


वास्तुकला परिषद्
Council of Architecture

वास्तुविद अधिनियम, 1972 के अंतर्गत भारत सरकार का एक स्वायत्त सांविधिक निकाय
(An Autonomous Statutory Body of Govt. of India, under the Architects Act, 1972)

Ref. No.CA/5/Academic/2022/Circular-PGGuidelines
December 14, 2022

1. TO ALL SECRETARIES OF HIGHER/TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN STATES/UTS OF INDIA
2. TO ALL DIRECTORS OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN STATES/UTS OF INDIA
3. TO ALL THE HEADS OF ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTIONS IMPARTING RECOGNIZED ARCHITECTURAL QUALIFICATIONS IN THE COUNTRY
4. TO ALL THE UNIVERSITIES AWARDDING B.ARCH./M.ARCH. DEGREE IN THE COUNTRY

Sub : Prescription of Council of Architecture (Minimum Standards of Architectural Education for Post – Graduate Degree Programme) Guidelines, 2022 for imparting M.Arch. degree course in the country–reg.

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I have to state that the Council of Architecture had prescribed the Council of Architecture (Minimum Standards of Architectural Education for Post-Graduate Programmes) Guidelines, 2006 under the provisions of the Architects Act, 1972 in the year 2006 in order to lay down Norms for imparting 2-year Post – Graduate Degree Programme in Architecture i.e. M.Arch. degree course in the country.

As the Post-Graduate Programmes in Architecture have undergone a considerable change during the past decade, the Council of Architecture at its 78th meeting held on November 7, 2022 considered and approved “Council of Architecture (Minimum Standards of Architectural Education for Post – Graduate Degree Programme) Guidelines, 2022”. These Guidelines have been prescribed by the Council in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 21 of the Architects Act, 1972 and are to be adhered to by all the universities, institutions and competent authorities for imparting M.Arch. degree courses from the academic session 2023-2024. A copy of these Guidelines is attached herewith for your ready reference.

In view of the above, all institutions and universities imparting M.Arch. degree course as well as competent authorities in the Central/State Governments are requested to implement Council of Architecture (Minimum Standards of Architectural Education for Post – Graduate Degree Programme) Guidelines, 2022 issued by the Council and ensure that the same are duly followed by the concerned institution/University for imparting the M.Arch. degree course in the country.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,



R.K. Oberoi
Registrar

Encl. : as above.

COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTURE

(Statutory Authority constituted under the Architects Act, 1972)

MINIMUM STANDARDS OF ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION GUIDELINES FOR POST GRADUATE PROGRAMME, 2022.

In order to lay the minimum standards for Post Graduate programmes in Architecture, the Council of Architecture, hereby makes the following Guidelines for imparting Post Graduate programmes in Architecture, namely :-

1. Short Title and Commencement

These guidelines may be called **the Council of Architecture (Minimum Standards of Architectural Education for Post – Graduate Degree Programme) Guidelines, 2022.**

2. Definitions- In these guidelines, unless the context otherwise requires:-

- (a) –*Act* means the Architects Act, 1972 (20 of 1972);
- (b) –*Core faculty* means full time teaching staff members with valid registration with the Council, appointed by the institution on regular basis/ tenure basis.
- (c) –*Council* means of Council of Architecture constituted under section 3 of the Act;
- (d) –*Executive Committee* means the Executive Committee constituted under Section 10 of the Act;
- (e) –*Faculty* means the teaching staff members in the service of the institution;
- (f) –*Institution* means a department of University/ college/ school of architecture in India imparting instructions for recognized qualification;
- (g) –*Recognized qualifications* means any qualification in architecture for the time being included in the Schedule appended to the Act or notified under section 15 of Act.

