



# Architects Act 1997

## 1997 CHAPTER 22

### PART II

#### REGISTRATION ETC.

##### *Registration*

#### 4 <sup>F1</sup>Registration <sup>F2</sup>...: general

- (1) A person who has applied to the Registrar in the prescribed manner for registration <sup>F3</sup>... is entitled to be registered <sup>F4</sup>... if—
- (a) he holds such qualifications and has gained such practical experience as may be prescribed; or
  - (b) he has a standard of competence which, in the opinion of the Board, is equivalent to that demonstrated by satisfying paragraph (a).

<sup>F5</sup>(1A) But the Board may by rules provide that a person who satisfies subsection (1)(a) by reason of holding overseas qualifications or gaining overseas practical experience is entitled to be registered only if the person has undertaken such training, passed such test or met such other condition as is prescribed.]

- (2) The Board may require a person who applies for registration on the ground that he satisfies subsection (1)(b) to pass a prescribed examination in architecture.

<sup>F6</sup>(2A) .....

- (3) Before <sup>F7</sup>...—

- (a) [<sup>F8</sup>prescribing] qualifications or practical experience for the purposes of subsection (1)(a);
- <sup>F9</sup>(aa) making rules under subsection (1A);] or
- (b) [<sup>F10</sup>prescribing] any examination for the purposes of subsection (2),

the Board shall consult the bodies representative of architects which are incorporated by royal charter and such other professional and educational bodies as it thinks appropriate.

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Architects Act 1997, Cross Heading: Registration. (See end of Document for details)*

- (4) Where a person has duly applied for registration <sup>F11</sup>...—
- (a) if the Registrar is satisfied that the person is entitled to be registered <sup>F12</sup>..., he shall enter his name in <sup>F13</sup>... the Register; but
  - (b) if the Registrar is not so satisfied, he shall [<sup>F14</sup>refuse the application].
- (5) The Registrar shall not consider an application for registration <sup>F15</sup>... in any case in which it is inappropriate for him to do so (for instance because he is in any way connected with the applicant) but in such a case he shall refer the application to the Board.
- (6) Where a person’s application is referred to the Board under subsection <sup>F16</sup>... (5), the Board shall [<sup>F17</sup>—
- (a) direct the Registrar to enter the person’s name in the Register if it is satisfied that the person is entitled to be registered, or
  - (b) direct the Registrar to refuse the application if it is not so satisfied.]

<sup>F18</sup>(7) .....

[<sup>F19</sup>(8) In this section—

“overseas practical experience” means practical experience obtained mainly outside the United Kingdom;

“overseas qualification” means a qualification issued by a body that is based outside the United Kingdom.

- (9) For the purposes of subsection (8) a body is based—
- (a) where its registered office is,
  - (b) if it does not have a registered office, where its head office is, or
  - (c) if it does not have a registered office or a head office, where its principal place of operation is.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 4 sidenote substituted (20.6.2008) by [Architects \(Recognition of European Qualifications etc and Saving and Transitional Provision\) Regulations 2008 \(S.I. 2008/1331\)](#), regs. 1, **6(1)(a)**
- F2** Words in s. 4 heading omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Architects Act 1997 \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/717\)](#), regs. 1(2), **7(a)** (with regs. 22-47) (as amended by S.I. 2019/810, regs. 1(3), 4 and S.I. 2020/1038, regs. 1(3), Sch. 3 para. 4); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F3** Words in s. 4(1) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Architects Act 1997 \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/717\)](#), regs. 1(2), **7(b)(i)** (with regs. 22-47) (as amended by S.I. 2019/810, regs. 1(3), 4 and S.I. 2020/1038, regs. 1(3), Sch. 3 para. 4); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F4** Words in s. 4(1) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Architects Act 1997 \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/717\)](#), regs. 1(2), **7(b)(ii)** (with regs. 22-47) (as amended by S.I. 2019/810, regs. 1(3), 4 and S.I. 2020/1038, regs. 1(3), Sch. 3 para. 4); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F5** S. 4(1A) inserted (31.12.2022) by [Professional Qualifications Act 2022 \(c. 20\)](#), **ss. 11(4)(a)**, 21(4)(e) (with s. 12); S.I. 2022/1384, reg. 2
- F6** S. 4(2A) omitted (7.2.2023) by virtue of [The Architects Act 1997 \(Amendment\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/50\)](#), regs. 1(3), **3(2)** (with reg. 5)
- F7** Word in s. 4(3) omitted (31.12.2022) by virtue of [Professional Qualifications Act 2022 \(c. 20\)](#), **ss. 11(4)(b)(i)**, 21(4)(e) (with s. 12); S.I. 2022/1384, reg. 2
- F8** Word in s. 4(3)(a) inserted (31.12.2022) by [Professional Qualifications Act 2022 \(c. 20\)](#), **ss. 11(4)(b)(ii)**, 21(4)(e) (with s. 12); S.I. 2022/1384, reg. 2

