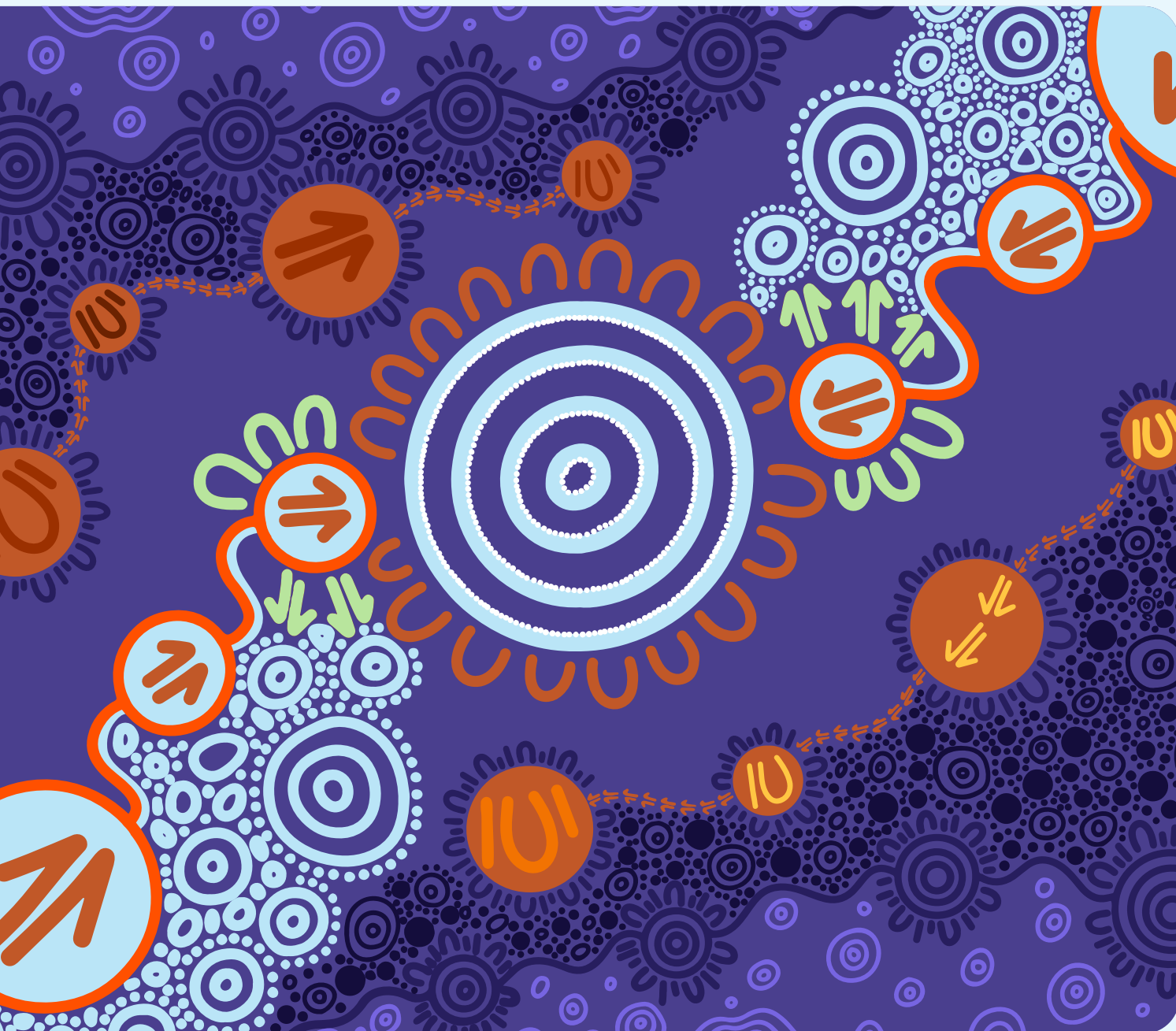


Pathways to Built Environment Careers



Government of
South Australia



'Journey' by Ngarrindjeri, Narungga, and Kaurna artist, Gabriel Stengle

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge Aboriginal people as the state's first peoples, nations and Traditional Owners of South Australian land and waters. We recognise that their unique cultural heritage, customs, spiritual beliefs, and relationship with the land are of ongoing importance today, and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging leaders of the future.

Pathways to Built
Environment Careers

Version 1, April 2025

Cover image: Adelaide,
South Australian Tourism Commission.

