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**GOVERNMENT ARCHITECT'S  
STRATEGY AND DESIGN EXCELLENCE  
PREQUALIFICATION SCHEME**

**Fact Sheet**

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**What is the purpose of the scheme?**

The Government Architect NSW's (GANSW) objective is to ensure the Government has the ability to make informed design decisions, through early engagement on projects, better project definition, scoping design and procurement.

Assisting Government to deliver quality outcomes in the built environment – the Government Architect's Strategy & Design Excellence Prequalification Scheme (the scheme) is focused on the delivery of strategic planning advice and design excellence, quality and innovation in the built environment.

The scheme will offer a streamlined approach for both service providers and Government that relates to the NSW Treasury Gateway Review process. The consultancy categories are structured to coincide with the requirements of the NSW Government procurement framework.

In addition to the usual scheme probity standards, agencies will benefit from expert assessment and evaluation of service providers.

As a benefit of the scheme agencies will have ongoing access to advice and design expertise from GANSW throughout each engagement. This expertise will streamline and de-risk the engagement process and support agencies in delivering better built outcomes.

The scheme also aims to develop and broaden industry capability through nurturing and supporting Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) or emerging businesses.

A specific category has been developed to encourage Emerging Design Practices to seek prequalification

To provide agencies with access to highly skilled and experienced organisations, and emerging businesses which supply Strategy and design services, under the following work categories:

1. Strategy
  - (a) Project Initiation, Definition, Justification and Risk Assessment
  - (b) Project Procurement and Management
  - (c) Business Case Development
  - (d) Financial and Economic Analysis
  - (e) Stakeholder Engagement and Management
  - (f) Strategic Heritage Advice
2. Design Excellence
  - (a) Architecture
  - (b) Urban Design
  - (c) Landscape Architecture
  - (d) Emerging Practices

**What are the benefits of the scheme?**

The scheme aims to reduce red tape and cost associated in doing business with government. The scheme has a simple standard contract and allows single invited tenders for engagements up to \$150,000 (incl GST). It provides a self-service, online application process.

**How does my business obtain Prequalification?**

Applications will be assessed and evaluated via an Assessment Panel chaired by the Government Architect to determine eligibility for participation in the scheme. Applicants are required to apply online through NSW eTendering:  
[www.tenders.nsw.gov.au](http://www.tenders.nsw.gov.au)

Only applications which fully satisfy all requirements set out in the scheme conditions and the online service provider application will be considered by the Assessment Panel.

**Timing of the scheme**

The scheme was established in 2014. Applications can be made anytime with assessments taking place quarterly.

**Where to find more information**

Enquiries are to be directed to the GANSW Contact Officer at  
[GAprequal@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:GAprequal@planning.nsw.gov.au)

**Good to know**

- Applications submitted by email will not be accepted.
- Prequalification is not a guarantee of work.
- Information submitted with an application will be treated as confidential unless otherwise required by law.