

Office of the **State Building Surveyor**

Discover building surveying

The career behind safe buildings



Shape cities, communities – and your future

Are you interested in shaping the future of cities, ensuring buildings are safe and protecting our communities? Building surveyors play a vital role in Victoria's construction sector, ensuring new and existing buildings meet safety, design and environmental standards.

What does a building surveyor do?

Building surveyors work at the heart of the construction process. Almost every building project involves a building surveyor – from skyscrapers to homes, swimming pools, schools and public events.

They collaborate with builders, architects, fire engineers and councils to deliver safe and successful projects for the community.

What the job involves:



Assessing designs

Review building plans and provide specialist technical advice on compliance with the National Construction Code, Australian Standards and building laws, with a strong focus on public safety.



Overseeing compliance

Issue permits and inspect construction work at key stages to verify it aligns with approved plans. This also includes auditing existing buildings.



Issuing occupancy permits

Confirm completed buildings are safe to occupy. This requires strong problem-solving and critical thinking skills to resolve complex compliance issues.



Why choose a career in building surveying?



High demand

A national shortage means strong job security.



Competitive salaries

Graduate salaries start around \$60,000 – \$80,000 and progress to \$150,00 – \$250,000 as a fully qualified building surveyor.



Diverse work environments

Enjoy a mix of office-based work and on-site inspections across a wide range of building types.



Career flexibility

Work in private consultancy, local councils, regulatory bodies and specialist areas such as fire safety engineering.



Real-world impact

Make a tangible difference by protecting public safety and contributing to safer communities.



Your pathway to a rewarding career

There are three main pathways into building surveying. Your chosen pathway will influence the scope of work you can undertake.

- **University degree:** A 4-year equivalent Bachelor's degree (with honours) allows you to work across the full scope of building surveying - assessing all building types, sizes and heights. In Victoria, government subsidies are available for eligible students.
- **VET sector pathway:** An Advanced Diploma of Building Surveying leads to a restricted scope of practice, typically covering residential buildings such as houses and sheds.
- **Career change pathway:** Engineers, architects and related professionals may receive credit towards an accredited postgraduate building surveying qualification.

Registration requirements

To practice, you must be registered with the Building and Plumbing Commission (BPC).

The BPC recognises accreditation from:

- Australian Institute of Building Surveyors (AIBS)
- Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)

Note: Accreditation can reduce documentation requirements but does not guarantee registration. All applicants must meet BPC criteria.

Find out more

Learn more by visiting the BPC, AIBS and RICS websites.

Scan the QR codes below.



What is building surveyor work?

Building and Plumbing
Commission



Get ready for a great career

Australian Institute of
Building Surveyors



Your journey to a chartered career

Royal Institution of
Chartered Surveyors