



ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ARCHITECTURE CENTRE
SUITE 100 - 440 CAMBIE STREET
VANCOUVER, BC, CANADA V6B 2N5
604/683-8588
604/683-8568 FAX

Toll FREE IN BC 1/800/667-0753
1/800/661-2955 FAX
E-MAIL aibc@aibc.ca
INTERNET <http://www.aibc.ca>

ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGIST EXAMINATION OUTLINE

Introduction:

The examination will cover statutory and regulatory issues as well as societal ethics and rules of professional conduct for architectural technologists as they relate to the practice of architecture in British Columbia.

The *Architectural Institute of British Columbia* (AIBC) through the Architect's Act of BC is a self-governing body dedicated to excellence in the profession of architecture for the benefit of its membership, the environment and society. The AIBC was founded in 1914 and incorporated in 1920 under the *Architects Act of British Columbia*. The Institute's principal mandate is to regulate the profession of architecture in accordance with the Act. The AIBC is responsible for ensuring that individuals calling themselves architects and practicing architecture are qualified to do so. The Institute investigates professional conduct complaints from clients, the public and members. Where grounds exist for further inquiry the Institute has the responsibility to carry out a complete investigation and, should it be warranted, to impose penalties. Any violation of ethical standards can result in membership and license suspension or cancellation.

Architectural Technologists often assume key roles and responsibilities that directly relate to the field of architecture and provide key support for practicing architects. As such, a thorough and complete understanding of statutory and regulatory issues and societal ethics and rules of professional conduct are of paramount importance.

Subject Matter:

Knowledge of the following documents will be tested during the examination and are available from the AIBC and are posted on their website at www.aibc.ca

- Architects Act of British Columbia
- AIBC Bylaws
- AIBC Code of Ethics and Professional Practice
- AIBC Bulletins

Sample Questions:

SCENARIO ONE:

You are an AT. AIBC working for Architects Inc. Architects Inc. has gained a reputation in the local area as an experienced building envelope consulting firm by providing expertise in a number of leaky condominium repair projects. Your contribution as the architectural technologist (AT) in the firm is your design and project management skills. A potential client calls requesting an immediate on site meeting to discuss water damage to his building. The potential client tells you that he has recently purchased the ten year old building to which he has recently added an addition at the rear. As your boss is away on holidays for another two weeks you attend the meeting yourself.

The owner directs you to the portion of the building suffering from water damage. This is the addition he constructed himself. The owner questions you about the exterior cladding and windows within the addition. You advise him that the windows have been installed incorrectly without adequate flashing and discuss with him some preliminary work that he could do himself to reduce further failure. You will return to the office to prepare a contract proposal for your boss to review.

1. Your conduct is appropriate inappropriate

Upon further discussion the owner discloses that the addition has been done without a permit. The authority having jurisdiction has advised the owner to clean up the property to ensure safety and to either remove the addition or to make an application for development and building permits. In addition to construction materials scattered around the site you notice a number of fallen trees. The owner tells you to come down anytime and cut up the trees for firewood, it will only help him clean up the site. You tell him that you will take him up on his offer for the firewood.

2. Your conduct is appropriate inappropriate

The firm's fee proposal has been accepted and you have begun to prepare the permit drawings. The client tells you that the septic field that was installed is no longer functioning. Your boss argues that the septic field issue is outside of the firm's scope of work and notes that it will slow down the permitting process. You advise the client that he should repair it before you have completed the permitting process for the addition.

3. Your conduct is appropriate inappropriate

4. Your boss's conduct is appropriate inappropriate

You are on site reviewing the repair work. Through the construction process, the client tells you the history of the building that he has since uncovered as the new owner. He tells you that he has learned that the original architect for the building is no longer practicing, apparently due to being involved with poorly constructed buildings and also experiencing some legal problems relating to his work. A week later, when visiting with a fellow AT, you repeat this information about the original architect, adding that you feel his construction detail work on this particular building was consistent with the construction standards at the time it was built. Your fellow AT tells you that she once worked for the original architect and told you of numerous incidents that suggested it was his character not his knowledge which may or may not have lead to the demise of his practice.

5. Your conduct is appropriate inappropriate

6. Your fellow AT's conduct is appropriate inappropriate

Two years later, with more experience, while working on another project, you realize that there were errors in the drawings and specifications that you had provided on the addition that will affect the building envelope performance of the building. This failure probably will not occur right away but will take a couple of years. You advise your boss that you think you should not disclose your discovery to the builder/owner as the addition was small. Your boss disagrees and says appropriate action must be taken to advise him of the potential failure in the building envelope.