3. Duration and Stages of the Post – Graduate Degree Programmes

- (i) The Post-Graduate full time degree programme shall be of minimum duration of 2 academic years or 4 semesters of 18 working weeks (90 working days) each.
- (ii) The Curriculum structure of the Architecture Post Graduate courses shall follow the guidelines as outlined in Appendix-A under the Choice Based Credit System. However, the modes of periodic assessment, end semester and viva voice examinations, weightages and grading system are left to the discretion of the University or Institution.
- (iii) A candidate shall be awarded the degree – M. Arch. (Post-Graduate degree in Architecture) programme by the University or Institution for having successfully earned the minimum credits as specified in the curriculum.
- (iv) The full time Post Graduate degree programme shall be completed in a maximum period of 3 years by a candidate. However, in special circumstances a candidate may be granted an extra 1 year by the University or Institution to complete the programme. This shall be given only once to the candidate and treated as zero year.

4. Admission to the Post Graduate full time degree programme

- (i) No candidate shall be admitted to Post Graduate full time degree or Certificate programme unless the candidate has passed an examination in B. Arch. Degree or equivalent with at least 50 percent aggregate marks or equivalent CGPI.



- (ii) The candidate needs to qualify an entrance test for Post-Graduate programme in architecture conducted by the Council of complying with the Admission Norms prescribed in Appendix-D.
- (iii) The Competent authorities for admission to the Post Graduate full time degree programme shall devise a rational method to allot the weightage to the PG entrance test, qualifying examination score, any other process like personal interviews etc. and display the list of merit in a transparent manner.
- (iv) Reservation of seats and relaxation in percentage of marks obtained in the qualifying examination for admission shall be as per the reservation policy of Central Government or the respective State Governments.

5. Intake and Migration

- (i) The University or Institution shall admit candidates at the first year level as per the intake sanctioned by the Council, subject to a maximum of twenty candidates in a class. If candidates are admitted above twenty as per sanctioned intake, separate classes shall be organized for each 20 candidates or part thereof.
- (ii) Migration of a student of any class from one post graduate institution to another post graduate institution is permitted at discretion of the institutions involved, subject to no objection certificate from the institution where candidate was studying previously and the Post-Graduate institution receiving the candidate has a vacancy in the same programme. The number of students shall not exceed the permitted maximum intake in same programme offered by the receiving institution and the same shall be notified by the receiving institution to the Council.
- (iii) Supernumerary quota of admissions as notified by the Government of India shall be over and above the sanctioned intake. The institutions must create additional physical and academic infrastructural facilities, as may be required, for the same in case such admissions exceed 10 percent of the sanctioned intake. Further these candidates need to fulfill the requirements specified in Clause 4.

6. Programmes, courses and periods of studies

- (i) The suggestive and indicative list of specialization and guidelines for the post graduate programme and periods of studies has been given in Appendix- A.
- (ii) The Universities and institutions intending to impart post graduate programmes and courses in architecture shall furnish a detailed syllabus, course contents, period of studies, credits awarded and scheme of examinations to the Council for its consideration and approval.
- (iii) The institution shall, as an integral part of Post-Graduate architectural educational curriculum and as a part of teaching programme incorporate all such co-curricular activities such as study tours, site visits, out station studios etc. as per the need or requirement of individual programme.
- (iv) The institution shall organize seminars, conferences, workshops, exhibitions; produce audio-visual materials; publish newsletter, journals, documents and books; encourage student and faculty participation in these co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.

7. Professional examination, Standards of proficiency and conditions of admissions, qualification of examiners

- (i) The University or an independent examination body of institution shall conduct the examinations at end of each semester.
- (ii) The sessional work, project, design, research shall, be assessed by a Jury or Panel of internal and external examiners.
- (iii) The weightage of internal marks for various courses of study shall not exceed 50 percent of the total marks. Internal Assessment of Sessional work shall be done periodically for all courses during a semester, in addition to the end-of- semester examinations.

- (iv) All candidates to every examination must have 75 percent attendance and atleast 50 percent marks in sessional for each of the subjects to appear in an examination/jury.