Pathways to Built Environment Careers

The built environment is the human-made surroundings where people live, work and play. It includes the physical structures where human activity takes place, including homes, buildings, streets and open spaces, and the supporting infrastructure, such as transport, water, energy and waste networks.

Careers in the built environment are experiencing high demand, with opportunities projected to expand over the next decade as communities continue to grow and evolve. Employment in these fields is expected to increase by 10–20% within the next 10 years.

Whether you're interested in designing buildings or open spaces, creating or analysing maps, valuing property, or planning how communities, towns and cities will develop, built environment professions offer a variety of exciting and in-demand career opportunities.

This brochure provides guidance on career pathways for the following careers:

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Architect



Being an architect is about turning ideas into buildings and places that people use every day. From skyscrapers to family homes, museums, shopping centres, hotels, conserving historic buildings, or futuristic cities, architects shape the world. You're not just drawing; you're solving problems, being creative, and improving lives.

Why become an architect?

Create the Future

Architects design buildings and places that shape how people experience the world – houses, schools, hospitals, restaurants, sports stadiums, shops, airports – making a difference in daily life.

Blend Art with Technology

Architecture combines creativity and problem-solving, allowing you to design places for people while considering how they work and are built. It's a balance of creativity and analytical ability.

Job Satisfaction and Flexibility

Architecture offers strong job demand and diverse opportunities. You can work in small firms, independently, or on international projects in large global firms.

Work on Exciting Projects

Architects work on diverse projects, and can specialise in numerous fields. The profession offers endless opportunities for innovation and creativity, ensuring you stay engaged with fresh ideas and evolving challenges.



Source: Adelaide University

Types of careers

- Architect
- Commercial Architect
- Draftsperson
- Heritage Architect
- Project Manager
- Residential Architect
- Sustainable / Green Designer
- Urban Designer

Work while you study

Look for entry level or internship positions in architecture or construction, drafting or construction management. Roles in real estate or facilities management can provide valuable insight into the built environment sector.

For more information about a career in architecture, contact the Australian Institute of Architects or the Architectural Practice Board of South Australia.



Australian Institute of Architects



If you want to create, solve problems, and shape the future, architecture could be the perfect career for you!

Skills

Attention to detail, communication, creativity, design, digital skills, problem solving, project management, teamwork

Career Pathway

Bachelor of Architectural Design

Adelaide University

OR

equivalent Undergraduate Degree in Architecture

3 YEARS

Master of Architecture

Adelaide University

2 YEARS

Graduate of Architecture

Work / Registration Process

~2 YEARS minimum

REGISTERED ARCHITECT

TOTAL: ~7 YEARS minimum

For more information about entry requirements and programs, head to:



Conveyancer

Imagine helping someone buy their dream home – a cozy house or a cool apartment. That's what a conveyancer does. They're the experts behind the scenes, ensuring everything goes smoothly when buying or selling property.

Why become a conveyancer?

Helping People

As a conveyancer, you guide clients through legal documents and ensure everything is legitimate, protecting their dreams and investments.

A Growing Industry

With more people buying homes and starting businesses, the demand for conveyancers is steady and will continue to grow.

Varied Work

It's not just desk work. You'll interact with clients, solve problems, and work with professionals like lawyers, real estate agents, and bankers.

Job Flexibility

You can work in a firm, a real estate company, or even start your own business. This role offers flexibility and the chance to use your organisational skills.

Rewarding Career

It's a rewarding job with strong pay potential and opportunities for advancement, including owning your own business.

If you enjoy problem-solving, helping people, and want a steady, rewarding career, becoming a conveyancer is a smart move. You'll be part of one of life's biggest milestones!



Skills

Attention to detail, strong communication, customer focus, ability to explain complex legal documents in simple terms, problem-solving, passion for the property sector, handling legal matters.

Types of careers

- Residential Conveyancer
- Commercial Property Conveyancer
- E-conveyancing Specialist
- Conveyancer's Assistant
- Commercial Property Management
- Para legal / Legal Support Officer
- Settlement Preparation Officer

Work while you study

The Trainee Apprenticeship Pathway (TAPs) program, in partnership with TAFESA, makes becoming a conveyancer more accessible. Aspiring professionals gain hands-on experience through a three-year apprenticeship in South Australian firms, with mentorship and practical training. Entry-level and paralegal roles in conveyancing firms, law firms, and real estate agencies offer valuable experience and insight into property transactions, setting up a successful career.

