. This additional fee shall be agreed upon before the work is carried out of the work.

**11. The Standard Service is generally divided into 6 work stages.**

The essential functions of each work stage relevant to the service are identified hereafter as follows:

**Stage 1: Inception**

- a) Receive, appraise, and report on the client's requirements about the client's brief;
- b) Determine the site and rights, and constraints;
- c) Determine budgetary constraints;
- d) Determine the need for consultants;
- e) Determine indicative project timelines;
- f) Determine methods of contracting; and
- g) whether other statutory authority applications are required or desirable.

**Stage 2: Concept and viability (concept design)**

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- a) Prepare an initial design concept and advise on:
  - i the intended space provisions and planning relationships;
  - ii proposed materials and intended building services; and
  - iii the technical and functional characteristics of the design.
- b) Check for conformity of the concept with the rights to the use of the land.
- c) Consult with local and statutory authorities.
- d) Review the anticipated costs of the project.
- e) Review the project programme.

**Stage 3: Design Development**

- a) Develop all aspects of the design from concept to full development, including, but not limited to, construction systems, materials, fittings, and finishes selections;
- b) Review the programme and budget with the client, principal consultant, or other consultants;
- c) Coordinate other consultants' designs into the building design;
- d) Prepare design development drawings, including drafting technical details and material specifications;
- e) Discuss and agree on the building plan application and approval requirements with the local authority;

**Stage 4: Documentation and Procurement****Stage 4.1**

- a) Prepare documentation required for local authority building plan application submission;
- b) Co-ordinate technical documentation with the consultants and complete primary co-ordination sufficient to support building plan submission;
- c) Review the costing and programme with the consultants;
- d) Obtain the client's authority and submit documents for approval at the local authority.

**Stage 4.2**

- a) Prepare specifications for the works;
- b) Complete technical documentation sufficient for tender;
- c) Obtain offers for the execution of the works;
- d) Evaluate offers and recommend a successful tenderer for appointment;
- e) Prepare the contract documentation and arrange the signing of the building contract by the client and the successful tenderer;

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- f) Complete all remaining technical and construction documentation and coordinate the same with the consultants;

**Stage 5: Construction**

- a) Administer the building contract;
- b) Give possession of the site to the contractor;
- c) Issue construction documentation;
- d) Review sub-contractor designs, shop drawings, and documentation for conformity of design intent;
- e) Inspect the works for conformity with the contract documentation and acceptable quality in terms of industry standards;
- f) Administer and perform the duties and obligations assigned to the principal agent in the building contract;
- g) Manage the completion process of the project;
- h) Assist the client in obtaining the required documentation necessary for the client to obtain the occupation certificate.

**Stage 6: Close-out**

- a) Facilitate the project close-out, including the collation of the necessary documentation to effect completion, handover, and operational manual of the project.
- b) When the contractor's obligations to the building contract have been fulfilled, the architectural professional shall issue the certificates related to the contract completion.
- c) Provide the client with construction record documentation and the relevant technical and contractual undertakings by the contractor and subcontractors.

**12. Partial services and additional services**

- a) The Act provides for the appointment of various architectural professionals to fulfil each or any stage of a standard service or parts thereof.
- b) Partial and additional services may be agreed on, and the options most regularly utilized are the following:
  - i. Appointment as architectural professional and principal consultant (not as principal agent);
  - ii. Appointment as a design architectural professional (design only);
  - iii. Appointment as an architectural professional of record (design by others, can be a principal-agent);

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- iv. Appointment as principal agent only; and
- v. Appointment to perform additional services.
- vi. Any combination of the above appointments may also be agreed upon.

