1ST-CLASS KENCHIKUSHI
2ND-CLASS KENCHIKUSHI
MOKUZO KENCHIKUSHI

KENCHIKUSHI LICENSING SYSTEM
More than 60 years have passed since the Kenchikushi Law was enacted in 1950. The law established the 1st-class and the 2nd-class Kenchikushi licensing systems, and the Mokuzo Kenchikushi licensing system was subsequently added in 1984. During this period, Japan witnessed a remarkable improvement in living standards, social development, economic growth, and technological progress, prompting rapid changes in the building construction industry. Building structures have grown not only in numbers, but also in diversity and size, as well as in sophistication and technology. Consequently, the roles and duties of Kenchikushi have increased both in quantity and quality, and Kenchikushi are expected to take a leading role in the effort to create a comfortable living environment.

On January 30, 1984, the Japan Architectural Education and Information Center (JAIEC) was designated as the Centrally-Designated Examination Organization by the Minister of Construction under the Kenchikushi Law, to conduct affairs related to the qualifying examination for 1st-class Kenchikushi. JAIEC has been administrating the examination every year since February 1, 1984. On April 1, 2001, the Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism ("the Minister") designated JAIEC as the Centrally-Designated Examination Organization under the Kenchikushi Law Enforcement Regulation. This designation has continued since November 28, 2008 under the Ministerial Order Concerning the Centrally-Designated Registration Organization and Other Organizations Based on the Kenchikushi Law.

Between October and December of 1985, the governors of all prefectures formally recognized JAIEC as the Prefecturally-Designated Examination Organization under the Kenchikushi Law, and since January 1, 1986, JAIEC has been administrating the annual qualifying examinations for 2nd-class Kenchikushi and Mokuzo Kenchikushi.

Based on the Kenchikushi Law, JAIEC has since FY2008 been conducting training programs for Structural Design 1st-class Kenchikushi, MEP Design 1st-class Kenchikushi and Kanri Kenchikushi, and periodic training programs for 1st-class Kenchikushi, 2nd-class Kenchikushi, and Mokuzo Kenchikushi. Since FY 2011, JAIEC has been conducting periodic training programs for Structural Design 1st-class Kenchikushi and MEP Design 1st-class Kenchikushi.

TYPES AND SERVICES OF KENCHIKUSHI
Kenchikushi
1st-class Kenchikushi
A 1st-class Kenchikushi is licensed by the Minister to perform design, construction administration and other services with the title of 1st-class Kenchikushi.

Structural Design 1st-class Kenchikushi
A Structural Design 1st-class Kenchikushi performs the structural design of buildings larger than the prescribed size, or assesses whether a structural design prepared by a 1st-class Kenchikushi who is not qualified as a Structural Design 1st-class Kenchikushi meets relevant laws and regulations. To qualify, a 1st-class Kenchikushi must engage in structural design for five years or more, complete the designated training program, and obtain a Structural Design 1st-class Kenchikushi certificate.

MEP Design 1st-class Kenchikushi
An MEP Design 1st-class Kenchikushi performs the MEP design of buildings larger than the prescribed size, or assesses whether an MEP design prepared by a 1st-class Kenchikushi who is not qualified as an MEP Design 1st-class Kenchikushi meets relevant laws and regulations. To qualify, a 1st-class Kenchikushi must engage in the services of MEP design for five years or more, complete the designated training program, and obtain an MEP Design 1st-class Kenchikushi certificate.

2nd-class Kenchikushi
A 2nd-class Kenchikushi is licensed by a prefectural governor to perform design, construction administration and other services using the title of 2nd-class Kenchikushi.

Mokuzo Kenchikushi
A Mokuzo Kenchikushi is licensed by a prefectural governor to perform design, construction administration and other services relating to wooden buildings using the title of Mokuzo Kenchikushi.

