

## MASTER / GRADUATE DIPLOMA OF FINE ART - INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION GUIDELINES

### AM I AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT?

You are considered to be an international student if you are **NOT**:

- an Australian citizen, or
- a New Zealand citizen, or
- a dual citizen of any country with Australia or New Zealand, or
- a permanent resident of Australia.

If you meet any of these criteria you are considered to be a domestic student.

You are an international student if you hold a permit for temporary entry to Australia. For example, if your status is: overseas student, permanent resident of New Zealand, diplomat, temporary resident holding a work permit, refugee, a dependent of any of the above, etc.

### HOW TO APPLY

Lodge a completed application form with certified copies of photographic identification, proof of residency status, and academic qualifications as evidence of meeting academic entry requirements with NAS Student Services by the due date. In addition to the certified evidence, the form must also include/be accompanied by:

- Evidence of meeting the English Proficiency requirement (if applicable) i.e English Proficiency Test Scores
- A Studio Proposal (500 -1,000 words). *See below for Studio Project Proposal Guidelines.*
- 12 examples of own works in digital format (PDF format only) on a USB, readable by both Mac and PC
- Provide 2 academic referees

Please note that for applicants who are advancing from the BFA or BFA (Hons) at NAS, the interview requirement may be waived.

**Current Fees: \$39,468 per year (full time)** Visit [www.nas.edu.au](http://www.nas.edu.au) for the latest information about fees.

**Application Forms are available from [www.nas.edu.au](http://www.nas.edu.au).**

## HOW TO APPLY FOR ADVANCED STANDING

Entry by Advanced Standing into year 2 of the MFA is available only to applicants who have completed the following in the last 10 years:

- First or Second Year of a Master of Fine Art by coursework degree or equivalent (AQF Level 9); or
- Completion of an AQF Level 8 coursework degree i.e. Bachelor of Fine Art (Hons) or Graduate Diploma in Fine Art or equivalent.

Applications for entry with Advanced Standing will be evaluated for suitability upon submission of the applicant's proposal to transition previous study and/or intervening professional experience into a Masters level Studio Project.

Studio Project Proposals for Advanced Standing applicants must include a clear rationale for the coherent transition of previous study and / or professional experience into a Masters level Studio Project and how it will be achieved within the time frame available.

Priority for enrolment is given to National Art School continuing students, therefore offers of enrolment by advanced standing are also subject to availability of spaces within studio areas.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

### PREVIOUS STUDY

All international applicants must hold qualifications that are acceptable to NAS for admission. Applicants are considered for admission on the basis of:

- Australian and New Zealand Bachelor degree qualifications in Fine Art (AQF Level 7), or
- overseas tertiary qualifications in Fine Art considered equivalent to Australian studies,

### AND

- completion of a major in the intended Studio Specialisation,

### AND

- a credit average in a fine art degree **or**
- meeting the requirements of an Alternative Entry Scheme - *available for admission to the Master of Fine Art in exceptional cases only, see below*

### AND

- providing evidence of satisfying the English Language Requirement (if applicable). See below for further information.

In addition to satisfying eligibility requirements, applications for admission are evaluated upon the following criteria:

- Portfolio of work displaying the technical and conceptual capacity to undertake study at postgraduate level
- Communication and literacy skills required for study at postgraduate level
- Studio Project Proposal displaying the quality, coherence and suitability for study at postgraduate level

### ALTERNATIVE ENTRY SCHEME

In exceptional cases where applicants do not possess any of the qualifications outlined above they may apply for admission to the Master of Fine Art with:

- completion of an undergraduate degree in another discipline, **and**
- extensive professional experience in the arts.

Professional experience will include an established record of production and presentation of art works through industry/professional systems as follows:

- Regular presentation of work for solo and group exhibition in venues of industry standing and professional recognition;
- Inclusion of work in curated exhibition programs/projects and art prizes of industry standing and professional recognition;
- Inclusion of work in public and/or private collections of curatorial significance and professional recognition

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE EQUIVALENCY

All programs at NAS are taught in English. Applicants who are applying on the basis of qualifications that were not undertaken and assessed in English must provide evidence of their English language proficiency.

NAS recognises a number of English Language tests and English Preparation Courses which can be undertaken to meet the English language requirements for admission. These are set out in the following table, together with the minimum results required. Test scores are not valid if the test was taken more than two years prior to the date of application.

