

Architect

Architecture in New Brunswick

Architecture is a regulated occupation in New Brunswick. In order to call yourself an architect, you must complete the foreign qualification process to be licensed.

There are opportunities for people with architectural training to work in New Brunswick. You can work for an architectural firm or within the design and construction sector.

It is not necessary to be registered or licensed to work in an architectural firm while under the direction of an architect. However, if you wish to use the title "architect" or practise architecture and to offer services directly to the public, it is necessary to be registered, be licensed as an architect, and have a certificate of practice.

How do I get my credentials recognized?

Although the Architects' Association of New Brunswick (AANB) is the regulating body for architects in New Brunswick, the Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB) is the first point of contact for graduates from architecture programs in Canada and abroad to plan to become licensed architects.

Foreign qualification recognition is the process of verifying that the knowledge, skills, work experience and education obtained in another country are comparable to the standards established for Canadian professionals and tradespersons.

CACB requires specific documents to assess your education against the Canadian Educational Standard. The required documents include the following:

- copies of your degree(s);
- original transcripts and course descriptions sent directly by your academic institution; and
- a list of design projects with descriptions, and a portfolio of your work.

You must complete CACB's application form and pay the required fee. The evaluation of your academic background takes at least two months once a full application package is received. You may also be interviewed by CACB. If there are gaps in your education, you will be advised how to upgrade.

CACB is a signatory to the Canberra Accord. If you received a professional degree in architecture from an accredited university in the United States, Mexico, China, Australia, Korea or the United Kingdom, you should investigate reciprocal certification of your education with CACB.

The Architects' Association of New Brunswick (AANB) is a corporate, self-regulating body, established in 1933, for the purpose of advancing and maintaining the standards of architecture in New Brunswick, for governing and regulating those offering architectural services and for the safeguarding of members of the general public and the profession. The Architects' Association of New Brunswick Act establishes the guidelines for membership in the association and the practice of architecture in **New Brunswick.**

There are four ways to satisfy the Canadian Education Standard for admission to provincial architectural associations in Canada:

1. Accredited professional program

You may qualify through graduation from a professional program of architectural education which has been accredited by CACB, or by the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB), or an accrediting body recognized by the board.

2. Professional program not accredited by CACB

This mode of certification applies to:

- graduates of Canadian schools of architecture prior to the implementation of the accreditation system for architecture in Canada
- graduates of foreign schools of architecture (degrees/diplomas meet the Canadian Education Standard)

3. Architects registered by a provincial association

Architects registered before July 1, 1976, by a provincial association, or by the Ordre des architectes du Québec prior to 1992, or whose education was certified by the Universities Co-ordinating Council in Alberta prior to 1992, are accepted as having equivalent education to satisfy the Canadian Education Standard.

4. Satisfaction of the Canadian Education Standard through the RAIC Syllabus of Studies Program

If you have received a diploma from the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC) syllabus of studies program, you may, upon completion of requisite courses and guided studies, obtain CACB certification. Please make sure that you contact AANB (www.aanb.org) to inquire about any additional requirements and guidance on how to complete your work experience component, as well as any additional requirements on how to register.

Work experience

Once you have been certified by CACB, you may apply to become an intern architect in New Brunswick, and you must find a mentor. You must also complete the Canadian Experience Record Book.

You must complete a specified number of hours of work experience in specific areas to meet the experience requirement to obtain a licence. Work experience in architecture gained outside of Canada may be submitted for consideration.

Examination for Architects in Canada(ExAC) or Architect Registration Examinations (AREs)

The Canadian architectural licensing authorities have developed examinations for interns that must be passed prior to registration or licensure.

AANB regulators will inform you of the remaining steps to obtain a licence and certificate to practise architecture in New Brunswick. You may need to take additional courses, an oral examination, or meet continuing education requirements.

If you are an experienced architect, you will need to provide proof of a licence in your country, and a professional portfolio that explains the scope and complexity of your projects and clearly describes your responsibilities.

Work references from your previous employers and clients are required. If you intend to practise architecture, and you obtain a certificate of practice, you will be required to obtain professional liability insurance.

There are many resources available to help you find employment in New Brunswick, including immigrant-serving agencies and job banks. Visit www.gnb.ca/immigration.

Finding a job in New Brunswick

There is a need for architects in various communities across the province and in both official languages.

You should take the time to research job requirements and develop a plan for finding work. There are many resources that you can access before coming to New Brunswick and after you arrive.

Additional resources

Architects' Association of New Brunswick www.aanb.org

Canadian Architectural Certification Board www.cacb-ccca.ca

National Architectural Accrediting Board www.naab.org

Royal Architectural Institute of Canada www.raic.org

New Brunswick Immigration Portal www.gnb.ca/immigration

Citizenship and Immigration Canada www.cic.gc.ca

Service Canada www.servicecanada.gc.ca

Foreign Credentials Referral Office www.credentials.gc.ca

Service New Brunswick www.snb.ca

NB Jobs www.nbjobs.ca

Working in New Brunswick Tool www.gnb.ca/immigration

Government of Canada Job Bank www.jobbank.gc.ca

Before you arrive

While you are waiting to come to New Brunswick, there are many things you can do to improve your chances of success.

The Foreign Credentials Referral Office (www.credentials.gc.ca) is an organization of the Government of Canada that provides you with helpful resources. The Government of New Brunswick has specially designed tools to help you make Canada your home. Visit www.gnb.ca/immigration.

Use these resources to find important information and to develop your job search plan.

Also, while you are preparing to move to New Brunswick, you can contact AANB at www.aanb.org to inquire about documents that you will be required to complete for the accreditation process and to make sure you have collected all documentation before moving to Canada.

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New Brunswick is a bilingual province. To successfully complete the foreign qualification recognition process, and to secure employment; you must have an intermediate/high level of English and/or French.

You might need to prove and/or be tested on your language skills in English or French. You can find information at www.language.ca. If you need to improve your language skills, start before you come to Canada.