Kanri Kenchikushi
A Kanri Kenchikushi is responsible for managing a Kenchikushi office in accordance with the provisions of the Kenchikushi Law. To qualify, a Kenchikushi must engage in the prescribed services for three years or more and complete the designated training program.

ROUTE TO OBTAIN 1ST-CLASS, 2ND-CLASS OR MOKUZO KENCHIKUSHI LICENSE

Application for examination
Examination on academic subjects
Announcement of successful applicants
Examination on design and training
Announcement of Kenchikushi license
Registration of Kanri Kenchikushi
1st-class Kenchikushi, MEP Design 1st-class Kenchikushi, and Kanri Kenchikushi are licensed by the Minister to perform design, construction administration and other services with the title of 1st-class Kenchikushi.

Mokuzo Kenchikushi
A Mokuzo Kenchikushi is licensed by a prefectural governor to perform design, construction administration and other services relating to wooden buildings using the title of Mokuzo Kenchikushi.

Kanri Kenchikushi
A Kanri Kenchikushi is responsible for managing a Kenchikushi office in accordance with the provisions of the Kenchikushi Law. To qualify, a Kenchikushi must engage in the prescribed services for three years or more and complete the designated training program.
Scope of services

- 1st-class Kenchikushi
  When a building is subject to Article 20 item (1) or (2) of the Building Standard Law, a Structural Design 1st-class Kenchikushi must perform its structural design or otherwise assess whether it complies with relevant laws and standards. When a building has three stories or more and a floor area exceeding 5,000 m², an MEP design 1st-class Kenchikushi must perform its MEP design or otherwise assess that it complies with relevant laws and standards.
- 1st-class or 2nd-class Kenchikushi
- 1st-class 2nd-class or Mokuzo Kenchikushi (the latter only for wood-constructions)
- No license is required

Total floor area: In regard to renovation, the total floor area refers to the expanded or renovated area. Additional restrictions may be imposed by ordinances.

- Only a 1st-class Kenchikushi can design and perform construction administration for a building to be used as a school, a hospital, a theater, a movie theater, a grandstand, a public hall, an assembly hall (except that without an auditorium) or a department store.

Eligibility

- The academic requirement for taking a qualifying examination for Kenchikushi has been changed from "having graduated after completing the designated program" to "having graduated after completing architecture-related subjects designated by the Minister (designated subjects)". The change applies, in principle, to students entering universities and other educational institutions in FY2009 or later.

For applicants "who have already graduated the designated universities" at the time of revision of the Kenchikushi Law or "who were enrolled in the designated universities at the time of the revision and graduated after the revision," the former requirement applies.

- The new requirement now narrows the scope of practical experience from "building-related experience" to practical experience that will help obtain knowledge and skills necessary for conducting design and construction administration. The former requirements were effective until November 27, 2008, and the new ones have applied since November 28, 2008. Practical experience gained before and after the revision can be added.

Qualifying Examination for Kenchikushi

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Structure</th>
<th>Wooden and other structures except those listed in the right column</th>
<th>Reinforced concrete, steel, stone masonry, brick masonry, concrete block, plain concrete construction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Height</td>
<td>13 m or less in height and 9 m or less in height of eaves</td>
<td>More than 13 m in height or more than 9 m in height of eaves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of floors</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total floor area (m²)</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
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<td></td>
<td>500</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>●</td>
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</table>

1st-class Kenchikushi

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic background (must have completed the designated subjects and graduated) and others</th>
<th>Years of practical experience (former requirements)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University (including former college)</td>
<td>2 years or more* (2 years or more for graduates of an architecture or civil engineering program)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-year junior college (except evening classes)</td>
<td>3 years or more* (3 years or more for graduates of an architecture or civil engineering program)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-year junior college</td>
<td>4 years or more* (4 years or more for graduates of an architecture or civil engineering program)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of technology (including former vocational training school)</td>
<td>4 years or more* (4 years or more for graduates of an architecture or civil engineering program)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2nd-class Kenchikushi and Mokuzo Kenchikushi

