

ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA

Western Australia Engineer registration and assessment

How to apply for assessment of
qualifications, experience, and competencies
for Western Australian registration

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About Western Australian registration and assessment

1. If you carry out professional or technical engineering work in one or more of the prescribed areas of engineering in the building industry you will need to be registered as a building engineering practitioner in Western Australia (WA) under the *Building Services (Registration) Regulations 2011 (WA)* (BSR Regulations) s.6.

As a first step, you will need to have your qualifications, experience and competencies assessed by an assessment entity which has been approved by the WA Government. The WA Government department administering this registration scheme is the Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulations and Safety (DEMIRS). Engineers Australia has been approved by DEMIRS as an assessment entity, and this document will guide you through the different assessment pathways and show you how to complete your assessment with Engineers Australia.

Areas of Engineering

2. The Regulations require building engineering practitioners (individuals) to be registered in the following areas of engineering:
 - Structural engineering
 - Fire Safety engineering or Fire Systems engineering
 - Civil engineering
 - Mechanical engineering

Engineers Australia has been approved to undertake assessment of building engineering practitioners seeking registration in all these areas of engineering.

If your business (contractor) provides building engineering services, you will need to register as a building engineering contractor in the relevant level directly with DEMIRS.

Levels of Engineering

3. There are three levels a building engineering practitioner can be registered as in the prescribed areas of engineering listed above. That is, as an engineering
 - Professional,
 - Technologist or
 - Associate.

Note: For Fire Safety, you can only register at the professional engineer level, and for Fire Systems you can only register as a technologist or associate in accordance with WA's specific requirements. (Refer to Table 1).