- (v) The pass percentage for each subject shall not be less than 50 percent.
- (vi) Any external examiner shall have a minimum of 5 years teaching / professional experience in a field of study relating to the subject of examination. However, an external examiner for Thesis / Dissertation / Project course shall have a minimum of 10 years teaching / professional experience in a field of study relating to the subject of examination.

8. Standards of staff, equipment, accommodation, training and other facilities for Post-Graduate degree programme in architecture

- (i) One division shall be of sanctioned intake of 20 candidates. No University or Institution shall be granted more than 2 divisions of sanctioned intake of 20 candidates for the same programme / specialization.
- (ii) University or Institutions can be granted more than one course of Post-Graduate degree course of various specialization provided separate course curriculum, infrastructure, staff and other facilities are available as per appendix A, B, C & D
- (iii) The University or institution offering Post-Graduate degree programmes, shall have minimum core faculty and visiting faculty as mentioned in Appendix – B : Staff Requirements for each Post-Graduate degree programme.
- (iv) The University or institution shall maintain strength of faculty as per pattern prescribed in Appendix – B.
- (v) The institution shall have adequate administrative staff and supporting technical staff for each of its laboratories, library, which may be shared with B. Arch. course of the institution and the number of non-teaching staff, shall have to be as per the prevailing sanctioned intake of U.G. and as per the Appendix : B: Staff Requirement
- (vi) The institutions shall follow all instructions given by Council of Architecture for improvement / upgradation and submit periodic reports to Council regarding actions taken regarding the same.
- (vii) The Universities or institutions shall provide facilities as indicated in Appendix-C and shall furnish the details of computers, equipment, accommodation, training and other facilities as detailed out in Appendix : C for post graduate degree programme to the Council and to the inspection Committee at the time of Inspection.
- (viii) The institutions may encourage exchange of faculty members for academic course from India or abroad.
- (ix) In a selection Committee, as prescribed by any Institution or University for Selection Process of core faculty, there shall be one Nominee of Council, who shall act as full-fledged member of such Selection Committee constituted for purpose of recruitment and /or promotion of faculty, except for Centrally Funded Technical institutions (CFTIs)
- (x) The Academic Calendar published by Council every year, shall be followed by institutions for commencement of Post-Graduate programmes.

9. Procedure for introduction of Post Graduate programme

- (i) An institution / university / trust / education society planning to introduce a Post-Graduate programme in architecture shall communicate in writing to the Council in a prescribed format giving details of proposed programme, course structure, contents, faculty mobilization, availability of physical and infrastructural facilities along with prescribed processing fee.
- (ii) The Council shall process the application for starting the Post-Graduate programmes and if found acceptable, the Council shall issue a letter of intent enabling the institution to approach University / State Authorities for their no-objection certificates / approval.
- (iii) The Council shall send inspectors after the institution confirms its readiness for inspection.
- (iv) The inspectors of Council shall inspect the institution and present a report to Council along with their recommendations.
- (v) The institution shall pay the prescribed fee as fixed by Council from time to time for inspection by inspectors and submit all documents in a report to inspectors.
- (vi) The Council shall consider the inspectors report and Executive Committee shall consider inspectors



report along with observations and recommendations, if any, by the expert/s and may decide to give permission with or without any conditions, or deny permission stating specific reasons.

- (vii) The institutions shall be inspected every year for the first four years and, thereafter, once in three years or as notified by Council to the institution for monitoring and evaluation of academic programmes and improvement of facilities and infrastructure.
- (viii) The same procedures prescribed for starting a course in the above Guidelines from regulation 9(1) to 9(7) shall be applicable for any additional programme/s or for increase in intake.
- (ix) University or Institution shall apply for additional division of Post-Graduate degree course only on completion of 3 years of commencement of the Post-Graduate degree course.
- (x) University of Institution shall apply for Post-Graduate degree programme only after graduation of first batch from the year of commencement of UG programme (B. Arch. programme)
- (xi) Only two divisions of standard intake of 20 for each Post-Graduate degree programme / specialization shall be granted to a University or institution.