For more information about a career in Conveyancing, contact the Australian Institute of Conveyancing SA.



Career Pathway

Advanced Diploma of Conveyancing

TAFE SA

3 YEARS

REGISTERED CONVEYANCER

TOTAL: 3 YEARS

For more information about entry requirements and programs, head to:

tafesa



Government of South Australia



Landscape Architect

Landscape architects create outdoor spaces that shape how we live, play, and connect with nature. Whether it's a peaceful park, a playground, a street, or a city square, landscape architects make the world greener and more enjoyable.

Why become a landscape architect?

Shape the Outdoors

Design spaces where people relax, play, and connect with nature. From public parks and outdoor areas, streetscapes to green roofs, private gardens, and environment restoration, landscape architects bring outdoor spaces to life.

Help the Environment

Design sustainable places that support biodiversity, conserve water, reduce pollution, and

improve air quality, helping to fight climate change and make cities greener, cooler and wilder.

Be Creative

Combine design and nature to plan beautiful, functional spaces that are safe, accessible, and sustainable.

Make a Positive Impact

Your designs will be enjoyed for generations. Whether it's a school garden or a city park, your work will help communities thrive well into the future.



If you love nature, design, are inquisitive about the world, care deeply for the environment and want a career that benefits both the planet and people, landscape architecture could be the perfect fit for you!

Skills

Attention to detail, communication, creativity, design, leadership, technology, problem solving, project management, teamwork, science and design.



Types of careers

- Landscape Architect
- Landscape Construction Manager
- Landscape Designer
- Landscape Scientist
- Urban Designer
- Draftsperson
- Environmental Consultant

Work while you study

Look for entry level or internship positions as a landscape design assistant, landscape technician or horticultural assistant.

For more information about a career in Landscape Architecture, contact the Australian Institute of Landscape Architects.



Career Pathway

Bachelor of Architectural Design

Adelaide University

OR

Related Undergraduate Degree

3 YEARS

Master of Landscape Architecture

Adelaide University

2 YEARS

Landscape Architect

Work / Registration Process

2 YEARS

REGISTERED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

TOTAL: 7 YEARS

For more information about entry requirements and programs, head to:



Property Valuer



Ever wonder how much a house or building is really worth? As a property valuer, you determine the true value of properties, considering factors like location, size, condition, and market trends.

Why become a property valuer?

Be the Expert

Learn about the real estate market and use your knowledge to help buyers, sellers, and banks make informed decisions.

Work with Cool Tech

Property valuers use technology to analyse data and predict trends. You'll work with tools that track property prices, trends, and GPS to assess locations. If you love numbers and data, this job is perfect for you!



Source: Adelaide University

Variety and Flexibility

No two days are the same. You'll visit diverse properties, from city apartments to country estates, meet new people and explore exciting places.

Good Pay and Job Security

Property valuers are in demand and well-paid. With experience, you can take on bigger projects and earn even more.

If you enjoy working with numbers, understanding markets, and want a rewarding, flexible career, property valuation could be the perfect fit for you!

Skills

Analytical, follow through, interest and passion in the real estate market and trends, good communication skills, understanding building and construction, mathematics, writing reports

Types of careers

- Property Valuer
- Real Estate Property Valuer
- Commercial Property Valuer
- Property Management
- Conveyancing

Work while you study

Look for entry level positions as a real estate assistant, appraisal clerk, or property management assistant.

For more information about a career in Property Valuation, contact the Australian Property Institute.



Career Pathway

Bachelor of Commerce (Property)

Adelaide University

3 YEARS

Experience

2 YEARS

CERTIFIED PRACTICING VALUER

TOTAL: 5 YEARS

For more information about entry requirements and programs, head to:



Surveyor, Building

Imagine ensuring buildings are safe, stable, and built to last. As a building surveyor, you'll inspect buildings and construction sites to ensure everything works properly and meets code. From houses to skyscrapers, you make sure buildings are safe for people to use.

Why become a building surveyor?

Be the Expert

You'll be the trusted go-to expert for advice on repairs, safety, and design, ensuring buildings are safe for people to use.

Solve Real Problems

Each day brings new challenges. Whether identifying cracks, hazards, or how to fix a roof, you'll use critical thinking to solve real-world problems.

