

BACHELOR OF FINE ART (HONOURS) [BFA(HONS)] APPLICATION GUIDELINES 2026

NATIONAL
ART
SCHOOL

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact our **Future Student Advisor** via email admissions@nas.edu.au or phone +61 (0)2 9339 8741.

HOW TO APPLY

All domestic and international applications for the Bachelor of Fine Art (Honours) are accepted via an online Application Form: <https://nas.edu.au/apply-bfahons-2026>.

Please note: NAS does not accept applications via UAC for the BFA(Hons).

The Bachelor of Fine Art (Honours) degree is for applicants who have completed or are completing their undergraduate degree in Fine Art or a cognate discipline.

All applicants are required to submit:

- Honours Project Proposal
- Portfolio, consisting of 10-12 images of recent artworks with captions, submitted as a single PDF file

External and International Applicants must also submit:

- Proof of academic qualifications
- An academic writing sample, such as an academic essay, article, or literature review
- Evidence of meeting the English proficiency requirement (**International applicants only, if applicable**)
- Proof of citizenship status (e.g. Passport ID page, birth certificate)
- Proof of visa status (**International applicants only**)

Applications open: Friday 26 September 2025

Applications close: Friday 21 November 2025

KEY DATES: <https://futurestudents.nas.edu.au/key-dates/>

FEES AND CHARGES

The fees for 2026 are:

Domestic: \$16,740 per year (full time)

International: \$44,160 per year (full time)

The latest information about domestic and international fees are available on the NAS website: <https://futurestudents.nas.edu.au/fees/>. *Fees are subject to change year-on-year.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION

To be eligible for admission to the BFA(Hons), applicants must:

- hold a Bachelor of Fine Art degree, or undergraduate degree in a cognate discipline, with a Credit grade average (or equivalent), **or**
- be currently completing a Bachelor of Fine Art degree, or undergraduate degree in a cognate discipline, **or**
- meet the requirements of an alternative entry scheme.

Alternative Entry Scheme

NAS reserves the right to extend professional equivalence to meet the entry requirement without an AQF Level 7 qualification in exceptional cases where the applicant holds extraordinary levels of professional practice. The applicant must be able to satisfy NAS of their ability to meet the academic rigours of studying for a degree qualification at this level. All applicants intending to apply for the BFA(Hons) under the alternative entry scheme, must discuss their eligibility with the Future Students Advisor prior to submitting their application.

Professional practice may include an established record of production and presentation of artworks through industry/professional systems as evidenced by:

- Regular presentation of work for solo and group exhibitions 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.
- Inclusion of work in professional publications of industry standing.

All international applicants must hold qualifications that are acceptable to NAS for admission and must hold (or be currently completing) a qualification equivalent to AQF Level 7 in Australia.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

Admission into the Bachelor of Fine Art (Honours) is competitive, with selection based on **academic merit**, the **Honours Project Proposal**, **portfolio** and **interview process**. All eligible applicants will be invited to an interview.

If you meet the eligibility requirements for admission and your application meets the standard for study at Honours level, NAS Future Students Team will notify you via email of the time and date of your interview. Interviews can be held online by request. If your application does not meet the standard for study at Honours level, you will be notified that your application has been unsuccessful.

The interview panel will be convened by the Head of Postgraduate Studies or the BFA(Hons) Course Coordinator and will consist of at least two academic staff from the National Art School. You will be asked to discuss your Honours Project Proposal and the works in your application portfolio. The panel will ask you a range of questions relating to your art practice, 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.

Honours Research Proposal, Portfolio & Academic Writing Sample

Your application materials should consist of:

- Honours Project Proposal (500-1000 words)
- Portfolio, consisting of 10-12 images of recent artworks with captions (submit as one PDF)

1. Honours Project Proposal

The Honours Project Proposal outlines your proposed direction for your Honours project. Please submit a written proposal (recommended 500-1000 words) addressing the following points:

Working Project Title and Summary

Begin by introducing the general description of your area of fine art practice and proposed Honours studio research, including a draft working title for the project. Outline the key aims of the studio and research project and what you wish to explore by undertaking this project.

Concepts and Contexts

Discuss the key conceptual ideas and contextual influences informing your project. These may include relevant artists, art movements, theories, writers, and broader cultural or disciplinary frameworks that underpin your studio practice and research direction.

Methods, Processes, and Materials

Discuss your key materials, processes and methods used in your studio and research project. Describe details of your methods of investigation, including specific materials, resources, equipment you plan to use and any safety or ethical considerations relevant to your project. Discuss why these approaches are relevant to your project proposal.

Proposed Outcomes

Describe the anticipated outcomes of your project proposal, including details on whether the work might be an exhibition of artworks, a performance, a site-specific installation, or other outcome. Discuss what you hope to communicate or achieve. Please note that these outcomes are expected to evolve over time, and your description should reflect your current intentions.

References and Bibliography

List all sources you cite within the proposal, including any publications, artworks, or other research materials that have influenced your thinking. Include additional references that you anticipate may inform the direction of your Honours project. Use Chicago Style for all in-text citations and bibliography entries.

2. Portfolio

Images of 10-12 recent artworks which best represent your current practice and support your intended BFA(Hons) project. Submit your portfolio in a single PDF file, with full captions for each work including title, date, medium, dimensions, etc.

3. Academic Writing Sample (External and International Applicants only)

A sample of academic writing. This may be a written assignment you have completed during previous study, such as an Art History essay, an annotated bibliography, or a literature review. It could also be a published article or formal presentation to industry. The academic writing sample should indicate your ability to communicate ideas through formal academic conventions, and it does not necessarily need to be related to fine arts.

INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS ONLY

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 a domestic student.

You are an international student if you hold a permit for temporary entry to Australia. This includes if you are an overseas student, a permanent resident of New Zealand, a diplomat, a temporary resident holding a work permit, a refugee, or a dependent of any of the above.

Applying to study in Australia

For information regarding studying in Australia, travel, and visa advice, please visit the following website:
<https://www.studyaustralia.gov.au/>

Evidence of meeting the English Proficiency requirements

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.

Applicants who have completed one of the following criteria may 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

NAS recognises several 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 table below, 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.

International applicants are required to submit their test scores with their application 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.

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)
PTE Academic (Pearson)	Minimum score of between 51-60

OFFERS

Applicants will be informed of the result of their application in mid-December to early January. All internal offers are conditional based on successful completion of all requirements for the BFA and attainment of a Credit grade average.

ENQUIRIES

If you have any further enquiries about the interview or application process, please contact:

Future Student Advisor: admissions@nas.edu.au, +61 (0)2 9339 8741

Student Services: student.services@nas.edu.au, +61 (0)2 9339 8613 or +61 (0)2 9339 8651