

DIA Accredited Designer – Eligibility

Membership Level

To be eligible for the DIA Accredited Designer™ program, you must first hold a DIA Accredited Designer membership and ID number. Your ID number can be found in your DIA portal when you log into your account.

Secondly, you must have a design or associated profession qualification. The DIA Accredited Designer program is aligned with the [Australian Qualification Framework \(AQF\)](#) and the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) [Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations \(ANZSCO\) 232](#) designer profiles. DIA recognises all Australian qualifications in any field of design that have been conferred by a university, Registered Training Organisation (RTO) or registered higher education provider. Search for providers [HERE](#). In the case of overseas qualifications further evidence may be required.

There are 2 pathways for accreditation:

- Professional pathway
- Vocational pathway

● Professional Pathway

ABS ANZSCO profiles for designers are identified at Skill Level 1 = AQF7+. Applicants will have broad and coherent knowledge and skills for professional design work and/or further learning. With a minimum of *15 points, members can apply directly to become a DIA Accredited Designer™. Applicants must meet minimum professional standards of education, experience, ethics and risk protection. They must have at least three years postgraduate design or associated profession experience that is relevant and verifiable. Design educators should use their primary tertiary qualification and teaching experience in their points system calculation. Applicants must also agree to abide by the DIA Code of Conduct for designers and provide evidence that they are practicing with the appropriate Professional Indemnity Insurance (PII) cover.

● Vocational Pathway

The vocational pathway is more flexible and makes provision for scaffolding¹ of qualifications and experience. Applicants at Skill Level 2 = AQF 5+ will be deemed to have specialised knowledge and skills for skilled/paraprofessional design work and/or further learning. With a minimum of *25 points, members can also apply to become a DIA Accredited Designer™ providing they can demonstrate their design competencies. Applicants must meet minimum vocational standards of design education, experience, ethics and risk protection. They also have the option to build their points based on examination, interview and a portfolio of work. They must have at least five years postgraduate design or associated profession experience that is relevant and verifiable. Applicants must also agree to abide by the DIA Code of Conduct for designers and provide evidence that they are practicing with the appropriate professional indemnity insurance cover.

Accreditation Points Table

The table below indicates the minimum requirements for design accreditation in the two pathways. The four columns identify the points allocated for each qualification, each years' worth of experience, agreeing to the Code of Conduct and providing evidence of PII cover.

Accreditation Pathways	Points needed	Design Education points (minimum 7 points)	Experience (Professional min 3 yrs) (Vocational min 5 yrs)	Code of Conduct (minimum 3 points)	Insurance (minimum 2 points)
Pathway One Professional Skill Level 1	*15	AQF 10 Doctoral = 10 points AQF 9 Masters = 9 points AQF 8 Graduate Cert = 8 points AQF 8 Bachelor (Hons) = 8 points AQF 7 Bachelor = 7 points CPCCWHS1001 ² = 1 point Copy of highest-level of design qualification or transcript to be supplied	One point is equated to each year of experience: A minimum of 3 years experience = 3 points Max 15 yrs. = 15 points CV to be supplied	Agreeing to and abiding by the Code of Conduct = 3 points Code of Conduct (signed)	Professional Indemnity Insurance = 2 points Certificate of Currency (from employer or employee)
Pathway Two Vocational Skill Level 2	*25	AQF 6 Associate Degree = 6 points AQF 6 Advanced Diploma = 6 points AQF 5 Diploma = 5 points AQF 4 Certificate IV = 4 points CPCCWHS1001 ² = 1 point and / or Completion of exam = 7 points Interview = 5 points Copy of qualifications and transcript to be supplied	One point is equated to each year of experience: A minimum of 5 years experience = 5 points 10 yrs. exp = 10 points max 15 yrs. exp = 15 points and / or Portfolio = 2 points CV to be supplied	Agreeing to and abiding by the Code of Conduct = 3 points Code of Conduct (signed)	Professional Indemnity Insurance = 2 points Certificate of Currency (from employer or employee)

¹ Scaffolding is temporary, future-oriented, targeted help that supports applicants in developing new knowledge, skills and understandings.

² Interior Designers are required to also supply a copy of their White Card - CPCCWHS1001 *Prepare to work safely in the construction industry unit.*