Work with Cool Tech

Building surveyors use drones, thermal cameras, and advanced software for inspections. If you love technology, this job lets you work with cutting-edge tools.

Good Pay and Job Security

As buildings are constantly built, bought, and renovated, building surveyors are always in demand. It's a well-paid career with plenty of opportunities for growth.



If you enjoy problem-solving, technology, and ensuring the safety of buildings, becoming a building surveyor could be the perfect career for you!

Skills

Analytic reasoning, attention to detail, computer and technology skills, inquisitive and curious, mathematics, negotiation, problem solving, using imagination.

Type of careers

- Building Surveyor
- Quantity Surveyor
- Construction
- Draftsperson
- Residential or Construction Estimator

Work while you study

Look for entry level positions as a building inspection assistant, construction assistant, or facilities management assistant.



You could consider roles in real estate, property management, or construction which can offer transferable skills and knowledge.

For more information about a career as a Building Surveyor, contact the Australian Institute of Building Surveyors.



Career Pathway

Bachelor of Construction Management

Adelaide University

3 YEARS

Experience

2 MONTHS
– 2 YEARS

BUILDING SURVEYOR

AIBS Level 2

**TOTAL:
3.5 – 5.5 YEARS**

Bachelor of Construction Management (Honours)

Adelaide University

4 YEARS

Experience

2 MONTHS
– 2 YEARS

BUILDING SURVEYOR

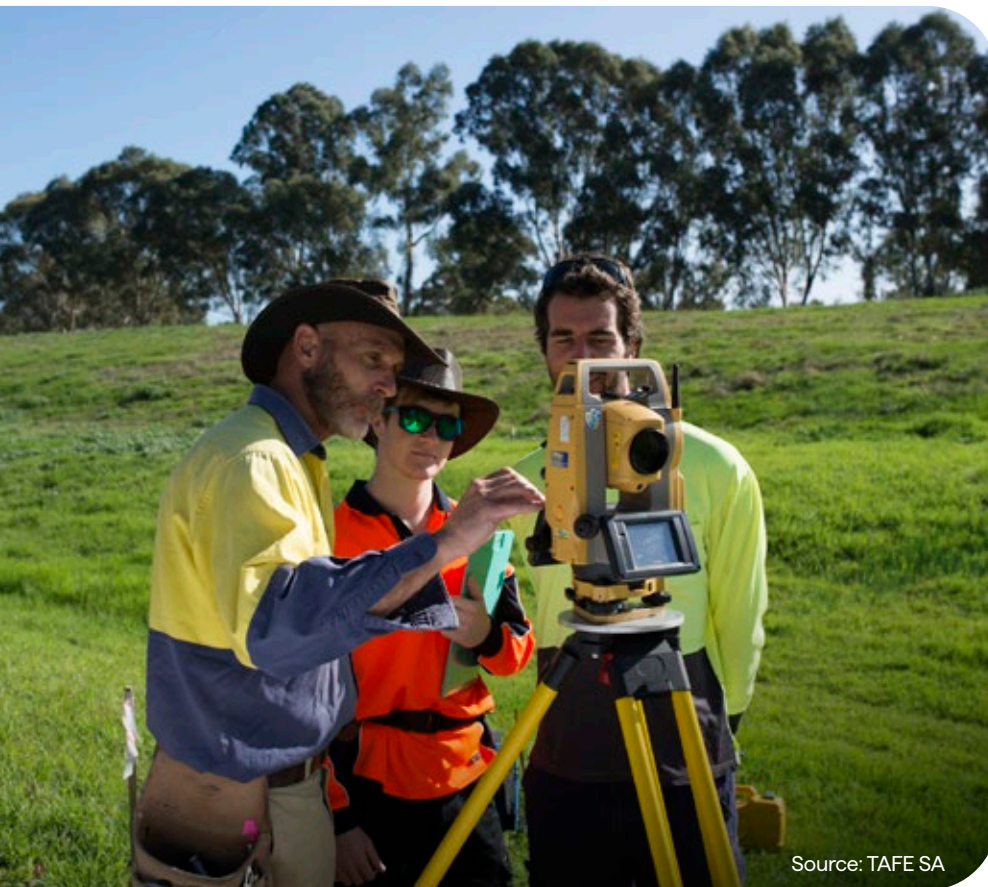
AIBS Level 1

**TOTAL:
4.5 – 6 YEARS**

For more information about entry requirements and programs, head to:



Surveyor, Land



Source: TAFE SA

Ever wondered how maps are made, or how we know exactly where one property starts and another ends. Land surveyors play a critical role in shaping how land is used and developed, providing essential data that influences everything from property lines to construction plans. One day you might survey a bustling urban area to prepare for a suburb or new high-rise, and the next, you could be measuring rugged landscapes for a new hiking trail.