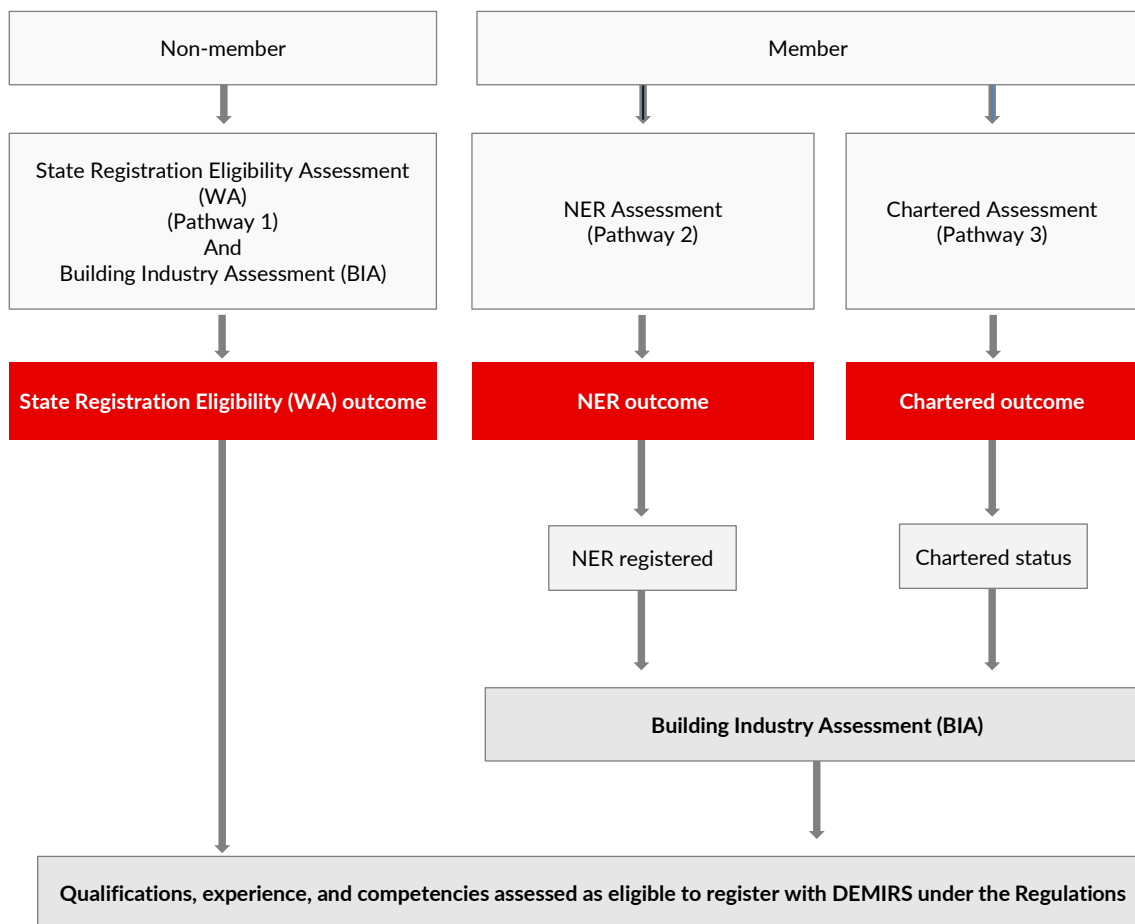
Mutual Recognition

4. If you are currently registered under a mandatory statutory registration scheme for building engineering practitioners in another Australian jurisdiction, you should contact [DEMIRS](#) directly for advice on how to register using mutual recognition and automatic mutual recognition.

Assessment pathways

5. If you are not using mutual recognition, there are three assessment pathways available under Engineers Australia's assessment scheme:
- State Registration Eligibility (WA) assessment pathway (non-member of Engineers Australia)
 - National Engineering Register (NER) assessment pathway
 - Chartered assessment pathway

Figure 1- Eligibility assessment pathways



6. Engineers Australia can assess you for registration under the Regulations whether you are a member of Engineers Australia or not. The State Registration Eligibility (WA) assessment pathway is available only to non-members, the NER and Chartered assessment pathways are only available to Engineers Australia members.
7. Under each of the three assessment pathways there are two components to the assessment.
- The first component is an Entry to Practice assessment in which the acceptability of your qualifications is determined.
 - The second component is an Independent Practice assessment in which the acceptability of your experience and competency is determined.

Non-members

State registration eligibility assessment (WA)

8. If you are NOT a member of Engineers Australia and are NOT registered in another state, you can be assessed by Engineers Australia for WA registration. Under the State Registration Eligibility (WA) pathway you will need to apply for:
 - Entry to Practice (stage 1) if you do not hold a Washington, Sydney, or Dublin Accord qualification,
 - Independent Practice (stage 2) assessment, and
 - Building Industry Assessment (BIA).
9. The qualification requirements for WA registration in each of the areas and levels of engineering are shown in Table 1.

Table 1- Qualifications

Area of Engineering	Level (occupational category)	Qualification
Civil	Professional	Qualification in civil engineering accredited under the Washington Accord or: An Australian or overseas relevant academic qualification that has been assessed as substantially equivalent to an accredited Washington Accord qualification.
	Technologist	Qualification in engineering technology, science or design in the civil discipline accredited under the Sydney Accord or: An Australian or overseas relevant academic qualification that has been assessed as substantially equivalent to an accredited Sydney Accord qualification.
	Associate	Qualification in civil design or drafting accredited under the Dublin Accord or: An Australian or overseas relevant academic qualification that has been assessed as substantially equivalent to an accredited Dublin Accord qualification.
Structural	Professional	Qualification in civil or structural engineering accredited under the Washington Accord or: An Australian or overseas relevant academic qualification that has been assessed as substantially equivalent to an accredited Washington Accord qualification.
	Technologist	Qualification in engineering technology, science or design in the structural discipline accredited under the Sydney Accord or: An Australian or overseas relevant academic qualification that has been assessed as substantially equivalent to an accredited Sydney Accord qualification.
	Associate	Qualification in structural design or drafting accredited under the Dublin Accord or: An Australian or overseas relevant academic qualification that has been assessed as substantially equivalent to an accredited Dublin Accord qualification.
Mechanical	Professional	Qualification in mechanical engineering accredited under the Washington Accord or: An Australian or overseas relevant academic qualification that has been assessed as substantially equivalent to an accredited Washington Accord qualification.
	Technologist	Qualification in engineering technology, science or design in the mechanical discipline accredited under the Sydney Accord or: An Australian or overseas relevant academic qualification that has been assessed as substantially equivalent to an accredited Sydney Accord qualification.
	Associate	Qualification in mechanical design or drafting accredited under the Dublin Accord or: An Australian or overseas relevant academic qualification that has been assessed as substantially equivalent to an accredited Dublin Accord qualification.