**13. Additional services**

The following non-exhaustive services are in addition to the standard service and qualify for additional fees. These services may be added individually or in varying combinations, and shall be provided by prior agreement between the client and the architectural professional:

**13.1 Special Design Services**

The preparation of special designs within, or concerning, the facilities which are contemplated in a standard service, may include the following:

- i. Rational design and Green Star design; participation in the preparation of rational designs and Green Star design, and document format conversion of other consultants' designs;
- ii. Town-planning and/or urban design, including participation in the application for the establishment and/or amendment of regional and local town-planning and urban design schemes and the amendment of title conditions, negotiations with interest groups and authorities;
- iii. Sectional titles plans, submissions, alterations, and registration;
- iv. Master planning – defining and planning the layout of future development of buildings and/or services on the same site;
- v. Landscape design – participation in landscape planning and construction;
- vi. Interior design – the design of interiors and the selection of furnishings, fixtures, and special finishes;
- vii. Specialized equipment layout and consequential coordination requirements;
- viii. Liaison with special designers and specialist consultants;
- ix. Purpose-made items: the design and documentation of purpose-made items;
- x. Promotional material, artwork, and immersive digital experiences, participation in the preparation of promotional material;
- xi. Plant operation and production layouts, participation in the definition of plant operation layouts;



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- xii. Building Information Modelling (BIM) services beyond design and construction documentation. This includes BIM services intended for asset maintenance and/or facilities management.
- xiii. Submit documents for approval to the local authority, attend to referrals, if any, and resubmit.

**13.2 Special Management Services**

- a) Elaboration of architectural professionals' services, including inter alia:
  - i. The preparation of broad project parameters;
  - ii. Project scope statements;
  - iii. project milestones;
  - iv. Budget and cash-flow forecasts;
  - v. tender inquiry documentation;
  - vi. Contractor and supplier selection;
  - vii. adjudication and tender awards;
  - viii. progress status monitoring;
  - ix. variations management;
  - x. quality management over and above the industry norms;
  - xi. communication management;
  - xii. payment processing and
  - xiii. final account close-outs.
- b) *Cost and valuation services*: participation in the administration of costs and payments where a quantity surveyor has not been appointed.
- c) *Special inspections*: more intensive inspections and assessment of the works than the norm for assessing compliance with specifications and design intent.
- d) *Special Project Management Functions*: more extensive project management of the works than the norm for complex projects, including the preparation of the BIM protocol document and the management thereof.

**13.3 Special studies**

- a) *Preparation of the client's brief* — assist the client in the preparation of his requirements about the purpose, scope, use, and operation of the project;
- b) *Site selection* —research the suitability and location of a site for a proposed project;
- c) *Feasibility studies* — participation in technical and/or economic feasibility studies;
- d) *Environmental studies* —participation in environmental studies;

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- e) *Energy analysis, studies, and planning* – Green Star Ratings;
- f) *Market surveys* – participation in market surveys;
- g) *Traffic studies* – participation in traffic-flow studies.
- h) *Drone studies*; specialised photography for technical application and marketing material.
- i) *Specialist survey*- Point Cloud and Liddar Survey
- j) *As-built measured survey*- required for verification of portions of construction undertaken during the works

**13.4 Special Submissions to Statutory Authorities**

- a) Land Use;
- b) Environment;
- c) Heritage;
- d) Trading Licences/Liquor Licences, etc.

**13.5 Work on existing premises**

- a) *Surveys and inspections* – inspect, survey, measure, and prepare documentation of existing premises, with other consultants as needed;
- b) *Restorations and renovations* – services in connection with work on existing buildings;
- c) *Heritage sites* – services in connection with work on heritage buildings, structures, and sites;
- d) Services in connection with demolition permits of existing buildings and structures.

**13.6 Other services**

- a) Participation in litigation and dispute resolution (where a concurrent service is provided;
- b) Additional services as may be mutually agreed on.

**14. Basis of the Fees agreement**

- a) The client agrees to pay the architectural professional the fees for the services as recorded in the formal agreement entered into by the parties;
- b) Where a project cost-based fee is applied, the final fee is calculated on the final cost of the works. The initial fee is based on a budget for the works for fee calculation purposes and shall be adjusted on the final cost of the works.

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- c) Where a project time-based fee is applied, the fee is based on an estimate of the skills, hours, and resources necessary to complete the work. Accurate costing is to be kept and reported on.