TEST/PROVIDER	MINIMUM TEST SCORE
IELTS (International English Language Testing System)	6.5 overall, minimum of 6.0 in each band
TOEFL (Paper) – Paper-based Test (PBT)	580 overall paper-based, plus 5.0 in TWE
TOEFL (Internet) – Internet-based Test (iBT)	92 overall internet-based, 24 in writing
Australian Centre for Languages (ACL)	65% overall in EAP Diploma with pass in all sections
UNSW English Entry Course (UEEC)	7.0 overall or C+ with minimum score 20 in Writing
Sydney English Language Centre (SELC)	Advanced Level EAP 1 overall score 75%
National Centre for English Language Training & Research (NCELTR)	Pass (P) in Direct Entry Programs
Australian College of English (ACE)	EAP 3 overall score 65%
University of Western Sydney English Language Centre	EDE overall score 75% and pass in each section
NAVITAS Academic English (Level 3)	Overall pass 65% in Academic English Level 3
Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE) – prior to 2015	Pass with a CEFR Level C1 Grade (45+/100)
Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (CAE) – prior to 2015	Pass with a C Grade (60+/100)
Cambridge English Scale (CPE) – from 2015	Overall min. scale score of 180 (min. 180 in each subtest)
Cambridge English Scale (CAE) – from 2015	Overall min. scale score of 176 (min. 169 in each subtest)

Applicants who have completed one of the following criteria may also satisfy the English language requirement:

- tertiary qualification in Australia completed within the last 2 years
- tertiary studies in a country where studies were conducted in English within the last 2 years, confirmed with a statement or certificate from the Registrar's office (subject also to independent assessment)
- Australian matriculation score C or better (Pre-University Program such as AUSMAT)
- TAFE AQF Certificate IV in English for Academic Purposes, AQF Diploma or Advanced Diploma

Applicants are required to submit test scores with applications or as soon as available. An offer of admission may be made pending the receipt of an English Test result if all other entry requirements have been satisfied.

## THE SELECTION PROCESS

Admission into the MFA and GDFA is competitive, with selection based on an interview process and portfolio assessment. If you meet the requirements for admission, you will be notified of the time and date of your interview by NAS Student Services via email and/or post.

### INTERVIEW & PORTFOLIO EVALUATION

The interview panel will consist of at least two Academic staff from the National Art School. The panel will ask you a range of questions relating to your arts practice, your portfolio, as well as your reasons for wanting to enrol in the course and how the course will support your career plans or personal goals. There will also be an opportunity for you to ask course related questions of the panel. Applicants who are advancing from the BFA at NAS may be waived the interview requirement.

Your portfolio should consist of:

**Studio Project Proposal:** (500-1000 words in length) addressing the following points:

*Statement of Your Topic:* Begin by introducing the general description of your area of art practice and research. Outline the specific subject of your proposed Studio Project and its potential to be developed through practice-based enquiry.

*Aims of the Project:* Clarify the objectives of the Studio Project. Be as specific as you can about what you wish to achieve by undertaking this project. You may make reference to other artists, art movements, theories, etc. that have an affinity to your studio practice and research.

*Methodology:* Describe your methods of investigation in sufficient detail so that there is clarity about:

- what kind of information you will be using in your research, including its source;
- what resources you will require;
- what method of investigation you are using;
- why you have selected this approach;
- what safety and ethical issues you have identified and how you propose to proceed

*Outcomes:* Describe the anticipated outcomes in terms of the estimated size, type, quantity, medium and format, etc, of the final body of work.

*Bibliography & References:* List any publications, works and other materials that you cite in your proposal. Also list any other relevant texts and materials that have influenced your ideas and that you expect to inform your Studio project.

**A minimum of least 12 artworks:** in PDF format on a USB, readable by both Mac and PC

**Evidence of meeting the English Proficiency requirement:** for students applying on the basis of qualifications that were not undertaken and assessed in English

**Interviews and portfolio evaluations are held on campus in the second week of December.**

## IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND YOUR INTERVIEW IN PERSON

Applicants residing off-shore or interstate and unable to attend an interview may apply by submitting their application in an electronic format. Discuss this with Student Services as soon as possible.

## OFFERS

Applicants will be informed of the result of their application in early January.

## ENQUIRIES

If you have any further enquiries about the interview or application process, please contact Student Services on (02) 9339 8651 or email [student.services@nas.edu.au](mailto:student.services@nas.edu.au)

## GENERAL VISA INFORMATION

**Visit:** <http://www.studyinaustralia.gov.au/global/apply-to-study>

### Applying to study in Australia:

To study in Australia you'll need to apply for both admission to an institution and also for a student visa from the Australian Government.

There are a number of steps you must go through including:

- Deciding on your preferred course and institution.
- Submitting your application to the institution.
- Receiving and accepting a Letter of Offer.
- Receiving your electronic Confirmation of Enrolment (eCoE).
- Applying for your student visa.

Education agents in your home country can also help you with applying to study in Australia.

### Visa types:

There are several classes of student visas for Australia - the one you need depends on the type of study (eg: English language course, graduate degree, vocational training, higher education, etc.) you are planning to undertake.

### Student visa options:

There are various visas that you can apply for to study in Australia which depend on the type of study you choose to undertake. If you would like to study in Australia at a university or tertiary level then you may be eligible for the **Higher Education Sector Visa (subclass 573)**.

For more information, please visit the Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) website: <http://www.immi.gov.au/Visas/Pages/Find-a-visa.aspx>