



**Chartered
Architectural
Technologist
- Professional
Standards
Competency
Framework**



The Professional Standards Competency Framework (PSCF) outlines the standards and competency required to qualify as a Chartered Architectural Technologist.

This framework is set out in three distinct stages that illustrate the mandatory standards that applicants undertaking the **Professional Assessment (PA)** process must satisfy to qualify as a Chartered Architectural Technologist and use the MCIAT designation. The three stages comprise the Educational, Practice and Professional Standards.

The following sections set out the mandatory standards.



Stage 1: Educational Standards

Applicants must demonstrate that they have the necessary underpinning knowledge required of a Chartered Architectural Technologist, by satisfying the mandatory threshold Educational Standards.

The mandatory threshold Educational Standards for Chartered Architectural Technologists are based upon the UK Quality Assurance Agency's Subject Benchmark Statement for Architectural Technology. Universities and other higher education institutions must use these standards when designing Honours and Masters degrees. To be exempt from Stage 1, the applicant must hold a CIAT Accredited qualification. Alternatively, these standards may also be demonstrated through equivalent knowledge attained in other learning environments, including the workplace.

The following criteria outline the threshold Educational Standards:

Knowledge and understanding of:

- E1. Local, social, technological, environmental, historical, contemporary, economic, political, legal and ethical factors that inform and influence the discipline and practice of Architectural Technology.
- E2. Client, user and stakeholder needs through the analysis and interpretation of the nature of a project, including the evaluation of context to determine a project scope.
- E3. Holistic building design in a range of typologies informed by current practice within the discipline to generate resilient, sustainable and inclusive design solutions.
- E4. Architectural and technological principles of structure, fabric and service systems to create concepts and develop design solutions in complex contexts when working independently or as part of a team.
- E5. Science and engineering of construction and environmental performance including building physics, fire engineering and pathology relating to the analysis, evaluation and application of appropriate methodologies when designing or working on new and existing buildings. The latter can include conservation, maintenance, retrofit, renovation and/or change of use projects.
- E6. Health and safety requirements when generating design solutions to ensure welfare, safety and security of all stakeholders during the life cycles of buildings, including legal requirements.
- E7. Compliance with legal and regulatory requirements such as health and safety including fire safety, as well as the use of advances in construction and sustainable technologies to design holistically from first principles, for production, sustainability, performance, quality of life and social wellbeing.
- E8. Designing building elements and components, the use of materials, methods and their assembly, used in the construction and adaptation of different building typologies to critically and correctly detail and specify effectively and efficiently functioning buildings in accordance with applicable regulatory and technical standards.
- E9. Current technological practices to make data-driven decisions in a collaborative working environment based on and through the application of processes and technologies for modelling, production, management and communication of information.
- E10. Procurement methods and contract administration, architectural practice, design leadership, management roles and functions (including, principal/lead designer, design management, project management, information management, compliance plan management, etc.) and professional behaviours, conduct and ethics.
- E11. Continual learning to maintain currency and awareness with existing and emerging topics, technologies and practices that inform the discipline. This includes specialisation relating to new and emerging professional and industry trends and continuing professional development, in a range of roles and functions, to maintain competency.



Stage 2: Practice Standards

Applicants must demonstrate their skills and experience by outlining the project type, range and their involvement in project stages to evidence their role, function and responsibility to satisfy the standards. Their experience must cover four areas: Designing, Managing, Practising and Developing (Self) which are defined as:

Designing – demonstrating robust, sustainable and inclusive design solutions relating to the anatomy and physiology of buildings that satisfy regulatory standards and achieve efficient and effective construction that perform optimally and safely during use and reuse.

- D1. Analysing and interpreting instructions/briefs to determine the project scope for design deliverables, including all stakeholder requirements.
- D2. Creating design solutions for project(s) based upon architectural and technological design principles through the design, integration and co-ordination of structure, fabric and services.
- D3. Developing design solutions that are inclusive, safe, resilient, robust and sustainable.
- D4. Designing and specifying critically evaluated systems, components, materials and methods used within a project to satisfy both production and building performance parameters.
- D5. Ensuring that the design solutions comply with contractual, regulatory and legal requirements for each stage of the project.

Managing – demonstrating appropriate leadership and management of people, processes, procedures, stakeholders and projects ensuring safe delivery.

- M1. Leading or managing design projects independently and as part of a team within the scope of their responsibilities.
- M2. Managing and controlling project contract deliverables in accordance with planning and programming requirements.
- M3. Identifying and assessing design risks to mitigate impact on the project brief, people, climate and natural environment.
- M4. Effectively and efficiently managing the planning and execution of design and work, addressing conflicts and resolving issues that may arise.
- M5. Managing risk, compliance and approvals with the statutory and regulatory processes and procedures.

Practising – demonstrating awareness of local, social, technological, environmental, economic, political, legal and ethical factors affecting the practice of Architectural Technology through appropriate implementation.

- P1. Applying and using current and emerging technologies in building design, ensuring that buildings and/or assets perform efficiently, effectively, safely and sustainably.
- P2. Interacting and collaborating professionally with stakeholders, agencies and clients.
- P3. Identifying factors affecting project evolution and delivery, including hazards and risks, by developing, implementing, and maintaining systems and records.
- P4. Monitoring, applying and using relevant legislation, standards, regulatory frameworks, procurement and contracts.

Developing (Self) – demonstrating an awareness of the need for continuing development as a professional, to advance or maintain standards in roles and functions during their career through the acquisition and maintenance of relevant knowledge, skill and experience, as well as understanding the importance of behaving ethically to meet the needs of the industry, wider society and the environment.

- SD1. Undertaking continuing professional development (CPD) to ensure currency and relevance of the skills, knowledge, experience, and behaviors required to practice.
- SD2. Demonstrating self-reflection and continuous improvement in understanding current and emerging topics relevant to their context and jurisdiction of practice.
- SD3. Identifying personal development, education, skills, experience and/or training needs and meeting them through regular action planning and monitoring to maintain fitness to practice.



Stage 3: Professional Standards

Applicants must demonstrate the achievement of the standards through a professional interview to assess how they engage, communicate, behave, and interact in a knowledgeable, professional and ethical manner.

PS1. Demonstrating compliance with the Code of Conduct.

PS2. Operating at a professional level, demonstrating appropriate behaviours and reasonable skill and care based on knowledge, proficiency and experience in practice.

PS3. Demonstrating the use of professional experience, to communicate and convey decisions confidently, appropriately, accurately and confidentially if necessary.

PS4. Conveying a commitment to equality, diversity and inclusivity.

PS5. Demonstrating the values of morals, ethics, respect and integrity.

PS6. Demonstrating good practice including health and safety in the work environment; for users and the public.

PS7. Demonstrating awareness and due diligence of the principles of sustainable practice; social justice, and ethical issues.

PS8. Demonstrating commitment to life-long learning.







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