10. Development of Post Graduate Programmes

- (i) Notwithstanding anything containing in these guidelines, the institution may prescribe standards of Architectural Education provided such standards do not, in the opinion of the Council, fall below the minimum standards prescribed from time to time by the Council to meet the requirement of the profession and education thereof in national and international context.
- (ii) The Council shall encourage and support within its means and resources, programmes of research, improvement, conservation, development and innovation by the institutions towards achieving excellence in post graduate architectural education.
- (iii) The Institution / University shall facilitate programmes of faculty improvement, continuing educational, research, publications, production of audio-visual aids and national and international interactions, visits and exchange of students and faculty members of Post-Graduate architectural institutions.

11. Miscellaneous

- (i) The University or Institution shall take necessary steps to curb ragging in its premises and take appropriate action as prescribed by the law in case of any such incident.
- (ii) The University or Institution shall ensure that women (staff, faculty or students) are protected against sexual harassment at the institution and initiate necessary steps as prescribed by law.
- (iii) The University or Institution shall ensure that the entire campus is barrier free.



APPENDIX – A

1. Courses, Periods of Study and Subjects of Examination Under Choice Based Credit System for the Post-Graduate Programmes

Under the Choice based credit system, which is a student or learner centric system, the courses of study in the Post Graduate Degree programme of 2 years and 4 semester duration shall be as under:

- (i) Professional Core (PC) Course: A course, which should compulsorily be studied by a candidate as a core requirement is termed as a Core course.
- (ii) Elective Course: Generally a course which can be chosen from a pool of courses and are of two types:
 - (a) Professional Elective (PE) which may be very specific or specialized or advanced or supportive to the discipline or subject of study or which provides an extended scope.
 - (b) Open Elective (OE) which enables an exposure to some other discipline or subject or domain or nurtures the candidate's proficiency or skill.
- (iii) Employability Enhancement Courses (EEC) which may be of two kinds: Employability Enhancement Compulsory Courses (EECC) and Skill Enhancement Courses (SEC).
- (iv) The final Cumulative Grade Progress Index CGPI at the end of the PG degree programme shall be preferably out of 10.

2. The Weightage in terms of Credits for each of the above in the prescribed curriculum of PG degree programme the institution shall be as follows:

TABLE 1.1

TYPE OF COURSE	SEMESTER WISE CREDITS			
	Sem - I	Sem - II	Sem - III	Sem - IV
Studio, Thesis, Tutorials and Dissertation	6 to 9	9 to 12	9 to 12	12 to 18
Theory Courses	6	6	6	0 to 3
Electives (Professional & Open) Online Courses, MOOCs relevant for the course	3	3	3	3 to 6
Workshop/Lab (Optional)	0 to 3	0 to 3	0 to 3	-
Total Credits	18 to 21	18 to 21	18 to 21	18 to 22

Notes:

- (i) Total number of credits to be minimum credit 75 and maximum of 85 credits for post graduate degree programme
- (ii) This structure is suggestive only and offers adequate flexibility for the institutions to adopt as per the requirement of the specialization.



3. The following programme Clusters have been identified, reflecting broad areas of specialization:

TABLE 1.2

Sl. No.	Cluster	Broad Areas of Specialization
1	Architectural Design	General Architecture with focus on different functional typologies and themes such as Vernacular / Regional / Materiality. Various related areas such as Landscape, Furniture, Infrastructure and Architectural Tectonics
2	Architectural Science	Building Science, Acoustics, Lighting and Illumination, Public Health, Prefabrication
3	Energy/Environment Science	Environment Studies, Sustainable Habitat Design, Net Zero Buildings, Energy Efficiency & Green Building etc.
4	Urbanism and Cities	Urban Design, Smart Cities, Housing.
5	Conservation	Conservation philosophy, Conservation principles and practices, Conservation science techniques and technology, Conservation management and Planning of historic cities and traditional housing.
6	Architecture History, Theory and Criticism	Art & Architecture History, Architecture theory, Behavioral Studies, Spatial Psychology, Heritage Conservation. Indian Traditional Knowledge System
7	Digital Technology in Buildings	Parametric Design, AI, AR and VR in Building Design, Building Automation, BIM, Digital Fabrication, Advanced Software in Computational Design and Parametric Architecture.
8	Construction Management	Construction Management, Real Estate and Real Estate Studies
9	Other Focal Areas	Research, Disaster Management, Valuation and Arbitration, Finance, Urban Resilience, Climate change studies, Building Economics Management Industrial Design, Product Design, Visual Communications, Interiors and etc.