Fire Safety	Professional	Qualification in a relevant field of engineering accredited under the Washington Accord, and a Graduate Diploma or Master degree in fire safety engineering if the foundation degree is not in fire engineering.
Fire Systems	Technologist	Diploma in fire systems design with units relevant to one or more prescribed fire systems or: An Australian or overseas relevant academic qualification that has been assessed as substantially equivalent to a Diploma in fire systems with units relevant to one or more prescribed fire systems.
	Associate	Diploma in fire systems design with units relevant to one or more prescribed fire systems or: An Australian or overseas relevant academic qualification that has been assessed as substantially equivalent to a Diploma in fire systems with units relevant to one or more prescribed fire systems.

Assessment application process

10. To begin the State Registration Eligibility (WA) assessment, you will need to create an account in the Engineers Australia [member portal](#).
11. If you do not have a qualification accredited under the Washington, Sydney, or Dublin Accords as per Table 1, you will need to apply for an Entry to Practice (stage 1) assessment initially.
12. If you do have a qualification accredited under the Washington, Sydney, or Dublin Accords you will proceed directly to the Independent Practice (stage 2) and BIA.
13. For each of the prescribed area(s) and levels of engineering an applicant is applying for registration in, the applicant shall have:
 - Five years of full-time relevant building engineering experience (at least four years being post-graduate)¹ in the last ten years. The exception to this is:
 - Fire Systems Technologists who require five years of full-time relevant building engineering experience in the last ten years and
 - Fire Systems Associates who require three years of full-time relevant building engineering experience in the past six years.
14. If you meet the assessment standard of the State Registration Eligibility (WA) pathway, you will be eligible for a WA Outcome Letter, which will be emailed to you. Your outcome letter will note in which of the five areas of engineering and level you are eligible to register. It is your responsibility to apply to DEMIRS for registration as a building engineering practitioner. The eligibility requirements and process to register with DEMIRS are available on their [website](#).

Entry to Practice (stage 1) assessment

15. Entry to Practice (stage 1) competency is typically demonstrated through the successful completion of an engineering education program at an Australian higher education institution, accredited by Engineers Australia under the Washington, Sydney, or Dublin Accords. Many overseas accredited engineering qualifications are also recognised under these Accords. [Check your qualification here](#).
16. The Accord under which your qualification is accredited must match the level in which you wish to register with DEMIRS.

¹ For a traditional career path, Engineers Australia considers that five years of engineering experience provides a sound base to develop the professional maturity for independent practice without supervision. Applicants using the State Registration Eligibility (WA) assessment pathway will be required to demonstrate five years of engineering experience at the relevant occupational category level

17. If your Assessor confirms that you hold a qualification accredited appropriately under one of the three Accords, your Entry to Practice competency will be confirmed and your application will move to the second component, the Independent Practice (stage 2) and BIA.
18. If you already have an Entry to Practice (stage 1) assessment or a Migration Skills Assessment (MSA) outcome letter from Engineers Australia that confirms your academic qualifications meet the current academic requirements and at what level, you do not have to complete another qualifications assessment. You should attach a copy of the qualifications assessment letter you have received from Engineers Australia with your application.

Independent Practice (stage 2)

19. To apply for Independent Practice (stage 2) assessment, you will need to provide the following colour scanned documentation to waregistration@engineersaustralia.org.au:
 - Photo identification.
 - Change of name documents (if applicable).
 - Evidence of your qualifications, including transcripts and testamurs.
 - A detailed CV.
 - The names and contact details of two [referees](#) who can verify your work experience.
 - Evidence of your English language competence if you do not meet the exempt criteria.
 - Three career episodes that provide evidence you can demonstrate the elements of competence for a professional engineer, engineering technologist or engineering associate.
 - Summary statement of your demonstrated competencies in the following five elements of competence from the 'Australian Engineering Competency Standards Independent Practice - Professional Engineer' in the relevant area(s) of engineering:
 - Element 1 – Deal with ethical issues
 - Element 2 – Practise competently
 - Element 4 – Develop safe and sustainable solutions
 - Element 6 – Identify, assess and manage risks
 - Element 13 – Local engineering knowledge – according to your area of practice including a knowledge of any relevant standards and practices.
 - Evidence of any professional memberships you hold.
20. An interview will be conducted by an Assessor which will cover the BIA at the same time. The Assessor will review the documentation that you have provided and advise you if additional documentation/evidence is required. The Assessor will then contact your referees to confirm the validity of your claims. The Assessor will then contact you to arrange an online interview. The interview will allow the Assessor to validate your identification and your experience and competency claims.