7. Your conduct is appropriate inappropriate

8. Your boss's conduct is appropriate inappropriate

SCENARIO TWO:

You are an AT. AIBC providing CAD services to a client base that includes architectural firms, developers and contractors. Your business constitutes a *Virtual Office* with a flexible staff of 1 to 4 AT's on contract, based on workload and schedule. With few exceptions drawing production is done by the contract staff in their home offices and all drawings and information is exchanged electronically. You have recently completed the contract drawings for a 400m² Convenience Store (CONV STORE1). Your client for the CONV STORE1 was an Architect in Vancouver.

After completion of CONV STORE1, the general contractor (GC) approaches you directly to produce the As-Built set of drawings. You have file copies of the contract documents to work from. Realizing that you will have to do site measurements you price the work accordingly, complete disclosure and agreements with your original client and produce the As-Built set of drawings.

9. Your conduct is appropriate inappropriate

The developer then presents you with an opportunity. The developer of CONV STORE1 wants you and the GC to prepare a design/ build proposal. If you are successful you will be paid and involved in future CONV STORE1's. The developer provides you with their file copy of the last project, mirror imaged and altered to include some new ideas. You use the developer's files, not your CONV STORE1 files to prepare a presentation set of a new CONV STORE1. As a joint venture you and the GC are successful. Upon being awarded the contract you receive payment.

10. Your conduct is appropriate inappropriate

11. The developer's actions are appropriate inappropriate

You attend a neighbourhood task force set up to review traffic calming and local zoning issues. It is your neighbourhood. The developer prepared presentation boards from your files by removing your name, removing dimensions, enlarging text, adding colour and a few simplifications for graphic clarity. In the meeting you realize that the setback & green space have been increased on the developer's presentation drawing, and a NTS (Not To Scale) added in small text. You speak to the development and explain that these preliminary concept drawings are inaccurate.

12. Your conduct is appropriate inappropriate

13. The developer's actions are appropriate inappropriate

One of the CAD technologists, whom you sub-contracted to provide drawings for the design/build proposal, has returned his portion of the development permit drawing via e-mail with a noticeable cc (copy) to the architect. The architect of the original CONV STORE1 had no knowledge that you, the developer and the General Contractor were working on this new project. The architect contacts the Architectural Institute and his lawyer before you have a chance to explain that the files you worked with came from the developer.

13. The G.Contractor's conduct is appropriate inappropriate

14. The CAD Technologist's conduct is appropriate inappropriate

15. The Architect's conduct is appropriate inappropriate

The development permit has been received. You are commencing the production stage of the working drawings. Your CAD technologist on contract explains that he has had experience with a similar project and can turn drawings around quickly. When you open the file to do a review you realize that the blocks within the drawings, including some time saving counter/ appliance and store layout, came from the first CONV STORE1. You delete this file and instruct your CAD technologist to explode the block, revise and resend the file.

16. Your conduct is appropriate inappropriate

17. The CAD technologist's conduct is appropriate inappropriate

If the Convenience store is 500m²

18. Is your work on the project still appropriate inappropriate

SCENERIO THREE:

You are an architectural technologist sitting on a local municipality neighbourhood advisory panel. The panel is comprised of two architects, a landscape architect and two citizens who are members of the local neighborhood. You are sitting as one of the citizens.

You are an architectural technologist who works on a contract basis for a number of different architectural firms throughout the city. At one of the panel's meetings, the project being presented is one that you did some preliminary concept drawings for 6 months previously. You advise the panel of your previous involvement and that you are no longer involved as a consultant on the project and you do not abstain from the review discussion.

21. Your conduct is appropriate inappropriate

While sitting on this panel, you are reviewing and providing comments on three submissions for a design competition sponsored by the municipality and sanctioned by the AIBC. During a break in the presentations of the three design proposals, one of the architects, who represents one of the design submissions, discusses with you that this design competition is an exciting opportunity and if his firm wins he will have to expand his staff.

22. Your conduct is appropriate inappropriate

23. The architect's conduct is appropriate inappropriate

During another panel session, the presenter introduces herself as the designer for the off-shore developer. As defined by the Architect's Act, the project's size & complexity requires an architect. The panel and you really like the project and endorse the proposal. In the meeting the issue arises that the designer is not a registered architect. It is concluded that contacting the Architectural Institute is not the responsibility of the panel; it is the responsibility of the city planners who will eventually review the project to inform the Architectural Institute.

24. Your conduct is appropriate inappropriate

25. The panel's conduct is appropriate inappropriate

TRUE OR FALSE

1. As an associate, an architectural technologist, under the Act cannot use the term "architectural" as in "architectural design" in representing themselves to the public in a company name, and/or as part of their advertising or in promotional material.

True

False

2. Drawings for a building permit submission are required for the erection of an addition of 400 SM of office space to an existing industrial building consisting of 4000 SM of manufacturing area. In order to fully comply with the Architects Act, the Engineers and Geoscientists Act, and the British Columbia Building Code:

a) An architectural technologist could be retained to provide complete services.

True

False