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic background (must have completed the designated subjects and graduated) and others</th>
<th>Years of practical experience (former requirements)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University (including former college)</td>
<td>University (including former college)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-year junior college (except evening classes)</td>
<td>Junior college</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-year junior college</td>
<td>College of technology (including former vocational training school)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of technology (including former vocational training school)</td>
<td>High school (including former junior high school)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2nd-class Kenchikushi

- Deemed by the Minister to be qualified (MLIT Notification No. 745, 2008, and others)
- Building Mechanical and Electrical Engineer 4 years or more

*When meeting the requirement of the designated subjects

No academic background in regard to architecture

- Deemed by the prefectural governor to be qualified (those who satisfy Article 15 item (3) of the Kenchikushi Law)
Examinations

Qualifying examination for 1st-class Kenchikushi

(1) Examination on Academic subjects
   I Planning II Environment / MEP systems
   III Related laws and regulations IV Structure V Construction work

(2) Examination on design and drawing
   Preparation of design and drawing based on the design assignment announced prior to the examination

Pass rate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>1st-class Kenchikushi</th>
<th>2nd-class Kenchikushi</th>
<th>Mokuzo Kenchikushi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Applicants</td>
<td>Successful applicants</td>
<td>Pass rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>55045</td>
<td>4477</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>51898</td>
<td>5470</td>
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<td>2005</td>
<td>49976</td>
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<td>2006</td>
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<td>3579</td>
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<td>3705</td>
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<td>4560</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>34511</td>
<td>4276</td>
<td>12.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NUMBER OF REGISTERED KENCHIKUSHI

As of September 30, 2012
1st-class Kenchikushi: 348,435
2nd-class Kenchikushi: 731,071
Mokuzo Kenchikushi: 16,794

ORGANIZATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR IMPLEMENTING THE KENCHIKUSHI EXAMINATIONS
TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR KENCHIKUSHI

ESTABLISHMENT OF TRAINING PROGRAMS

Following the exposure of the false structural calculation scandal in November 2005 and other similar incidents, the Building Standard Law of Japan and the KENCHIKUSHI Law were revised in 2006 in order to restore public confidence in the safety of buildings and the KENCHIKUSHI system. The revised KENCHIKUSHI Law was enforced on November 28, 2008. Its purposes include “improvement of quality and capability of KENCHIKUSHI”, “design by highly skilled KENCHIKUSHI (structural design / MEP design)” and “proper execution of design and construction administration services and information disclosure to consumers”. Various training programs for KENCHIKUSHI were established under the revised KENCHIKUSHI Law.

DESIGN BY HIGHLY SKILLED KENCHIKUSHI (STRUCTURAL DESIGN AND MEP DESIGN)

The revised KENCHIKUSHI Law established the new titles of Structural Design 1st-class KENCHIKUSHI and MEP Design 1st-class KENCHIKUSHI, and mandated the participation of Structural Design 1st-class KENCHIKUSHI and/or MEP Design 1st-class KENCHIKUSHI in the structural and MEP designs of certain buildings that require advanced professional capability. To qualify as a Structural Design 1st-class KENCHIKUSHI or an MEP Design 1st-class KENCHIKUSHI, a 1st-class KENCHIKUSHI must engage in the services of structural design or MEP design for five years or more and subsequently complete the respective training program.

IMPROVEMENT OF QUALITY AND CAPABILITY OF KENCHIKUSHI

KENCHIKUSHI who engage in the business of offering design or construction administration services are required to have mastered the skills and knowledge necessary to perform such services. In order to maintain their professional skills, 1st-class, 2nd-class and Mokuzo KENCHIKUSHI who are employed by a KENCHIKUSHI office must take a training program every three years. Structural Design 1st-class KENCHIKUSHI and MEP Design 1st-class KENCHIKUSHI must take a training program every three years regardless of their employment situation.

