

# Pathway to Licensure

**Internationally Educated Architect**

University degree in Architecture

+

7+ years of licensed experience

**Broadly Experienced Foreign Architect (BEFA)**

Apply to Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB)

Complete self-assessment with documentation

BEFA assessors form 3-person panel to review self-assessment

Attend regional BEFA assessment interview

Gaps in knowledge **must** be remedied before a certificate is issued

CACB issues BEFA certificate

Apply to NSAA as Licensed Architect (BEFA)

**Internship in Architecture Program (IAP)**

Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB) certifies academic credentials

CACB issues certificate

Apply to NSAA as Intern Architect

Complete IAP requirements

- Record 3,720 hours in Canadian Experience Record Book (including 940 hours on a Nova Scotia project)
- Pass the Examinations for Architects in Canada

Apply to NSAA as Licensed Architect (First Licensure)

Pass NSAA pre-licensure interview

**Licensed Architect (NSAA)**

## **Immigrant Services Association of Nova Scotia (ISANS)**

6960 Mumford Road, Suite 2120  
Halifax NS B3L 4P1

**Phone:** (902) 423-3607

**Fax:** (902) 423-3152

[employment\\_services@isans.ca](mailto:employment_services@isans.ca)

<https://isans.ca/>

ISANS provides:

- Employment counselling/coaching (onsite or online)
- Assistance with navigating the pathway to licensure
- Job search workshops (onsite or online)
- Orientation & communication skills for engineers
- Professional mentoring
- Work placement in related field
- IELTS preparation
- Atlantic Immigrant Career Loan Fund
  - For more information, [click here](#).

## **Canadian Architecture Certification Board (CACB)**

1 Nicholas Street, Suite 710  
Ottawa ON K1N 7B7

**Phone:** (613) 241-8399

<https://cacb.ca/>

The CACB is the body which assess all degrees and diplomas in Architecture. You will need to contact the CACB to have your education assessed. This is the first step to licensure.

There is a competency-based assessment program for internationally trained architects. The Broadly Experienced Foreign Architects Program (BEFA) includes a self-assessment which can be done before arrival.

## **Royal Architecture Institute of Canada (RAIC)**

6118 James Bell Drive

Manotick ON K4M 1B3

**Phone:** 1-844-856-7242 (toll-free)  
(613) 241-3600

[info@raic.org](mailto:info@raic.org)

<https://raic.org/>

The RAIC is the leading voice of architecture in Canada. It seeks to “build awareness and appreciation of the contribution of architecture to the physical and cultural well-being of Canadians.” The RAIC website has useful information and many resources.

Internationally educated architects may apply for RAIC membership.

## **Nova Scotia Association of Architects (NSAA)**

1310 Hollis Street, Suite 205

Halifax NS B3J 3P3

**Phone:** (902) 423-7607

[info@nsaa.ns.ca](mailto:info@nsaa.ns.ca)

<https://nsaa.ns.ca/>

The NSAA is the provincial licensing body. To practice as an Architect in Nova Scotia, you have a license with the NSAA. The NSAA produces an online newsletter twice a month, with information on regulations, job offerings, and continuing education.

## **Dalhousie Faculty of Architecture and Planning School of Architecture**

5410 Spring Garden Road, P.O. Box 15000

Halifax NS B3H 4R2

<https://www.dal.ca/faculty/architecture-planning.html>

Events related to the practice of architecture are often announced through Dalhousie’s webpages.

## **Additional Resources and Links:**

- Internship in Architecture Program (IAP)  
<https://nsaa.ns.ca/resources/intern-resources/>
- Study Resources  
<https://chop.raic.ca/>