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- F9** S. 4(3)(aa) inserted (31.12.2022) by Professional Qualifications Act 2022 (c. 20), **ss. 11(4)(b)(iii)**, 21(4)(e) (with s. 12); S.I. 2022/1384, reg. 2
- F10** Word in s. 4(3)(b) inserted (31.12.2022) by Professional Qualifications Act 2022 (c. 20), **ss. 11(4)(b)(iv)**, 21(4)(e) (with s. 12); S.I. 2022/1384, reg. 2
- F11** Words in s. 4(4) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of The Architects Act 1997 (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/717), regs. 1(2), **7(d)(i)** (with regs. 22-47) (as amended by S.I. 2019/810, regs. 1(3), 4 and S.I. 2020/1038, regs. 1(3), Sch. 3 para. 4); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F12** Words in s. 4(4)(a) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of The Architects Act 1997 (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/717), regs. 1(2), **7(d)(ii)(aa)** (with regs. 22-47) (as amended by S.I. 2019/810, regs. 1(3), 4 and S.I. 2020/1038, regs. 1(3), Sch. 3 para. 4); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F13** Words in s. 4(4)(a) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of The Architects Act 1997 (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/717), regs. 1(2), **7(d)(ii)(bb)** (with regs. 22-47) (as amended by S.I. 2019/810, regs. 1(3), 4 and S.I. 2020/1038, regs. 1(3), Sch. 3 para. 4); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F14** Words in s. 4(4)(b) substituted (28.6.2022) by Building Safety Act 2022 (c. 30), **ss. 158(3)(a)**, 170(3)
- F15** Words in s. 4(5) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of The Architects Act 1997 (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/717), regs. 1(2), **7(e)** (with regs. 22-47) (as amended by S.I. 2019/810, regs. 1(3), 4 and S.I. 2020/1038, regs. 1(3), Sch. 3 para. 4); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F16** Words in s. 4(6) omitted (28.6.2022) by virtue of Building Safety Act 2022 (c. 30), **ss. 158(3)(b)(i)**, 170(3)
- F17** Words in s. 4(6) substituted (28.6.2022) by Building Safety Act 2022 (c. 30), **ss. 158(3)(b)(ii)**, 170(3)
- F18** S. 4(7) omitted (7.2.2023) by virtue of The Architects Act 1997 (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/50), regs. 1(3), **3(2)** (with reg. 5)
- F19** S. 4(8)(9) inserted (31.12.2022) by Professional Qualifications Act 2022 (c. 20), **ss. 11(4)(c)**, 21(4)(e) (with s. 12); S.I. 2022/1384, reg. 2

**F21 4A Registration <sup>F20</sup>...: European qualifications**

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**Textual Amendments**

- F20** Words in s. 4A heading omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of The Architects Act 1997 (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/717), regs. 1(2), **8(a)** (with regs. 22-47) (as amended by S.I. 2019/810, regs. 1(3), 4 and S.I. 2020/1038, regs. 1(3), Sch. 3 para. 4); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F21** S. 4A omitted (7.2.2023) by virtue of The Architects Act 1997 (Amendment) Regulations 2023 (S.I. 2023/50), regs. 1(3), **3(3)** (with reg. 5)

**F22 5A Registration in Part 2 of the Register : Directive-rights nationals providing services**

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**Textual Amendments**

- F22** Ss. 5A-5E omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of The Architects Act 1997 (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/717), regs. 1(2), **9** (with regs. 22-47) (as amended by S.I. 2019/810, regs. 1(3), 4 and S.I. 2020/1038, regs. 1(3), Sch. 3 para. 4); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Architects Act 1997, Cross Heading: Registration. (See end of Document for details)*