Note:

- (i) The names given to the Post-Graduate programmes are suggestive and institutions may use different nomenclatures.
- (ii) The emphasis on teaching various courses may vary from institution to institution. New courses may be introduced and certain courses given less emphasis depending upon the ideology of the institution and context of the region where the institution is located.
- (iii) The institutions shall formulate, prepare, select, add or modify / replace courses suited to their programme objectives.
- (iv) The institution shall submit curriculum approved by the University / competent authority along with a vision statement, objectives, periods of study and a scheme of examinations for consideration in accordance with norms of the Council of Architecture at the time of seeking of approval for the programme.



4. The curriculum of the PG Degree Programme shall:

- (i) Provide flexibility in the teaching learning system.
- (ii) Provide for academic exchange with other Universities or Institutions (national or international) with transfer of credits based on course equivalence, wherever feasible.
- (iii) May allow student to enroll for online certified courses relevant to the programme as per the policy of the University / competent authority. However, such courses shall not exceed more than 10% of the total credits of the programme.

5. Teaching and learning methods:

- (i) The contents of the Post-Graduate programmes as listed above shall be taught in an application- oriented manner.
- (ii) Learnings shall aim at understanding basic connections and the systemization of theoretical knowledge. Specific courses shall be presented in a well-structured form, incorporating new research results. The results shall be evaluated through periodic assessment of sessional work or an end semester examination or both.
- (iii) In studio exercises the teachers shall take the lead to provide tasks and offer guidance for solution findings based on theoretical knowledge imparted in various courses. The learners shall work either individually or in groups. The results shall be defended through drawings; models and reports and evaluated through periodic assessment and an end semester examination or viva- voice.

Note: These learning and teaching methods are only suggestive and every institution can articulate and engage in a pedagogy based on the strength of the institution and uniqueness of the programme.

6. The following guidelines shall be adopted for calculating credits

- (i) Every lecture shall have 1 credit per hour.
- (ii) Every lab/workshop or seminar shall have 0.5 credit per hour.
- (iii) Every studio or project or thesis shall have 1 credit per hour.

7. Guidelines for Conduct of Design / Project Work / Dissertation / Thesis:

- (i) The Design / Project Work / Dissertation / Thesis shall be prepared under the guidance of a senior faculty member.
- (ii) A jury comprising of an internal and external examiner shall conduct the final examination (viva-voice) of the Design / Project Work / Dissertation / Thesis. External Examiners shall have minimum 10 years of experience.



APPENDIX – B: STAFF REQUIREMENTS

A. Teaching Staff:

TABLE 2.1: Core Faculty Requirement for P.G. Degree Programme for each specialization

Sl. No.	CADRE / DESIGNATION	Requirement for 1 Division	Requirement for 2 Divisions
1	Head of Institution (for the entire institution)	1	1
2	Head of Department - Professor	1	1
3	Associate Professor	1	2
4	Assistant Professor	1	3

Notes:

- (i) Every University or Institution should have Head of the Institution (HOI) and HOI will be registered with Council under provisions of Architects Act, 1972. The HOI will be common for Undergraduate and Postgraduate Degree programme. The HOI will be full time core and not be on tenure basis.
- (ii) Only candidates registered with Council under provisions of Architects Act, 1972 shall be eligible for core faculty posts subject to minimum qualifications, pay and experience as prescribed in Appendix B.
- (iii) The above dedicated core faculty requirement is to be made available at the time of inspection for application of the division.
- (iv) Additional division for the existing Post graduate degree programme will be granted only after completion of 3 years from approval/commencement of the course.
- (v) Teacher - Student ratio for studio subject shall be 1:5 and for theory subjects shall be 1:20. The load allotted to each visiting faculty as well as experts from the profession / industry shall be clearly indicated by the University/ Institution in addition to the core faculty so as to achieve and maintain the stipulated ratios.
- (vi) Visiting faculty may be recruited from allied areas from the field of related specialization and as per the requirement of curriculum such as Law, Horticulture, Engineering, Fine Arts, Humanities etc. depending on actual requirements of the programme subject to minimum qualifications, pay and experience as prescribed in Appendix B.
- (vii) Up-to 50 percent of faculty members can be on tenure basis of 3 years. Faculty members appointed on tenure basis can be reappointed by Selection Committee comprising of CoA Nominee after completion of tenure period.



B Minimum Qualifications, Pay, Experience and Structure of Full Time Core Faculty in Post-Graduate programme in Architectural Institutions.

TABLE 3.0 : FULL TIME CORE FACULTY

Sl. No.	Designation of Teaching Faculty	Pay Level for full time faculty in Pay matrix *	Qualifications and Experience for Core Faculty
1	Assistant Professor	Level 10 Rs.57700- Rs.182400 in Pay matrix (Three additional increments to be considered)	Bachelor's Degree in Architecture or equivalent and Master's Degree in the relevant specialization of the Post-Graduate programme with minimum 60 percent marks at either level and two years of relevant professional experience in the field of specialization and one year of full time teaching experience after M.Arch.
2	Associate Professor	Level 13A Rs.131400-Rs.217100 in Pay matrix	Bachelor's Degree in Architecture or equivalent and Master's Degree in relevant specialization of the Post-Graduate programme with minimum 60 percent marks at either level, and Five years' of research/ professional work experience and 3 of teaching experience full time as Assistant Professor after M.Arch. Or Thirteen years of professional experience. Desirable: Ph.D. in Architecture or Allied Field, 2 QIPs / TTPs attended
3	Professor / Head of Dept. (P.G.)	Level 14 Rs.144200 -Rs. 218200 in Pay matrix	Bachelor's Degree in Architecture or equivalent and Master's Degree in relevant specialization of the Post-Graduate programme with minimum 60 percent marks at either level, and Fourteen years' experience in teaching/ research/ professional work out of which a full-time teaching experience of minimum five Years of full time teaching experience as Associate Professor after M.Arch. OR Nineteen years of professional experience. Desirable: Ph.D. in Architecture or Allied Field, Publications in journals of repute and 2 QIPs / TTPs attended.

(* or as applicable from time to time as per the Norms of the Central/State Government)

1. Explanations –

- (i) The equivalent qualification shall mean any such qualification as recognized by Council for registration as an Architect under section 25 of Architects Act, 1972.
- (ii) Experience shall mean professional experience and/or Teaching and/or Research in field of Architecture, counted from date of registration with Council for core faculty or valid equivalent certification from concerned authorities. Professional experience shall be substantiated by Experience certificates from employers, Work orders, Completion certificates and Sample Drawings of projects undertaken, as the case may be.
- (iii) Core faculty means a registered architect, who has put up full time service as a core faculty member with University or institutions approved by Council, either on regular (Permanent) or tenure basis (full time).
- (iv) The Post Graduate degree or diploma programmes in various areas of specialization in Architecture or its allied fields, with minimum duration of Two years/Four Semester (Full-Time) or Three years/ Six Semester (Part- Time), awarded by Indian Universities or competent authorities recognized by Central Government and granted equivalence by any competent authority of the Central Government to M. Arch. degree awarded by Indian Universities, shall be valid for purposes of appointment in University or Institutions imparting Architectural education.