**15. Project cost-based fees for standard and partial services**

- a) The architectural professional shall refer to the annexure on the guidelines for professional fees to determine whether a project is of low, medium, or high complexity. Different fee scales apply to different complexities of a project.
- b) These are derived from bracketed project values and are determined annually by SACAP and published in the Government Gazette.
- c) For a partial service, assuming the fee is a project cost-based fee, the percentage of the fee for each complete work stage to be performed is as set out under clause 21. Where the work stage is only partially completed, the percentage of the fee shall be agreed upon between the parties.
- d) The construction budget for fee purposes excludes VAT, contingencies, fees for other consultants and specialists, as well as the escalation provision.

**16. Project cost-based fees for a reduced service**

- a) Where the architectural professional is not the principal agent, a reduction of the fee for the work not exceeding 10% of the fee for stages 5 and 6 may be considered.
- b) Where the architectural professional is not the principal consultant, a reduction of the fee for the work not exceeding 10% of the fee for stages 1 to 4 may be considered.

**17. Apportionment of fees between work stages and interim payments.**

- a) The fee applicable to each work stage is apportioned according to the table below and may be adjusted by agreement.
- b) The architectural professional is entitled to render interim fee accounts during stages as agreed between the parties.
- c) The fees payable for stage 5 are related to the duration of the contract period and not the performance of the contractor. Interim claims during this stage will be contract time lapsed and no progress made by the contractor.

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Work stages 1 to 6	Proportion of the fee	Cumulative total
1	2%	2%
2	15%	17%
3	20%	37%
4.1	10%	47%
4.2	20%	67%
5	30%	97%
6	3%	100%

#### 18. Guideline for professional fees for additional services;

Unless otherwise agreed, the fee for additional services is time-based, and it is based on hourly rates as in the current guideline for professional fees.

#### 19. Time-based fees

Where fees for architectural professional services are time-based fees, the hourly rates as set out in the guideline for professional fees may apply. Whenever these rates are revised, the new rates may apply to work performed after the effective date of such revision.

#### 20. Guideline for professional fees for alterations

The fee for work that includes alterations is based on the total project cost and increased for that portion of the work comprising or affected by alterations by 30% (130% of the fee).

#### 21. Guideline for professional fees for additions

The fee for work associated with an addition to an existing building may not attract additional fees, except for that portion of the work associated with the parts of the addition that interface with the existing building. The fee for this latter work is increased by 30% (130% of the fee). Should it be necessary that the architectural professional survey, assess, and/or prepare documentation for the existing building, the cost of this shall be charged on a time basis.

**South African Council for the Architectural Profession****22. Guideline for professional fees for services provided for the restoration of buildings subject to heritage legislation**

The fee for work that includes restoration of buildings subject to heritage legislation is based on the total project cost and increased for that portion of the work comprising or affected by heritage considerations by 40% (140% of the fee).

**23. Guideline for professional fees for a project that includes repeated buildings**

For a project consisting of several repeated buildings erected under a single building contract for a single client, the fee may be adjusted by agreement, subject to the architectural professional being retained for full service and the repeated buildings being built on one site or a series of adjoining or closely related sites.

- a) either entirely apart from each other or linked with screen walls, common walls, or other similar means; and repetitions of one or more prototype designs for units, blocks, or elements, and built from the repeated use of one or more sets of drawings and related documents with nominal or no modification for each re-use. This does not apply to similar floors or divisions in a multi-story building.
- b) The guideline for professional fees for repeated buildings provides for a full fee applicable to the origination of the first building/s, referred to hereafter as prototypes. Thereafter, the fee adjustment is applied to each of the repeated prototypes.
- c) The adjusted fee applies to work stages 1 to 4 inclusive. The adjusted fee apportionment is 35% of the guideline professional fee for stages 1 to 4 inclusive.
- d) The adjusted fee does not apply to work stages 5 and 6. The full guideline professional fee for these stages shall apply.

