

Practitioners are accredited at one of three levels – what does this mean?

The BPAD Scheme accredits practitioners at three different levels ranging from bushfire attack level assessments through to problem solving for complex situations. Level 1 is the lowest level in the scheme and Level 3 the highest.

A practitioner accredited at a higher level can undertake all activities of a lower level. For example a practitioner accredited at Level 2, can undertake both Level 2 and Level 1 activities. Similarly a Level 3 accredited practitioner can undertake all bushfire planning and design activities stipulated in the accreditation scheme.

What level of accredited practitioner do I need?

Understanding the type of work you require will help identify the level of accredited practitioner you need. A guide for selecting the right practitioner for your project can be downloaded from our website. The guide lists the most common activities undertaken by accredited practitioners and the accreditation level that corresponds with the activity. A description of each level is also provided below.

Level 1 – BAL Assessor

Recognises practitioners who determine Bushfire Attack Levels using simplified methods and provide general advice on design and construction requirements.

Level 2 – Bushfire Planning Practitioner (Prescriptive)

Recognises practitioners who develop planning, development and building applications by applying prescribed bushfire management measures in accordance with local regulatory requirements in addition to the activities described for a Level 1 Practitioner.

Level 3 – Bushfire Planning Practitioner (Performance)

Recognises practitioners who develop planning, development and building applications by developing alternative design solutions to the prescribed bushfire management measures (excluding construction provisions) in accordance with local regulatory requirements in addition to the activities described for a Level 1 and Level 2 Practitioner.

If you are uncertain of the level of practitioner you require, simply discuss your needs with an accredited practitioner who will help you identify the best way forward. You can also contact your local council, fire service or FPA Australia for assistance.

How do I find a BPAD accredited bushfire practitioner?

FPA Australia provides two ways to find BPAD accredited practitioners. Our online search tool, **Providers of Choice**, enables you to find a business that provides BPAD services. You can search by postcode, suburb or by company name. When searching, select **Bushfire Consultants (BPAD)** to find an accredited practitioner.

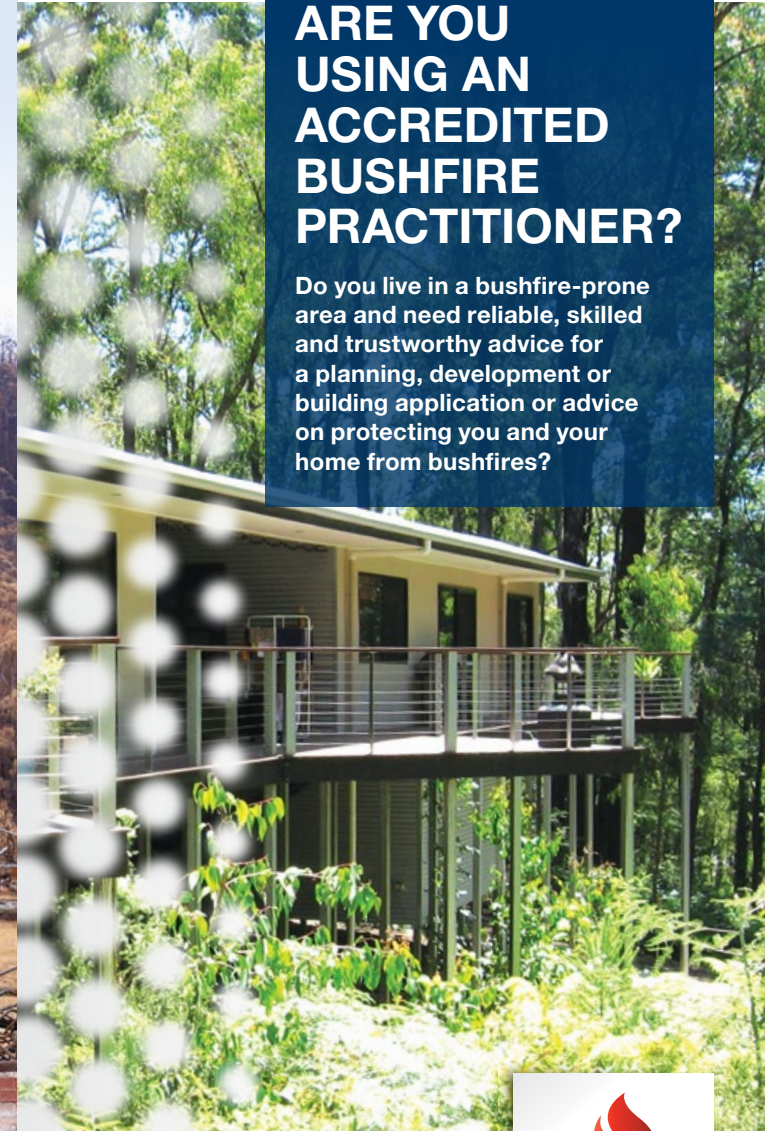
We also provide an Accredited Practitioner Register which lists individual practitioners and can be used to validate the currency of a Practitioner's accreditation.

Visit www.fpaa.com.au/bpad and select **Find a Provider** or **View BPAD Accredited Practitioner Register**.



ARE YOU USING AN ACCREDITED BUSHFIRE PRACTITIONER?

Do you live in a bushfire-prone area and need reliable, skilled and trustworthy advice for a planning, development or building application or advice on protecting you and your home from bushfires?



PO Box 1049
Box Hill VIC
Australia 3128

T 1300 731 922
E bpad@fpaa.com.au
W www.fpaa.com.au



Fire Protection Association Australia
Life Property Environment



Planning and Building in bushfire-prone areas

In most states and territories, governments apply restrictions on subdivision and construction of homes and other buildings on land that is designated as bushfire-prone.

The assessment of bushfire risk and the production of plans and reports to comply with planning, development and building requirements for bushfire-prone areas is a complex and difficult task. It requires a high level of skill, knowledge and experience and should only be undertaken by an accredited bushfire practitioner.

If you fail to seek expert help your home may be more vulnerable to bushfire impact, leaving you and your family poorly protected.

How can a professional accredited bushfire practitioner help me?

Reliably and competently assess bushfire risk

A professionally trained, experienced and accredited bushfire practitioner will competently assess your bushfire risk and provide you with practical advice on how to protect your home and family.

Ensure you comply with planning, development and building requirements

They will make sure that your proposed development complies with all bushfire related planning, development and building laws and meets the requirements of council and the fire services.

Save you money

A professional assessment of the likely impact of bushfire on your home could result in you saving thousands of dollars in construction costs.

Get you into your new home faster

Your development can be approved quicker with less inconvenience to you, as council, certifiers and the fire services trust and recognise the work undertaken by accredited practitioners. This may also save you money.

Provide advice on protecting existing buildings

Accredited practitioners can provide advice on the best ways to protect existing buildings including measures such as sprinklers, shelters, building upgrades and landscaping. They can provide you with a bushfire ready "roadworthy" report for your home.

Accreditation of bushfire practitioners

Fire Protection Association Australia (FPA Australia) is a not for profit organisation. We have developed an accreditation scheme for bushfire practitioners to make it easier to find someone you can trust to provide good advice.

The accreditation scheme is referred to as the Bushfire Planning and Design Accreditation Scheme or BPAD Scheme for short.

All practitioners accredited under the BPAD Scheme must comply with five key components.