**F22 5B Titles to be used by persons registered in Part 2 of the Register**

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**Textual Amendments**  
**F22** Ss. 5A-5E omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Architects Act 1997 \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/717\)](#), regs. 1(2), 9 (with regs. 22-47) (as amended by [S.I. 2019/810](#), regs. 1(3), 4 and [S.I. 2020/1038](#), regs. 1(3), Sch. 3 para. 4); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

**F22 5C Information to be given to recipients of the service**

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**Textual Amendments**  
**F22** Ss. 5A-5E omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Architects Act 1997 \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/717\)](#), regs. 1(2), 9 (with regs. 22-47) (as amended by [S.I. 2019/810](#), regs. 1(3), 4 and [S.I. 2020/1038](#), regs. 1(3), Sch. 3 para. 4); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

**F22 5D Administrative co-operation with other relevant European States**

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**Textual Amendments**  
**F22** Ss. 5A-5E omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Architects Act 1997 \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/717\)](#), regs. 1(2), 9 (with regs. 22-47) (as amended by [S.I. 2019/810](#), regs. 1(3), 4 and [S.I. 2020/1038](#), regs. 1(3), Sch. 3 para. 4); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

**F22 5E Complaints by recipients of services**

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**Textual Amendments**  
**F22** Ss. 5A-5E omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Architects Act 1997 \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/717\)](#), regs. 1(2), 9 (with regs. 22-47) (as amended by [S.I. 2019/810](#), regs. 1(3), 4 and [S.I. 2020/1038](#), regs. 1(3), Sch. 3 para. 4); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)

**6 Registration: further procedural requirements.**

- (1) The Board may require an applicant for registration <sup>F23</sup>... to pay a fee of a prescribed amount.
- (2) The Board may require a candidate for any examination under section 4(2) to pay a fee of a prescribed amount.

<sup>F24</sup>(2A) .....

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(3) The Board may prescribe the information and evidence to be provided to the Registrar in connection with an application for registration <sup>F25</sup>....

<sup>F26</sup>(3A) .....

<sup>F27</sup>(3B) .....

(3C) The Registrar shall deal expeditiously with all applications for registration.

[<sup>F28</sup>(4) The Registrar shall serve on an applicant <sup>F29</sup>... written notice of the decision on his application.

[<sup>F30</sup>(4A) A notice under subsection (4) shall be served—

[<sup>F31</sup>(a) in the case of an application by a person who in making the application relies on section 4(1)(a), within three months beginning with the date on which the application is made;]

(b) in any other case, within six months beginning with the date on which the application is made.]

(4B) Notice of a refusal [<sup>F32</sup>of an application] shall state reasons for the refusal.]

<sup>F33</sup>(5) .....

#### Textual Amendments

- F23** Words in s. 6(1) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Architects Act 1997 \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019](#) (S.I. 2019/717), regs. 1(2), **10(a)** (with regs. 22-47) (as amended by S.I. 2019/810, regs. 1(3), 4 and S.I. 2020/1038, regs. 1(3), Sch. 3 para. 4); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F24** S. 6(2A) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Architects Act 1997 \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019](#) (S.I. 2019/717), regs. 1(2), **10(b)** (with regs. 22-47) (as amended by S.I. 2019/810, regs. 1(3), 4 and S.I. 2020/1038, regs. 1(3), Sch. 3 para. 4); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F25** Words in s. 6(3) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Architects Act 1997 \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019](#) (S.I. 2019/717), regs. 1(2), **10(c)** (with regs. 22-47) (as amended by S.I. 2019/810, regs. 1(3), 4 and S.I. 2020/1038, regs. 1(3), Sch. 3 para. 4); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F26** S. 6(3A) omitted (7.2.2023) by virtue of [The Architects Act 1997 \(Amendment\) Regulations 2023](#) (S.I. 2023/50), regs. 1(3), **3(4)(a)** (with reg. 5)
- F27** S. 6(3B) omitted (7.2.2023) by virtue of [The Architects Act 1997 \(Amendment\) Regulations 2023](#) (S.I. 2023/50), regs. 1(3), **3(4)(a)** (with reg. 5)
- F28** S. 6(4)-(4B) substituted for s. 6(4) (23.12.2002) by S.I. 2002/2842, **art. 4(2)**
- F29** Words in s. 6(4) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Architects Act 1997 \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019](#) (S.I. 2019/717), regs. 1(2), **10(f)** (with regs. 22-47) (as amended by S.I. 2019/810, regs. 1(3), 4 and S.I. 2020/1038, regs. 1(3), Sch. 3 para. 4); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F30** S. 6(4A) substituted (20.6.2008) by [Architects \(Recognition of European Qualifications etc and Saving and Transitional Provision\) Regulations 2008](#) (S.I. 2008/1331), regs. 1, **9(f)**
- F31** S. 6(4A)(a) substituted (7.2.2023) by [The Architects Act 1997 \(Amendment\) Regulations 2023](#) (S.I. 2023/50), regs. 1(3), **3(4)(b)** (with reg. 5)
- F32** Words in s. 6(4B) substituted (28.6.2022) by [Building Safety Act 2022](#) (c. 30), **ss. 158(4)**, 170(3)
- F33** S. 6(5) omitted (20.6.2008) by virtue of [Architects \(Recognition of European Qualifications etc and Saving and Transitional Provision\) Regulations 2008](#) (S.I. 2008/1331), regs. 1, **9(h)**