Building Industry Assessment

21. To apply for a BIA, the following documentation will need to be emailed to waregistration@engineersaustralia.org.au:
 - a. A detailed CV.
 - b. Evidence of any professional development activities related specifically to the building industry.
 - c. A detailed statement showing **five** years (or **three** years if you are applying for fire systems associate) of successful, appropriate experience in the building industry summarising your demonstrated knowledge and practical application of relevant building laws and standards.
22. If you meet the assessment standard of the Independent Practice (stage 2) and BIA under the State Registration Eligibility (WA) pathway, you will be eligible for a WA Outcome Letter, which will be emailed to you. Your Outcome Letter will note in which of the five areas of engineering and level you are eligible to register. It is your responsibility to apply to DEMIRS for registration as a building engineering practitioner. The eligibility requirements and process to register with DEMIRS is available on their [website](#).

NER or Chartered

23. If you are on the NER or Chartered and NOT registered in another state, you will need to have a building industry assessment (BIA) to work in the WA building industry. You will be able to access a WA Outcome Letter from Engineers Australia stating you satisfy the requirements in the Regulations. Your WA Outcome Letter will state which area(s) of engineering and level you are eligible to be registered as a building engineering practitioner, based on your NER or Chartered area(s) of practice. It is your responsibility to apply to DEMIRS for registration as a building engineering practitioner. The eligibility requirements and process to register with DEMIRS are available on their [website](#).
24. To apply for a BIA, the following documentation will need to be emailed to waregistration@engineersaustralia.org.au:
 - a. A detailed CV.
 - b. Evidence of any professional development activities related specifically to the building industry.
 - c. A detailed statement showing **five** years (or **three** years if you are applying for fire systems associate) of successful, appropriate experience in the building industry summarising your demonstrated knowledge and practical application of relevant building laws and standards.
25. An Assessor will review the information you have submitted and make contact to set up a short interview with you to discuss your application.
26. If you are seeking a WA Outcome Letter in an area of engineering which does not directly match your NER or Chartered area of practice, you should send an email to waregistration@engineersaustralia.org.au for further information. You may be required to provide additional evidence of your qualifications, experience and competence in your requested area of engineering, and an additional [fee](#) may be payable.
27. If you meet the assessment standard of the BIA, you will be eligible for a WA Outcome Letter, which will be emailed to you. It is your responsibility to apply to DEMIRS for registration as a building engineering practitioner. The eligibility requirements and process to register with DEMIRS is available on their [website](#).

Members

Not yet NER or Chartered

28. If you are a member of Engineers Australia and are NOT currently on the NER or NOT Chartered and NOT registered in another state, you will need to complete an Independent Practice (stage 2) assessment to gain NER or Chartered status at the appropriate level (Professional, Technologist or Associate) and also be assessed for a Building Industry Assessment (BIA), before you can be provided with a WA Outcome Letter.
29. Information about applying for NER registration is available on the [NER page](#), and information about applying for Chartered status is available on the [Chartered page](#) of our website.
30. To apply for a BIA, the following documentation will need to be emailed to waregistration@engineersaustralia.org.au:
 - a. A detailed CV.
 - b. Evidence of any professional development activities related specifically to the building industry.
 - c. A detailed statement showing five years of successful, appropriate experience in the building industry summarising your demonstrated knowledge and practical application of relevant building laws and standards.
31. An Assessor will review the information you have submitted and make contact to set up a short interview with you to discuss your application. The NER or Chartered and BIA will be conducted altogether.
32. If you meet the assessment standard of the NER or Chartered status and BIA, you will be eligible for a WA Outcome Letter, which will be emailed to you. Your outcome letter will note in which of the five areas of engineering and level you are eligible to register. It is your responsibility to apply to DEMIRS for registration as a building engineering practitioner. The eligibility requirements and process to register with DEMIRS is available on their [website](#).

