

FAQs Admission Exam for Fine Arts

All dates and details are published on our website. We would kindly ask you to read carefully the full text and FAQs before contacting us. If you do contact us, we are asking for your kind understanding that due to high demand, it may take some time to get back to

English version on: www.akbild.ac.at/en/studies/admission-examinations/fine-arts

German version on: www.akbild.ac.at/de/studium/zulassungspruefungen/bildende-kunst

1. General information about the study program Fine Arts

Fine Arts is a full time diploma program of 8 semesters leading to the academic degree „Mag. art.“. It is not a Bachelor/Master program. In Austria, a diploma degree is considered equivalent to a Master degree. If you already studied e.g. a BA in Fine Arts at another university, you may apply for recognition of exams/courses from previous studies.

Please note: We cannot guarantee any recognition of exams/courses and will consider applications for recognition after admission and enrolment as a regular student/degree student only.

For detailed information see the „Studienplan 2021“ (curriculum) on:

English version: www.akbild.ac.at/en/studies/study-programs/fine-arts/curriculumfinearts_corr_20220915.pdf

German version: https://www.akbild.ac.at/de/studium/studienrichtungen/bildende-kunst/studienplanbildendekunst_2021_korrektur20220915-1.pdf

There are no requirements like „Matura“ (A-level, high school diploma etc.) or preliminary studies necessary to apply for Fine Arts. The only condition to be admitted to the study program is to successfully pass the admission exam.

Please note that there is no possibility to be admitted to the Fine Arts study program, but to successfully pass the admission exam, also if you already studied an art-related program before.

2. Language

Language requirements for the admission exam:

The admission exam can be done either in German or English. Applicants who do not speak English or German can bring a translator to the oral exam (interview with the professors), detailed information will be submitted within the admission procedure.

Language requirements for students:

After passing the admission exam and enrolling as a regular student/degree student, our students have two semesters time to achieve German on level B1. Before enrolling for the third semester (after one year of studies), our students have to prove German knowledge by presenting an official certificate for level B1 at our Registrar's Office or by passing the Academy's German course for level B1.

For further information see:

www.akbild.ac.at/en/studies/general-study-information/language-competency

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As a major part of our courses/lectures are held in German or German/English, it is essential to speak and understand German.

3. Admission procedure

Part 1: online registration

Step 1: online registration via www.akbild.ac.at/zulassung or www.akbild.ac.at/admission during the given time frame (please also check the spam folder of your email account after online registration).

If you wish to apply for more than one „studio group“ (painting and photography, sculpture or media) within the admission exam for the Fine Arts study program, you have to register online for each group separately and upload a separate portfolio for each application.

Step 2: submission of the portfolio/work samples by upload within the respective given time frames. You will receive the upload-link by email after online registration.

Step 3: The board of admission (Senat der Zulassungsprüfung) examines all applications and decides who will be invited to take part in the oral exam (Part 2). The applicants will be notified by email about the results (please check again the spam folder of your email account).

Part 2: oral exam

Step 4: The applicants who are invited to take the oral exam – and wish to take part in the exam – in the studio groups sculpture and media have to attend the digital interview with the professor(s) and within that interview, present the result of the examination task. The exam/interviews can only be taken on the specified exam days. The date and times for the interview as well as the examination task will be sent by email to the applicants who are invited to the oral exam Part 2.

The examination task (Klausurarbeit) is not a theory test, it is a practical art task.

The applicants who are invited to take the oral exam – and wish to take part in the exam – in the studio groups painting and photography have to attend 3 days admission examination in personal attendance at Atelierhaus, Lehàrgasse 8, 1060, in Vienna, within the applicants present the result of the examination task. The exam/interviews can only be taken on the specified exam days. The date and times for the interview as well as the examination task will be sent by email to the applicants who are invited to the oral exam Part 2. The examination task (Klausurarbeit) is not a theory test, it is a practical art task.

Attendance on site on the three examination days is mandatory.

If personal appearance is not possible, this must be reported until May 13th, 2024 by email to vizerektorin_kunst_lehre@akbild.ac.at. Exceptional reasons are rejected visa applications and health obstacles (with a medical certificate). In exceptional cases reviewed and justified by the Vice-Rector for Art and Teaching, the admission test in person can be replaced by an admission test via Zoom video conference. Applicants will be informed by e-mail and invited to the admission examination via Zoom video conference. The examination consists of an examination task and a personal interview with the professors and their staff.

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Step 5: The board of admission (Senat der Zulassungsprüfung) decides who will be admitted to the study program on the basis of the submitted portfolio, the work samples produced as a result of the examination task and the interviews.

Step 6: The applicants will be notified by email about the results.

4. Portfolio/work samples

It is expected that the applicants submit/upload independent artistic works which illustrate certain interests, realisations and motivations as well as methods of work. The selection of works should be based on the applicant's own artistic practice. It is recommended that works, which have been produced in secondary school or various art-courses, be submitted only when they support the applicant's own personal artistic position. The work samples should serve to demonstrate the applicant's aptitude for independent artistic thinking and working. It is the applicant's decision how many works are in the portfolio, there is no specific number of works required in the portfolio.

Upload one portfolio file in pdf format with a maximum size of 50 MB, including a CV (Lebenslauf). Links to videos / audio material must be included in the portfolio (links to clouds, YouTube, websites, etc.). If necessary, do not forget to state the password. Applicants are responsible for the functioning of the links. If links do not work, the applicants will not be contacted on our part. You have to include a CV (Lebenslauf) in your portfolio. The other part of the portfolio can be designed according to your own ideas (maximum size 50 MB). The file name of the portfolio pdf-file should be as follows:
Registrationnumber_Lastname_Firstname (example file name: 0123_Miller_Anne)

For further details see: www.akbild.ac.at/en/studies/admission-examinations/fine-arts

5. Tuition fees

See detailed information on: www.akbild.ac.at/en/studies/general-study-information/tuition-fees

6. Open days

A good opportunity to get to know the Academy of Fine Arts Vienna is during the open days called "Rundgang" taking place in January each year. The exact dates and program for the Rundgang are published in December/beginning of January on our website: www.akbild.ac.at/rundgang-2024

7. General information on studying in Austria

<https://oead.at/en/to-austria/studying>

8. Austrian Students' Union / Österreichische Hochschüler_innenschaft

<http://www.oehakbild.info>

9. Accessible Studies

The Academy of Fine Arts Vienna supports the application of people with disabilities and strives to create an admission examination as accessible as possible. Applicants may contact the responsible person, Christina Fasching in the Student Welcome Center with their questions: studentwelcome@akbild.ac.at.