PROPER EXECUTION OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION SERVICES AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE TO CONSUMERS

A Kani KENCHIKUSHI is responsible for managing a KENCHIKUSHI office and overseeing technical matters in the office. The revised KENCHIKUSHI Law raised the requirements for becoming a Kani KENCHIKUSHI: a KENCHIKUSHI must now engage in prescribed services as a KENCHIKUSHI for a minimum of three years and subsequently complete the training program for Kani KENCHIKUSHI.

REGISTERED TRAINING ORGANIZATION

JAEIC obtained registration as a Registered Training Organization on November 28, 2008, from the Minister. Since then JAEIC has been providing periodic training programs for 1st-class, 2nd-class and Mokuzo KENCHIKUSHI; training programs for Structural Design 1st-class and MEP Design 1st-class KENCHIKUSHI; and training programs for Kani KENCHIKUSHI. In regard to the training programs for Structural Design 1st-class KENCHIKUSHI, MEP Design 1st-class KENCHIKUSHI and Kani KENCHIKUSHI, JAEIC offered the so-called “de facto training programs” prior to enforcement of the revised KENCHIKUSHI Law. On September 16, 2011, JAEIC also obtained registration from the Minister as a Registered Training Organization to conduct periodic training programs for Structural Design 1st-class and MEP Design 1st-class KENCHIKUSHI and has been conducting these training programs since.
KANRI KENCHIKUSHI TRAINING PROGRAM

SERVICES AND DUTIES OF KANRI KENCHIKUSHI

A founder of a Kenchikushi office must ensure that his/her 1st-class Kenchikushi office, 2nd-class Kenchikushi office or Mokuzo Kenchikushi office has a 1st-class Kenchikushi, 2nd-class Kenchikushi or Mokuzo Kenchikushi respectively who is employed on an exclusive basis to manage the Kenchikushi office (Kanri Kenchikushi).

A Kanri Kenchikushi must oversee technical matters related to the services of the Kenchikushi office where he/she is employed. A Kanri Kenchikushi must provide to the founder of the Kenchikushi office any input necessary to ensure the smooth and proper operation of services from the technical point of view.

KANRI KENCHIKUSHI TRAINING PROGRAM

Eligibility

A person is eligible to take the Kanri Kenchikushi training program if he/she has engaged in any of the following services for a minimum of three years:

1. Building design
2. Construction administration
3. Affairs related to building construction contracts
4. Supervision of building construction work
5. Inspection or appraisal of buildings
6. Agent services for procedures required by laws and regulations or ordinances related to building construction

★Management of building construction (e.g., preparation of shop drawings, safety administration) is not accepted.

Training program

- Lectures (total of 5 hours)
  - The Kenchikushi Law and other related laws and regulations; 90 minutes
  - Building quality assurance; 210 minutes

- Achievement test (1 hour / true-false test / 30 questions)
  - Questions on the Kenchikushi Law and other related laws and regulations
  - Questions on building quality assurance

FLOWCHART OF THE TRAINING PROGRAM

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS WHO COMPLETED THE TRAINING PROGRAM

115,193 as of March 21, 2013 (including 33,917 who completed the de facto training programs)
SERVICES AND DUTIES OF STRUCTURAL DESIGN 1ST-CLASS KENCHIKUSHI

A "person qualified as a structural calculation reviewer" may request to take only the subject of General Theory of Structural Design and be exempt from taking other subjects pertaining to building structure in the lectures and the achievement test.