Alternative equivalent qualifications

33. For applicants without a qualification which has been accredited under the Accord appropriate to the level in which registration will be sought, then Engineers Australia has been authorised by DEMIRS to undertake a holistic assessment of an applicant's qualifications, experience, and competencies under approved conditions. This allows Engineers Australia to determine if your combination of education and experiential learning has demonstrated substantial equivalence with the competencies and outcomes of:
- a Washington, Sydney, or Dublin Accord qualification, and
 - the experience and competency requirements as shown above.
34. In assessing whether you have demonstrated the required competencies and outcomes under this holistic assessment, the assessment will take into consideration any:
- academic qualifications, courses, and training that you have undertaken,
 - professional memberships you have attained and the assessment outcomes to achieve those memberships, and
 - engineering experience you have gained.

Engineers Australia will use two or more of the following methods to assess your competence:

- evidence from work experience,
- evidence of completion of top-up courses,
- interviews,
- professional referee checks,
- evidence of qualifications held.

You will be required to provide:

- Photo identification.
 - Evidence of your qualifications, including transcripts of results and testamurs.
 - A detailed CV.
 - The names and contact details of two referees who can verify your work experience.
 - Evidence of competency in the English language at the Competent English level as defined by the Australian Department of Home Affairs (e.g. IELTS Band 6).
 - Three career episode reports or examples of work undertaken.
 - Details of formal and informal continuing professional development (CPD) that is relevant to the application.
 - Certified evidence of any professional registration held.
35. The Assessor will review all the provided evidence against the 16 Elements of the Engineers Australia Entry to Practice (Stage 1) Competency Standard for a Professional Engineer, Engineering Technologist or Engineering Associate. These competency standards are aligned to the Washington, Sydney or Dublin Accord Graduate Attributes. To be eligible for registration under the Regulations you will require that the outcome of this holistic assessment is that you are recognised by Engineers Australia as a Professional Engineer, Engineering Technologist or Engineering Associate. You will have to provide evidence that you have demonstrated all the 16 Entry to Practice (Stage 1) competencies (including a deep understanding of mathematics and science) at the level demonstrated by a graduate of the appropriate Accord program of study.

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

36. Under the [Registered building engineering practitioner approved CPD requirements](#), July 2024, DEMIRS specifies that:
- All registered building engineering practitioners, at all levels, excluding fire systems technologists and associates, shall undertake and document a minimum of 150 hours of CPD over a three-year period.
 - Fire systems technologists shall undertake and document 60 hours of CPD.
 - Fire systems associates shall undertake and document 50 hours of CPD.
37. Upon your renewal of your registration, you will not need to have your qualifications, experience and competency reassessed but will have to prove that you have been undertaking an amount of CPD specified by DEMIRS.
38. If you have been on a career break for at least three consecutive months, DEMIRS will reduce your CPD requirements to:
- 90 hours for all registered building engineering practitioners at all levels, excluding fire systems technologists and associates.
 - 40 hours for all registered fire systems technologists.
 - 30 hours for all registered fire systems associates.
39. If you are a member of Engineers Australia, DEMIRS requires Engineers Australia to conduct your CPD Audit and Practice Review. If you satisfy Engineers Australia's CPD Audit and Practice Review, you will have also satisfied DEMIRS' requirements for reregistration. Members will need to meet Engineers Australia's CPD Policy and CPD – Types and Conditions, these can be found on the [website](#).
40. If you are a non-member of Engineers Australia your CPD audit will be conducted by DEMIRS.

More questions?

The assessment timeframe

41. The timeframe for the assessment of your application will depend on whether a decision can be made based on the documentation you submit or whether additional information is required.
42. Engineers Australia is committed to providing an assessment outcome within 90 calendar days from the time of receiving all the relevant documentation for a State Registration Eligibility (WA) application pathway.

Fees

43. The current fees for all assessment types discussed in this guidelines document, can be found on the Engineers Australia [website](#)

Need more information?

44. For information about Engineers Australia's assessment for registration under the Regulations, contact the Registration team at waregistration@engineersaustralia.org.au



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