Students and the EPC

More students each year are seeking internships before graduation, whether as a summer job or as part of their curriculum for credit. You can begin to gain credit in IDP after the third year in a NAAB-accredited program or pre-professional program accepted for direct entry to an NAAB-accredited professional degree program or after the first year in a NAAB-accredited Master of Architecture program.

The Emerging Professional’s Companion (EPC) is a way for students to gain exposure to issues of practice while still in school. Students can:

• Do the exercises independently or in groups for course credit.
• Learn more about training areas that are sometimes difficult for an intern to access in the office environment.
• Gain experience in non-traditional areas of practice by reviewing a list of expanded practice opportunities for IDP credit in Chapter 16 of the Companion, Professional and Community Service.
• Compile a personal portfolio of work that they can use to gain for professional advancement.

EPC Frequently Asked Questions

How can I get the EPC?
Go to AIA Store at www.aia.org/books to purchase access to the EPC Web site.

How much does it cost?
The EPC is available at reduced cost to students ($80) and is FREE AIAS members and NCARB IDP record holders.

AIAS Members: go to www.EPCompanion.org. Contact AIAS Infocentral at Infocentral@aia.org or 800.242.3837. Just tell them that you are an AIAS member who wants to get access to the EPC and they will give your customer number and AIA password (usually your last name).
NCARB IDP record holders: go to www.EPCompanion.org. Click on link for NCARB IDP record holders and follow secondary login prompts.

Can I get IDP credit for EPC exercises I complete for my university course?
Unfortunately, no. NCARB doesn’t allow credit to be counted for both IDP and degree requirements. However, if the course is not required for the completion of the degree or the student completes the EPC work independently of coursework while working under in an appropriate IDP training setting (i.e. during your summer internship), he or she may apply for credit using the intern reporting form on the Web site.