Training program
- Lectures (2 days)
  General Theory of Structural Design; Laws and Regulations on Structure-related Matters and Conformity Assessment; The Basics of Structural Design; Evaluation of Seismic Capacity / Seismic Reinforcement; Structural Design in Detail
- Achievement test (1 day / multiple-choice test and written test)
  Questions on structure-related provisions (conformity assessment)
  Questions on building structures (structural design)

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS WHO COMPLETED THE TRAINING PROGRAM

8,869 as of December 19, 2012 (including 6,677 who completed the de facto training programs)
SERVICES AND DUTIES OF MEP DESIGN 1ST-CLASS KENCHIKUSHI

When a building* requires advanced expertise, an MEP Design 1st-class Kenchikushi must either perform the MEP design of such a building, or, where the MEP design has been performed by a 1st-class Kenchikushi who is not qualified as an MEP Design 1st-class Kenchikushi, assess the MEP design to ensure that it satisfies relevant laws and regulations.

*Buildings having a total floor area exceeding 5,000 sq m and three or more stories.

MEP DESIGN 1ST-CLASS KENCHIKUSHI TRAINING PROGRAM

Eligibility
A person is eligible to take the MEP Design 1st-class Kenchikushi training program if he/she has engaged in the services of MEP design for five years or more as a 1st-class Kenchikushi. The following services are also acceptable:

1. Construction administration of MEP works;
2. Assistance for MEP design;
3. MEP-related services provided in the capacity of a Building Mechanical and Electrical Engineer (including MEP-related services performed before qualifying as a 1st-class Kenchikushi);
4. Building confirmation services relating to MEP systems and assistance for such services;

A candidate with the experience described in (3) may be exempt from taking the subjects related to MEP systems in the lectures and the achievement test.

Training program
- Lectures (3 days)
  - Design of Electrical Systems; Design of Air Conditioning/Ventilation Systems; Design of Water Supply, Drainage and Hygiene Systems; Design of Transportation Systems; Laws and Regulations on MEP Systems; General Theory of MEP Design; Conformity Assessment
- Achievement test (1 day / writing test and drawing test)
- Questions on MEP-related provisions (conformity assessment)
- Questions on MEP systems (design and drawing)

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS WHO COMPLETED THE TRAINING PROGRAM

4,459 as of December 12, 2012
(including 2,727 who completed the de facto training programs)
PERIODIC TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR KENCHIKUSHI

ORGANIZATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR IMPLEMENTING THE PERIODIC TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR KENCHIKUSHI

PERIODIC TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR 1ST-CLASS KENCHIKUSHI, 2ND-CLASS KENCHIKUSHI AND MOKUZO KENCHIKUSHI

- Eligibility
  1st-class Kenchikushi, 2nd-class Kenchikushi or Mokuzo Kenchikushi

- Who must take the periodic training program
  Kenchikushi who are employed by a Kenchikushi office

- Training program
  Lectures (total of 5 hours)
  - Same for all 1st-class, 2nd-class and Mokuzo Kenchikushi
  Laws and regulations pertaining to building construction
  Design and construction administration
  Achievement test (1 hour / true-false test)
  - 1st-class Kenchikushi (40 questions)
  - 2nd-class Kenchikushi (35 questions)
  - Mokuzo Kenchikushi (30 questions)

- Number of participants who have completed the training program (as of March 29, 2013)
  1st-class Kenchikushi periodic training program 100,810
  2nd-class Kenchikushi periodic training program 75,116
  Mokuzo Kenchikushi periodic training program 1,418

PERIODIC TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR STRUCTURAL DESIGN 1ST-CLASS KENCHIKUSHI

- Eligibility
  Structural Design 1st-class Kenchikushi

- Who must take the periodic training program
  1st-class Kenchikushi who have obtained a Structural Design 1st-class Kenchikushi certificate

- Training program
  Lectures (total of 5 hours)
  Structure-related provisions
  Structural design
  Achievement test (1 hour / true-false test / 40 questions)
  Questions on structure-related provisions
  Questions on structural design

- Number of participants who have completed the training programs (as of November 14, 2012) 5,516

PERIODIC TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR MEP DESIGN 1ST-CLASS KENCHIKUSHI

- Eligibility
  MEP Design 1st-class Kenchikushi

- Who must take the periodic training program
  1st-class Kenchikushi who have obtained an MEP Design 1st-class Kenchikushi certificate