**24. Guideline for professional fees for buildings repeated under separate building contracts.**

An architectural professional is entitled to be paid full fees on the original building designs. Unless otherwise agreed, where repeated buildings are erected under separate building contracts and the drawings and related documents for a project are reused for subsequent projects with nominal or no modification, the fee may be adjusted.

**South African Council for the Architectural Profession****25. Guideline for professional fees for an appointment where the architectural professional takes over the work of another professional**

The stage of completion shall be agreed upon, and an appropriate budget for the works agreed upon, and the fee for the work stages or the stage in which the service is commencing may be subject to an increase of 25%.

**26. Guideline for professional fees for deployment of employees**

Where an employee of the architectural professional is deployed on-site for extended inspection or other agreed purposes, the amount of the reimbursement shall be the total cost of employment plus 30%.

**27. Payment of fees**

The payment of fees for stages 1 to 4.2 shall be in line with deliverables as set out in the stages of work. The payment of fees for stage 5 shall be in equal monthly instalments in line with the initial construction duration.

**Example**

Stage 5 cost	R100 000.00
Initial construction duration	12 months
$R100\,000.00/12$	R 8.333,33
Monthly invoice	R 8.333,33

**28. Extended initial contractual period**

- a) If the initial construction period is exceeded by more than 10% through no fault of the architectural professional, the architectural professional shall be remunerated for all additional work resulting from the extension of time at hourly rates according to the guidelines for professional fees, together with related reimbursable expenses. The architectural professional shall inform the client in writing that the allocated period for providing professional services has been exceeded by 10% and therefore the services shall be charged at the hourly rates according to the current guidelines for professional fees, together with related reimbursable expenses.
- b) The fee for the services of the architectural professional during the contract period shall not be linked to a contractor's performance or progress. The fees shall be assessed entirely independently.

**South African Council for the Architectural Profession****29. Adjustment of guidelines for professional fees and disbursements**

- a) The guidelines for professional fees and disbursements are based on the following parameters:
  - i. Scope of services;
  - ii. Scope of the project/works;
  - iii. Project programme;
  - iv. Cost of the works;
  - v. Cost of the project;
  - vi. Appointment of other consultants;
  - vii. Appointment of contractors.
- b) Should any material variation to the parameters as stated occur, the guideline professional fees and disbursements shall be adjusted.

**30. Fast Tracking**

- a) Adjustment to the project programme, commonly known as 'fast-tracking', that requires the application of additional resources by the architectural professional, may attract an additional fee. The architectural professional shall motivate the client to the additional resources needed to complete the project within the allocated time and shall be at the total cost of additional resources plus 30%.

**31. Travelling time**

- a) Where the fee is a project cost-based fee, time charges shall apply at 100% of the hourly rate for travel greater than 1 hour and 50 km per trip (being 2 hours and 100 km per return trip) or as negotiated between the client and the architectural professional.
- b) Where the fee is on a time basis, time charges shall apply to the full round trip regardless of distance.

**32. Guideline for professional fees on termination by the client**

- a) Where the agreement between the client and the architectural professional is terminated, the client shall pay for that portion of the service that has been executed by the architectural professional.

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- b) Termination of the project shall attract an additional fee equal to 20% of the remaining fee that would have been payable had the project not been terminated.

**33. Guideline for professional fees for dispute resolution services**

- a) For acting as an expert witness, adjudicator, mediator, or arbitrator, the fee shall be in line with specialists' fees charged at the hourly rates published in the guideline for professional fees.
- b) Where a project is referred to dispute resolution, architectural professionals retained on that project are to be reimbursed for the additional service required about the dispute resolution processes according to the hourly rates published in the board notice as necessary.

**34. Payment of professional accounts**

- a) The architectural professional's accounts are due and payable on presentation. The architectural professional shall be entitled to render interim accounts. Fee and reimbursement invoices may be invoiced separately.