Your ability to analyse and interpret this data ensures that projects are executed smoothly, and that land is used effectively and responsibly. In this profession you get to measure and map land, making sure buildings,

roads, and even entire cities are built in the right places. Whether it's a new housing development, a highway, or a giant construction project, land surveyors are the ones who make sure everything is accurately measured and positioned.

Why become a land surveyor?

Be Part of Big Projects

As a land surveyor, you'll work on huge projects like building new neighbourhoods, parks, or even entire cities. You'll be the one ensuring the land is properly surveyed before construction can begin. Your work helps shape the world around us.

Work Outdoors and Stay Active

If you don't want to sit behind a desk all day, land surveying could be perfect for you. You'll be outside, walking across different terrains, using high-tech tools like GPS and drones to measure land. It's an active, hands-on job that gets you out in the field.

Use Cool Technology

Land surveyors use awesome tech like lasers, drones, and GPS systems to measure land with incredible precision. If you love gadgets and technology, this job will let you play with cool tools every day.

Good Pay and Job Security

Land surveying is a skill that's in demand. Every new construction project needs surveyors to make sure everything is accurate. It's a well-paid, steady job with lots of opportunities.

If you love tech, the outdoors, and being part of exciting projects, becoming a land surveyor could be the perfect career for you!

Skills

Attention to detail, communication, data collection, GIS, GPS, mapping (cartography), working outdoors, problem solving, time management

Types of careers

- Cadastral Surveyor
- Hydrographic (water) Surveyor
- Engineering/Construction Surveyor
- Geographic Information Systems
- Geodetic Surveyor
- Mining Surveyor
- Environmental Surveyor
- Licensed Surveyor

Work while you study

Look for entry level positions as a survey technician, surveying assistance or CAD (Computer-Aided Design) drafter.

You can seek internships with surveying firms, construction companies, or engineering firms.

For more information about a career as a Land Surveyor, contact Surveying SA.



For more information about entry requirements and programs, head to:



Career Pathway

Certificate IV in Surveying and Spatial Information Systems

TAFE SA

1 YEAR

SURVEY ASSISTANT

TOTAL: 1 YEAR

Certificate IV in Surveying and Spatial Information Systems

TAFE SA

1 YEAR

Diploma of Surveying

TAFE SA

1 YEAR

SURVEY TECHNICIAN

TOTAL: 2 YEARS

Advanced Diploma

TAFE SA

1 YEAR

MINE AND ENGINEERING SURVEYOR

TOTAL: 3 YEARS

Bachelor of Geospatial Information Systems / Bachelor of Surveying

Flinders University

4 YEARS

SURVEYOR

TOTAL: 4 YEARS

Bachelor of Geospatial Information Systems / Bachelor of Surveying

Flinders University

4 YEARS

Graduate Surveyor

Work + Registration/
Licensing Process

4 YEARS

LICENSED OR REGISTERED SURVEYOR

TOTAL: ~8 YEARS

Urban Designer

Urban design focuses on how streets, buildings, parks and other shared spaces can be arranged and built to create positive experiences for everyone. Urban designers shape how people move, interact and spend time in our towns and cities, influencing public health and safety, climate resilience, social equity, vibrancy and more. From streets and transport networks to building heights and the placement of street furniture, urban designers work at both the street and city scales to shape the spaces between buildings where public life happens.

Turn Ideas into Reality

Urban designers bring creativity and problem-solving together. They sketch ideas, create digital models, and work with architects, planners, engineers and communities to bring big-picture visions to life.

Make Cities More Sustainable

From tree-lined streets to spaces designed for cycling and electric transport, urban designers help shape environmentally friendly cities. They also design places that can adapt to climate challenges like heatwaves and flooding.

A Career That Blends Design and Strategy

Urban design is both creative and analytical – requiring vision, technical skills, and collaboration with professionals across different fields.

If you're passionate about designing better places for people and want to shape how cities feel and function, urban design could be the perfect career for you!

Why become an urban designer?