- Training program
  Lectures (total of 5 hours)
  MEP-related provisions
  MEP design
  Achievement test (1 hour / true-false test / 40 questions)
  Questions on MEP-related provisions
  Questions on MEP design

- Number of participants who have completed the training programs (as of November 14, 2012) 2,824

FLOWCHART OF THE TRAINING PROGRAM

Some tasks are entrusted to the Japan Federation of Architects & Building Associations and the Japan Association of Architectural Firms.
ROUTE TO BECOME AN INTERIOR PLANNER

ORGANIZATIONAL FRAMEWORK

The BMEE system was established in 1983 to accommodate the increasingly advanced and complex mechanical, electrical, and plumbing (MEP) systems and to ensure that the design and construction administration services pertaining to MEP systems are performed in an appropriate manner. From 1986 to 2005 JAEIC conducted the affairs related to the examination for BMEE based on the designation by the Minister of Construction. Since 2005 this has continued based on the registration by the Minister (Article 17-18 item (1) of the Kenchikushō Law Enforcement Regulation).

SERVICES OF BMEE

BMEE is a title given to a person who has acquired general knowledge and skills pertaining to MEP systems in buildings, and who is capable of giving appropriate advice to Kenchikushō on design and construction administration pertaining to advanced and complex MEP systems.

When a founder of a Kenchikushō office is contracted to perform design and other services, the name of the BMEE who will provide the service must be stated in the documents delivered to the client.

QUALIFYING EXAMINATION FOR BMEE

Eligibility
A person is eligible to take the qualifying examination for BMEE if he/she has:
(1) the necessary academic qualifications (i.e. completed an official program in architecture, mechanical or electrical engineering at a university/college, junior college, high school, special training college or another academic institution and subsequently graduated from the institution);
(2) the required license (e.g. first-class Kenchikushō);
(3) practical experience in interior design.

Examinations
(1) First-stage examination (academic examination) General knowledge of architecture, building-related laws and regulations and MEP systems
(2) Second-stage examination (design and drawing) MEP pre-schematic design and MEP schematic design and drawing

NUMBER OF LICENSED BMEEs OVER THE YEARS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of BMEEs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>38,783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>38,314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>37,847</td>
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<td>2009</td>
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<td>26,674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>26,191</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**INTERIOR PLANNER SYSTEM**

The Interior Planner system was established in 1987 to award the title of Interior Planner to those who engage in interior design. This system aims to increase the knowledge and skills of qualified Interior Planners so that they can provide high-quality and comprehensive interior design and satisfy consumers’ diversified needs for interior design. JAEIC operated this system as a Minister-approved evaluation/certification service until FY2000.

Since FY2001, after the Ministerial Notification forming the basis of the Ministerial approval system was repealed as part of administrative reforms, JAEIC took over the system and has been offering an independent system in accordance with the “Outline of the Interior Planners Qualification System.”

To obtain the title of Interior Planner, it is necessary to pass the qualifying examination for Interior Planners conducted by JAEIC and complete the registration.

The registration is valid for five years. To renew the registration, one must complete the training program conducted by JAEIC prior to the expiry of registration. Otherwise, the registration is cancelled.

**SERVICES OF INTERIOR PLANNER**

Interior Planners typically work at interior design offices, architectural design offices, construction companies and interior-related firms. Interior Planners provide professional services that focus on a wide range of buildings, including office buildings, public facilities, shops and residential homes. Services include the following:

1. **Interior planning**
   Interior Planners apply their expertise to plan the interior by giving appropriate advice to clients and creating concrete design images envisioned by clients utilizing various methods of expression.

2. **Interior design**
   Based on the design images created during the planning stage, Interior Planners plan the spatial organization and indoor environment, select interior construction methods and specifications, and prepare necessary drawings and specifications.

