



BUILDING DESIGNERS
ACCREDITATION & TRAINING

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



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Important note:

This document is to be read in conjunction with the BDA&T Accreditation Competency Standards for the Provision of Building Design Services

Endorsed & Published by Building Designers Accreditation & Training on behalf of Building Designers Association of Australia

How much does accreditation cost?

All applicants pay an upfront fee of \$990.

Is there an annual renewal fee?

There is an annual renewal fee of \$275 for BDAA members and \$375 for non BDAA members.

Do you have to be a member of the BDAA to be accredited?

No.

Can I join the BDAA at the same time as I apply for accreditation?

Yes you can. The documents you supply for accreditation are also used for the membership assessment process.

What does it cost to join the BDAA and apply for accreditation at the same time?

The BDAA joining fee is \$650 as a full member and the accreditation fee is \$990. A total of \$1,640, however, you will receive a rebate of \$250 on this combined fee, bringing the total down to \$1,390.



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How long does the accreditation assessment take?

We try and complete assessments within 2-3 weeks of lodgement. If we require additional information we will contact you to discuss the why's and wherefores.

How long does the accreditation last?

The accreditation is for a period of 3 years. There is an annual renewal fee, and at the 3rd anniversary of your accreditation we conduct an audit of your work to ensure that you are maintaining an acceptable standard of documentation pursuant to your level of accreditation.

I have overseas qualifications. Are these acceptable for accreditation?

Generally, the answer is yes. We would need a certified copy of your qualification and a written report from you outlining your building design experience while residing in Australia.

I have qualifications that I gained 20 years ago. Are they still relevant?

Provided you have continuously been working as a Building Designer since gaining your qualification then we would consider that you have maintained currency of the qualification over that period.

If you have only been spasmodic in the profession, you may be required to complete the Accreditation Self Assessment Report as part of your application.

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Is there a discount for multiple applications from the same office?

Unfortunately, no. We only do assessment on an individual basis, not a 'job lot'. We cannot accredit companies, only individuals.

The principal of a company could become accredited and any work that required certification by an accredited Building Designer would have to go out under his/her name.

Can I use my employer's professional (PI) insurance for my accreditation application?

As the Accreditation Application is assessed and held by an individual person, the PI Insurance Certificate of Currency should include the name of applicant.

Is there a logo that will be issued upon becoming an approved accredited building designer?

There is a logo that is issued to accredited building designers upon approval, but this is exclusive to members of Building Designers Association of Australia.

All Accredited Building Designers will be provided with a unique Accreditation Number to apply when required.

How are accreditation applications to be submitted?

All accreditation applications must be submitted electronically to our email address accreditation@bda.training. If the file is too large to send via normal email, we suggest using www.wetransfer.com. This is a free transmission service and is very user friendly and the preferred method of assessors.

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Are there any licensing/registration requirements in NSW at present?

There is no overriding registration/licensing required for Building Designers in NSW, however, there are a few exceptions:

- i) Multistorey residential buildings that are three or more storeys and 4 or more units are required to be designed under the direction of a NSW Registered Architect
- ii) Child Care Centres must be designed by a NSW Registered Architect or a Building Designer Accredited by BDAA (Building Designers Association of Australia)
- iii) Low Rise Medium Density Housing, under the Complying Development Code must be designed by a NSW Registered Architect or a Building Designer Accredited by BDAA (Building Designers Association of Australia)

I have a License to practice in another state, can I use this to satisfy the above requirements.

Your state based license does not automatically allow a Building Designer to undertake the above projects in NSW but it would be recognised as satisfying the requirements of the BDAA accreditation program.

Where can I find more information about BDAA's CPD Program

Further information on this can be found on our website under the Accreditation and CPD tab or by following this link: www.bdaa.com.au/accreditation



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ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA**

BDA&T is the accreditation and training arm of Building Designers Association of Australia