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Architects Act 1997, Cross Heading: Registration. (See end of Document for details)*

### [<sup>F34</sup>6A. Issuing of certificates of architectural education

- (1) Where a person requests the Board to issue a certificate of architectural education confirming that the person's training as an architect—
- <sup>F35</sup>(a) . . . . .
  - (b) gives that person entitlement under section 4 to be registered <sup>F36</sup>...., or
  - (c) includes prescribed or equivalent qualifications,
- the Board may issue such a certificate to that person if the training <sup>F37</sup>... gives that entitlement or includes those qualifications.
- (2) The Board may require a person making a request under subsection (1) to pay a fee of a prescribed amount.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F34** S. 6A inserted (20.6.2008) by [Architects \(Recognition of European Qualifications etc and Saving and Transitional Provision\) Regulations 2008 \(S.I. 2008/1331\)](#), regs. 1, **10**
- F35** S. 6A(1)(a) omitted (7.2.2023) by virtue of [The Architects Act 1997 \(Amendment\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/50\)](#), regs. 1(3), **3(5)(a)** (with reg. 5)
- F36** Words in s. 6A(1)(b) omitted (31.12.2020) by virtue of [The Architects Act 1997 \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019 \(S.I. 2019/717\)](#), regs. 1(2), **11** (with regs. 22-47) (as amended by S.I. 2019/810, regs. 1(3), 4 and S.I. 2020/1038, regs. 1(3), Sch. 3 para. 4); 2020 c. 1, Sch. 5 para. 1(1)
- F37** Words in s. 6A(1) omitted (7.2.2023) by virtue of [The Architects Act 1997 \(Amendment\) Regulations 2023 \(S.I. 2023/50\)](#), regs. 1(3), **3(5)(b)** (with reg. 5)

### 7 Penalty for obtaining registration[<sup>F38</sup>or recognition] by false representation.

- [<sup>F39</sup>(1) A person commits an offence if the person intentionally—
- (a) becomes or attempts to become registered under this Act, or
  - (b) does any of the things mentioned in subsection (1A) anywhere in or outside the United Kingdom.
- (1A) Those things are—
- (a) making to the Board or to the Registrar,
  - (b) producing to the Board or to the Registrar,
  - (c) causing to be made to the Board or to the Registrar, or
  - (d) causing to be produced to the Board or to the Registrar]
- (2) A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale.

#### Textual Amendments

- F38** Words in s. 7 side-note inserted (20.6.2008) by [Architects \(Recognition of European Qualifications etc and Saving and Transitional Provision\) Regulations 2008 \(S.I. 2008/1331\)](#), regs. 1, **11(a)**
- F39** S. 7(1)(1A) substituted (20.6.2008) for s. 7(1) by [Architects \(Recognition of European Qualifications etc and Saving and Transitional Provision\) Regulations 2008 \(S.I. 2008/1331\)](#), regs. 1, **11(b)**

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Architects Act 1997, Cross Heading: Registration.