**35. Reimbursement of expenses**

- a) In addition to the fees set out in this schedule, the client shall reimburse the architectural professional for all reasonable disbursements properly incurred and accounted for.
- b) The expenses contemplated may include the following:
- i specialized in professional and other services;
  - ii Payments made on behalf of a client for fees, submission fees for local authority and other statutory approvals, as well as other charges for specialized professional and other services.
  - iii **Travel**
    - Travel mileage;
    - Parking;
    - Toll fees;
    - Car hire;
    - Airfare;
    - Train;
    - Bus;
    - Taxi;
    - Uber/Bolt or the likes
  - iv **Subsistence**



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- Accommodation;
- Subsistence allowance;
- Special daily allowance;

**v Postage**

- Special postage;
- Postage
- Courier;

**vi Documentation**

- Typing of original/master per A4;
- Duplication in white paper (A3 & A4 sizes);
- Duplicating in coloured paper (A3 & A4 sizes);
- Duplication in colour (A3 & A4 sizes);
- Document binding;
- Scanning of drawings and documents;
- Duplicating of drawings (A3 to A4);
- Plotting on 80g plain paper (A3 to A0);
- Plotting on 80g plain paper in colour (A3 to A0);
- Plotting on quality paper (A3 to A0);
- Plotting on quality paper in colour (A3 to A0);
- Purchase of documents and research material required for the project;
- CD with project-related information;

**vii Special quotes**

- Maps;
- Models;
- Presentation;
- Photography;
- Artwork

**viii Specialised computer software****ix Time-limited software subscriptions incurred specifically for the project****x Other**

- Any other disbursement requested by and/or agreed to by the client.

c) A relevant guideline rate may be applied. Refer to the Guidelines for professional fees.

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- d) A minimum of 10% of the cost of the disbursement may also be claimed for attendance where a project cost-based fee applies and/or where there is no time-based reimbursement for attendance.

#### **36. Claims to be separate and not set off**

- c) Should a client allege a claim against the architectural professional, a contractor, or any other party involved in the project, such claim shall be dealt with on its own merits.
- d) A client is not entitled to withhold payment of fees or disbursements or part thereof due to the architectural professional. Based on the claim, the client shall make payment without any set-off and waives all rights to any such set-off.
- e) Should a professional error, omission, and/or negligence be implied, dispute resolution or litigation shall be used to claim from the architectural professional.
- f) No penalties shall be applied to professional service agreement contracts.

#### **37. Regular invoicing**

Invoicing in line with the completed work stages as required by the Value-Added Tax Act, 1991 (Act No. 89 of 1991) is accepted as good practice and is deemed to be the basis of the agreement between the client and the architectural professional. Additionally, regular invoicing as agreed with the client may be considered.

#### **38. Engagement of architectural professionals**

- a) A professional service is deemed to be subject to an appropriate formal written agreement in which the rights and obligations of the parties and the terms and conditions of service are recorded.
- b) The specific service is agreed on, and the basis for the calculation of professional fees is recorded.
- c) The parties shall also agree on the following:
- the agreed service to be provided;
  - authority of the architectural professional;
  - the architectural professional's ownership of the intellectual property or copyright;
  - limits to responsibility;
  - limit professional liability to a term of five (5) years;

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- payment of invoices;
  - interest on overdue invoices;
  - disputed invoices;
  - suspension or deferment;
  - termination of engagement;
  - damage to or destruction of the works and
  - dispute resolution provisions.
- d) The expectation is that the agreed fees are based on a budget for the works to ensure that the fees are calculated on the anticipated final project cost. A realistic value of the work has to be determined to determine fees.
- e) Where a Professional Architect registered with SACAP is employed in a standard service, such Professional Architect shall be appointed to fulfill architectural services, principal consultant, and principal agent services. The services shall be described as a 'full service', partial, and/or additional services as may be agreed.
- f) Where an architectural professional other than a Professional Architect is employed in a project. The services and functions to be provided should be in line with the Identification of Work. Such an appointment may be for a standard service. Partial and/or additional services may be agreed upon.

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Contact Centre Tel: 012-748 6200. eMail: [info.egazette@gpw.gov.za](mailto:info.egazette@gpw.gov.za)  
Publications: Tel: (012) 748 6053, 748 6061, 748 6065