



Architectural Draftsperson

Alternate Titles Architectural Drafter; Architectural Technician; Building Drafter; Building Drafting Officer; Drafter (Architectural); Drafting Officer; Draftsperson.

Description Architectural Drafters complete architects' and other designers' concepts by preparing working drawings from architectural sketches, compiling estimates and plans and liaising with builders and contractors. As their skills increase, they will get more opportunity to perform design functions.

Job Prospects/Employment Opportunities

Architectural Drafters are employed across several industries including: Building Construction; Technical Services; Government Administration; and Non-Building Construction.

The vacancy level for Architectural Drafters is average. Vacancies arising from job changing (Architectural Drafters changing employers) are expected to provide 46 per cent of vacancies, compared with 48 per cent from job openings (Architectural Drafters leaving the occupation) and 6 per cent from new jobs.

Given the current high level of building activity in South Australia, the demand for architectural drafters is healthy.

- Typical Duties**
- Prepare architectural and working drawings showing plans, elevations, sections, materials, finishes and other aspects such as layouts, plumbing, drainage, car parking and landscaping
 - Analyse architects' or other designs, and prepare preliminary sketches and detailed instructions
 - Use computers or manually produce designs, detailed drawings and documentation
 - Prepare working drawings showing plans, elevations, sections, materials and finishes, as well as other aspects such as layouts, plumbing, drainage, car parking and landscaping
 - Calculate the quantity and quality of materials needed, material and labour costs and project completion dates
 - Interpret client briefs and prepare and develop sketch plans for client approval
 - Help prepare building specifications for building plans to suit individual clients
 - Represent or assist architects on building sites to make sure that plans and specifications are followed
 - Liaise with local government organisations
 - Examine relevant codes and by-laws in the course of undertaking project documentation

Working Conditions

Architectural drafters work mainly indoors, but will spend some time outdoors inspecting sites.

Personal Requirements

- Able to visualise ideas in three-dimensional form
- Enjoy technical drawing and working with computers
- An interest in building technology
- Accuracy, neatness and patience in drawing work
- Logical thinker
- Some artistic talent in freehand drawing

Entry Pathway Entry to the occupation of architectural drafter in South Australia is generally through one of the following qualifications. In some cases relevant practical experience is necessary to supplement the formal qualification. Check with the institution for details of minimum entry requirements.

Some people may complete a pre-apprenticeship or pre-vocational course before entering an apprenticeship. If you are still at school, **doorways2construction™** is the best first step into this career. Ask your VET coordinator for more details.

Course or Training Package

- **Certificate Courses**
TAFE SA - Marleston and Noarlunga Campuses:
 - Certificate IV in Residential Drafting
- **Diploma Courses**
TAFE SA - Marleston Campus:
 - Diploma of Building Design and Technology
 - Advanced Diploma of Building Design and Project Administration
- The University of Adelaide and UniSA both offer tertiary level qualifications, including a bridging program for graduates from other disciplines.

Specialisations

- An Architectural Drafter may specialise as a Building Designer
- An Architectural Drafter can undertake further study to become an architect

Further information

- CITB [www.citb.org.au]
- Construction Industry Skills Board [<http://www.constructionskills.com.au>]
- **doorways2construction™** [<http://www.doorways2construction.org.au/>]
- Building Designers Association of Australia [www.bdaq.com.au/]
- Royal Australian Institute of Architects [www.architecture.com.au/]
- Master Builders Australia SA [www.mbasa.com.au]
- Housing Industry Association [www.hia.asn.au/]
- Big Plans [www.bigplans.com.au/]
- Be Constructive [www.beconstructive.com.au/]