

Guidelines for Authorising Foreign Architects to Practice Architecture in Mauritius

In accordance with the Professional Architects' Council Act 2011 (Amended 2021), herein referred to as the "PAC Act", Paragraph 4 (c) - **Objects and Functions of Council**, and Paragraph 5 (b) - **Powers of Council**, the Council has set out the following conditions in view of authorising foreign architects to practice architecture in Mauritius:

1. Foreign architects may be authorized to practice architecture in Mauritius by the Council pursuant to section 4(c) and 5(b) of the PAC Act, where –
 - (i) He has attained the age of 21;
 - (ii) He is of good character;
 - (iii) He has not been convicted of an offence involving fraud or dishonesty in any country;
 - (iv) He has not been disqualified or deregistered from practicing architecture on account of professional misconduct, malpractice, negligence, fraud, dishonesty or breach of a code of practice in any country;
 - (v) He does not suffer from any mental impairment, which is likely to hamper the discharge of his duties;
 - (vi) He holds a degree or an equivalent qualification in architecture, after full time studies of a duration of not less than 5 years which is recognized by the competent authority of the country where the degree or equivalent qualification has been obtained;
 - (vii) Satisfies the council that he has at least 2 years' post qualification experience;
 - (viii) He holds a Valid Certificate of Registration issued by the competent authority in his country to practise architecture;
 - (ix) holds a valid Professional Indemnity Insurance Cover;
 - (x) he provides architectural services in relation to not more than one project;
 - (xi) he enters, in relation to that project, into a joint venture agreement with a local firm of architect/s, duly registered with the Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB);
 - (xii) the fee payable to the local firm of architect/s is not less than 25 per cent of the total fee to be paid for the provision of the architectural services;

- (xiii) he pays a fee of 0.05 per cent of the value of the project to the Council.
2. Where a foreign architect wishes to be authorised to practice architecture in the Republic of Mauritius, he or his joint venture partner shall make a written application for authorisation to the Registrar, in such form and manner as the Council may determine.
 3. An application shall be accompanied by –
 - (a) the name, address and qualification of the foreign architect;
 - (b) documentary evidence that the foreign architect is authorised by the competent authority in his country to practise architecture;
 - (c) a copy of the scope of works of the project and its estimates of costs;
 - (d) a copy of the joint venture agreement;
 - (e) such additional document or information as the Registrar may require; and
 - (f) such processing fee as may be prescribed.
 4. On receipt of an application, the Registrar shall refer the application to the Council for its determination.
 5. The Council shall consider the application within 30 days from the time the application has been referred to it by the Registrar.
 6. Where the applicant complies with the requirements specified in subsections (1) and (3), the Council may grant the application.
 7. (a) The Council shall, within 14 days of granting or rejecting an application notify the applicant of its decision.
(b) Where the applicant is notified that his application has been granted, he shall, within 21 days of the notification –
 - (i) submit, in 3 originals, the joint venture agreement duly drawn up by a law practitioner; and
 - (ii) pay a fee of 0.05 per cent of the value of the project to the Council.
 - (c) Where the applicant complies with paragraph (b), the Council shall authorise the foreign architect to practice architecture in relation to the project referred to in the application under subsection (2), subject to such terms and conditions as it may determine.
 - (d) Where the applicant fails to comply with paragraph (b), the grant of the application shall lapse.
 8. Where the Council grants an application, it shall, on payment of fee of 0.05 per cent of the value of the project to the Council, authorise the applicant as a foreign architect and issue him with a certificate of authorisation, specifying the name and duration of the project, subject to such terms and conditions as the Council may determine.

Fees

- Processing Fee: MUR 15,000
- Annual Fee: n/a
- Fee: 0.05 per cent of the value of the project