Design Public Spaces

Urban designers focus on making streets, parks and other shared spaces welcoming and functional. They plan where footpaths, seating, trees and public art should go, ensuring cities feel safe, accessible and vibrant for everyone.

Connect People and Places

Good urban design makes cities easy to navigate. Designers think about how people move – whether on foot, bike, or public transport – and create walkable, well-connected places that reduce traffic congestion and improve daily life.



Gulu, Uganda, co-design exercise conducted by University of Western Australia.
Source: University of Western Australia

Skills

Creative thinking and problem solving, ability to visualise spaces and movement, strong teamwork and communication, interest in cities, sustainability and human behaviour, attention to detail, and passion for design and design software.

Types of careers

- Urban Designer
- Urban Planner
- Landscape Architect
- Transport Planner
- Open Space and Recreation Planner
- Environmental Planner
- Smart City Designer
- Policy Advisor

Work while you study

Look for entry level positions as a design or planning assistant, or community engagement coordinator in consulting firms. You can also consider jobs in landscape design or local government.

For more information about an Urban Designer career, visit [Urban Design Forum Australia](#).

**Urban Design Forum
Australia**

Career Pathway

Related Undergraduate Degree

3 YEARS

Graduate Certificate in Urban Design

*University of Western Australia
(available online)*

6 MONTHS

OR

Graduate Diploma in Urban Design

*University of Western Australia
(available online)*

1 YEAR

**URBAN DESIGNER
TOTAL: 3.5 – 4 YEARS**

Related Undergraduate Degree

3 YEARS

Master of Urban Design

*RMIT (Victoria)
(available online)*

2 YEARS

OR

Master of Urban Design

*University of Western Australia
(available online)*

2 YEARS

**URBAN DESIGNER
TOTAL:
UP TO 6 YEARS**

For more information about entry requirements and programs, head to:



Urban Planner

Imagine being the person who plans entire cities – from how the roads and buildings fit together to where parks, schools, and shopping areas should go. As an urban planner you listen to people to help create places to live and work.

Why become an urban planner?

Shape the Future of Cities and Regional Communities

Urban planners are the ones who decide how cities grow and change. You'll help make cities and communities better by contributing to decision making, planning, community consultation and policy making.

Solve Big Problems

Urban planners solve real-world challenges. How do you help communities flourish, considering social and environmental issues, urban growth and and also have fun? You'll use creativity and problem-solving skills to find smart ways to improve neighbourhoods, make where we live greener, and build communities where everyone can thrive.

Make a Positive Impact

Urban planning focuses on enhancing people's quality of life, now and into the future. You'll plan for and shape spaces that are sustainable, green, and well connected. Your work will help to reduce pollution, improve safety, and create more liveable and healthy communities.



Work with Cool Tech

Urban planners use software and technology to understand cities and communities and study and evaluate grow and change. This helps them make strategic decisions in a career that mixes creative thinking with an understanding and analysis of policies and information to create better places to live.

If you're interested in making the world a better place, improving how people experience their surroundings, and using technology, a career in urban planning could offer you a fulfilling path filled with creativity and impact.

Skills

Analytical, attention to detail, communication and writing, reading and creating maps, organisation, decision making, problem solving, project management, teamwork and collaboration

Types of careers

- Development Assessment Planner
- Environmental Manager / Planner
- Policy Advisor
- Property Management
- Project Management
- Real Estate Developer
- Strategic Planner
- Sustainability Consultant / Planner
- Transportation Planner

Work while you study

Look for entry level positions as a planning assistant, research assistant or administrative positions in planning consultant firms or government departments that undertake development activity.

For more information about a career as an Urban Planner, visit [Become a Planner](#).



For more information about entry requirements and programs, head to:



Career Pathway

Diploma in Local Government (Planning)

TAFE SA

1 – 2 YEARS

PLANNING ASSISTANT

**TOTAL:
1 – 2 YEARS**

Related Undergraduate Degree

3 YEARS

Graduate Diploma in Urban and Regional Planning

Adelaide University

1 YEAR

URBAN PLANNER

TOTAL: 4 YEARS

Bachelor of Urban and Regional Planning

Flinders University

3 YEARS

URBAN PLANNER

**TOTAL:
3 YEARS**

Bachelor of Architectural Design majoring in Urban Planning

Adelaide University

3 YEARS

Master of Urban and Regional Planning

Adelaide University

2 YEARS

URBAN PLANNER

TOTAL: 5 YEARS



Government of
South Australia