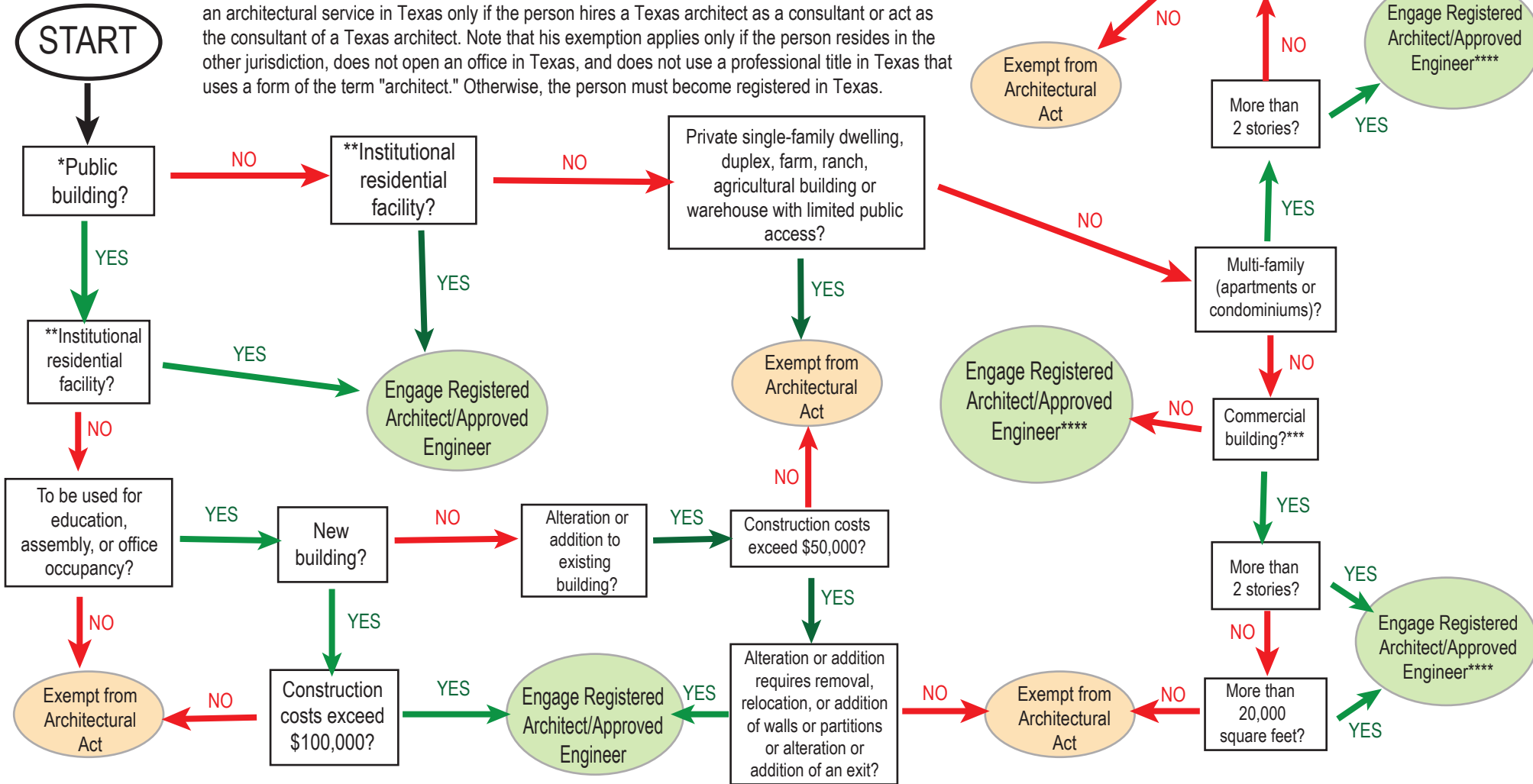


When to Engage an Architect or Approved Engineer for Design and Construction Observation

- Note: an unlicensed person who wishes to offer or perform design services for any project that qualifies as "Exempt from Architectural Act" must not use any form of the word "architect" in connection with the offer or performance of design services. See [Tex. Occ. Code § 1051.606](#) and [22 Tex. Admin. Code §1.123](#).
- If an unlicensed person is a legally qualified architect in another jurisdiction, that person may perform an architectural service in Texas only if the person hires a Texas architect as a consultant or act as the consultant of a Texas architect. Note that his exemption applies only if the person resides in the other jurisdiction, does not open an office in Texas, and does not use a professional title in Texas that uses a form of the term "architect." Otherwise, the person must become registered in Texas.



* "Public Building" means any building that is owned by a State agency, a political subdivision of the State, or any other public entity in Texas.
 ** "Institutional residential facility" means a building intended for occupancy on a 24-hour basis by persons who are receiving custodial care from the proprietor or operator of the building.
 *** "Commercial building" means an enclosed structure primarily used for the purchase, sale, or exchange of commodities or services.
 **** If the project involves only the alteration of an existing building and the alteration does not involve a substantial structural or exitway change to a building, the project is exempt from the architectural act.

- This chart is based on information taken from [Tex. Occ. Code §1051.606](#) and [22 Tex. Admin. Code Subchapter K](#). For more guidance and information, please consult those provisions.
- Pursuant to [HB 2284](#) a limited number of professional engineers may render architectural services on nonexempt projects. [Link to List of Approved Engineers](#)