3. **Construction administration of interior work**
   Interior Planners perform construction administration to make sure that the work is completed according to the drawings and specifications.

**NUMBER OF REGISTERED INTERIOR PLANNERS**

As of October 1, 2012, there were 10,428 (including 1,914 women) Interior Planners active in Japan.

**QUALIFYING EXAMINATIONS FOR INTERIOR PLANNERS**

**Eligibility**

Those who are 20 years of age or older as of April 1 of the year

**Examinations**

1. **Academic Examination**
   - Interior planning, interior equipment, interior construction, interior codes and regulations and architecture in general

2. **Design and Drawing Examination**
   - Effective utilization of open space in buildings and interior design that evokes an image of a lifestyle

**INTERIOR PLANNER REGISTRATION**

**Registration requirements**

A person is eligible to register as an Interior Planner if he/she successfully passes the academic and design/drawing examinations and satisfies that he/she has:

1. The necessary academic background (i.e. must have graduated from a university/college, high school or technical school majoring in interior design or architecture);

2. The required license (e.g. Kenchikushi);

3. Practical experience in interior design. Prescribed years of practical experience in interior design are required for (1) to (3) respectively.

Persons to whom the disqualification provisions apply cannot obtain registration.

**ROUTE TO BECOME AN INTERIOR PLANNER**

Applicants for academic exam only

- Academic exam only

Applicants for academic and design/drawing exam

- Academic exam and design/drawing exam

Announcement of successful applicants

Registration requirements

- Registration requirement

Registration of Interior Planner Title

Renewal registration program

Renewal of registration (every five years)
APEC ENGINEER PROJECT

The purpose of the APEC Engineer Project, launched in FY2000, is to recognize and register as APEC Engineers those engineers who meet certain qualifications, such as practical experience, and to support their international activities.

Japan has participated in the APEC Engineer Project in 11 engineering disciplines. 1st-class Kenchikushi who specialize in building structure fields (building structural engineers) are eligible to apply in the building structure fields of the Structural Engineering discipline. The Japan APEC Engineer Monitoring Committee (Secretariat: the Institution of Professional Engineers, Japan) entrusts the assessment and registration of the building structural engineers to the Building Engineer Qualification Committee, and JAEIC has been serving as its secretariat.

APEC ARCHITECT PROJECT

APEC Architect Project, launched in FY2005, awards a title commonly recognized within the APEC region to architects who meet certain qualifications and practical experience and registers qualified architects. The aim of this project is to facilitate the mobility of architects throughout the APEC region and to support their international activities.

JAEIC has been conducting research and surveys on various topics, including: how the Kenchikushi licensing system should function; improvement and streamlining of the Kenchikushi examination methods; architectural culture and landscape; the improvement of the quality of building engineers and their effective employment; and architectural education.

JAEIC also has been studying overseas qualification systems of architects, MEP engineers, interior designers and other professionals working in the building field, and has prepared reports on the U.S., Canada, European countries including U.K., Germany and France, and Asian countries including Korea, based on collected materials and field surveys.

Other research and surveys conducted by JAEIC include the following:
- “An international comparative research and review of architects/building engineers qualification and education systems”
- “Studies on the standards of remuneration for the services of Kenchikushi offices”
- “Studies on the guidelines for construction administration services”

SURVEY / RESEARCH

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SURVEY / RESEARCH / EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

JAEIC has been promoting the CPD systems as the secretariat for the Architectural CPD Operation Committee and the CPD Council of Organizations of Building Mechanical and Electrical Engineers (BMEEs). The Committees were established by relevant organizations in order to maintain and improve knowledge and skills of Kenchikushi and BMEEs respectively and are each responsible for the certification of CPD programs, comprehensive management of the CPD records, and issuance of certificates demonstrating achievement under the CPD program.

ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION AND INFORMATION FUND

In FY 1989, JAEIC established the Fund for Architectural Education and Information to improve the knowledge and skills of engineers in the architectural field. This Fund is used to subsidize basic and public interest surveys and studies and publicity campaigns, for the purpose of contributing to education in and dissemination of architectural knowledge.

COUNCIL OF PEOPLE-FRIENDLY ARCHITECTURE AND HOUSING

Together with the Foundation for Senior Citizens’ Housing, JAEIC has been serving as the secretariat for the Council of People-Friendly Architecture and Housing. This Council was established by relevant organizations nationwide with the aim of improving and promoting buildings and houses that accommodate the elderly and persons with physical disability.
AN OVERVIEW OF THE JAPAN ARCHITECTURAL EDUCATION AND INFORMATION CENTER

PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHMENT

Society’s needs for building design and construction administration are becoming increasingly sophisticated and complex, as people’s lifestyles and economic activities grow in diversity. It is critical, therefore, to improve the quality of architects and building engineers to ensure that Kenchikushi and other professionals can meet these increasingly diverse needs. At the same time, the emergence of administrative simplification and streamlining as one of the major policy issues has prompted an urgent need to establish an organization entrusted with the following tasks: more effective administration of the qualifying examinations for Kenchikushi conducted at both national and prefectural levels for a vast number of applicants; better management of the examination system; and improvement of the quality of Kenchikushi. To address these challenges, and with great expectations from the national and prefectural governments as well as architectural industrial circles, the Japan Architectural Education and Information Center was established on September 10, 1982, with contributions from architecture-related organizations.

ACTIVITIES

September 1982
Established the Japan Architectural Education and Information Center (JAEIC)

October 1983
Established the Research Institute for Education of Architects within JAEIC

February 1984
Began administering the examination for 1st-class Kenchikushi

April 1984
Set up seven branch offices throughout the country

January 1986
Began administering the examinations for 2nd-class and Mokuzo Kenchikushi

Began administering the examination and the seminar for BMEEs (the seminar ended in December 1988)

August 1986
Started editing textbooks for the designated training programs for Kenchikushi and managing participants’ data

February 1987
Began offering the registration service for BMEEs (the service was transferred to the Japan Building Mechanical and Electrical Engineers Association in October 1990)

March 1987
Began administering the Interior Planner examination and training programs (the training programs ended in FY1990)

March 1988
Started registration services for Interior Planners

January 1989
Began administering the training programs for the renewal of the BMEE title (the training programs ended in 2002)

April 1989
Established the “Fund for Architectural Education and Information” to support research/survey and public relations activities by subsidy

January 1990
Established the Interior Planning Award (ended in FY2006)

January 1993
Began administering the training program for the renewal of the Interior Planner title

November 1994
Began publishing the journal Kenchiku Fu ky u & Shikaku (Architectural Information & Qualifications)

November 1996
Launched the JAEIC website

The journal Kenchiku Fukyu & Shikaku was renamed QUA Qway (discontinued in FY2005)

November 2000
Began administering the APEC Engineer Project

July 2005
Began administering the APEC Architect Project

April 2006
Began operation of the architectural CPD information system

April 2008
Began administering the Structural/MEP Design 1st-class Kenchikushi training programs and the Kanri Kenchikushi training program (de facto training programs prior to enforcement of the revised Kenchikushi Law in 2008)

November 2008
Began administering the Structural/MEP Design 1st-class Kenchikushi training program, the Kanri Kenchikushi training program and periodic training programs for 1st-, 2nd- and Mokuzo Kenchikushi

December 2008
Began administering the EMF International Engineer Project

June 2010
Revised the operation guidelines for the Fund for Architectural Education and Information and began providing funding for research, studies and publicity campaigns selected from public submissions

September 2011
Began administering the periodic training programs for Structural/MEP Design 1st-class Kenchikushi

April 2013
Transitioned to a Public Interest Incorporated Foundation.