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SHORT COURSE IN BUILDING THERMAL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT (RESIDENTIAL)

This course consists of 3 modules held over 32 hours (2 x 2 day weeks). Any enrolments with previous accreditation in FirstRate may apply for RPLs for Modules 1 & 3.

QUALIFICATION

Short Course in Building Thermal Performance Assessment (Residential) is a National Qualification NTIS code: 91318NSW. Each successful student will receive a “Statement of Attainment” or equivalent from the training provider supplying the course.

ACCREDITATION

On successful completion of the Short Course in Building Thermal Performance the student should sign a copy of the Code of Conduct (Jan 2008) and return to Sustainability Victoria with a cheque, money order or credit card details for $275. This will grant them interim Victorian Accreditation (currently under review). Alternatively, on successful completion of the course, the student may apply for National Accreditation through ABSA or another accrediting organisation who will issue an exam for $330.

NB: Students are not required to have both National and Victorian Accreditation and should be advised to choose one or the other.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

To achieve this qualification you must have pre-requisite competencies:

- the ability to read and interpret plans and specifications
- use basic computer technology
- knowledge relating to the basic principles of how buildings are constructed

These competencies can be demonstrated through:

Qualification: a current qualification relating to the construction, design or certification of residential buildings:

- architecture
- building design
- drafting
- building & trades
- surveying
- estimating
- construction management

or

Experience: demonstrated experience in the building industry or experience in working with:

- architect
- builder
- construction manager
- consultant
- designer
- draftsperson
- estimator
- local government
- surveyor

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COURSE CONTENT:

Module 1 Design & Construction Theory – covers:

- House energy ratings
- The impacts on comfort
- Energy definitions
- Types of power
- Important calculations
- Thermal comfort
- Air movement
- Climate zones
- Solar geometry
- Solar radiation
- Heat Flow
- Thermal Properties
- Insulation
- Thermal Mass
- Glazing
- Design for Climate
- Surface Areas
- Zoning
- Shading
- Optimising a design
- Design Strategies
- Orientation
- Form

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Module 2 Software Operation (FirstRate5) – covers:

- Overview of Second Generation Software
- Conducting a rating using FirstRate5
- Zoning
- Rating Components and Assumptions
- Reports and Analysis
- Optimisation
- Cost
- Complex Construction
- Help and Support
- Multi-Storey units
- Assessment of 3 different house designs

Module 3 Professional Practice – covers:

- Assessors services
- Giving Advice
- Liability & Insurance
- Disclaimers
- Fair Trading
- Regulations
- Accreditation Schemes
- Second Generation Software
- Documentation
- Reporting
- Communication with clients
- Code of Conduct
- Assessment Procedures