

MFA in Graphic Design Application Requirements

College of Design
Iowa State University

Anyone applying to the Master of Fine Arts in Graphic Design graduate program must meet the following requirements in addition to the minimum general requirements of the Graduate College of Iowa State University. The GRE is *not* required by the Graphic Design Program.

Application Requirements

1. Presentation of a portfolio of original work by the applicant, or slides/electronic files (PPT or PDF) of the applicant's work. At least 15 to 20 pieces or examples of actual art/design work must be presented.
2. Undergraduate preparation or equivalent professional work comparable to the department's undergraduate major program in the area in which the candidate intends to specialize.
3. Completion of the following questions on a separate sheet to be returned to the address below. Your name and social security number must be at the top of this sheet.
 - a) Give a brief account of your background—education, employment and activities—relevant to the field of graphic design.
 - b) State why you have selected Graphic Design at Iowa State University for graduate study.
 - c) Describe your objectives and professional goals.
 - d) State your point of view in relation to the following:
What do you believe are strong art and/design/graphic design directions today?
Whom do you consider as outstanding contemporary artist/designers in your field of interest?
Evaluate your knowledge of art/design/graphic design history.
 - e) Iowa State University makes reasonable efforts to comply with the special needs of disabled students. If you require special accommodations, please describe.
4. A current resume which includes a list of scholarships, honors, awards, exhibitions, publications, outstanding extracurricular activities, employment experience and research.
5. Three letters of recommendation.
6. A personal interview may be requested of each applicant by the Graphic Design graduate faculty.

A review of an applicant's undergraduate transcript and portfolio or slides by the Graphic Design graduate faculty will determine whether a candidate has an appropriate background for graduate study in the program. In unusual circumstances some of the above requirements may be waived.

Application Submission

Send portfolio/slides/electronic files/website, your response to listed questions, a current resume and three letters of recommendation to the Graduate Coordinator, Graphic Design Program, 146 College of Design, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011-3092.

Application Deadlines

There will be two review periods for graduate admission to the Master of Fine Arts program; please note and meet one of these deadlines:

- **February 1** if applying for an assistantship
- **April 1** for anticipated fall or spring-semester entry

All materials must be available on the deadline date or the candidate may not be considered for admission. It is the candidate's responsibility to check to make sure all his/her materials are on file in the Graphic Design Program.

All graduate program areas in the College of Design have enrollment limits due to studio facilities and number of faculty per area. Should space be unavailable in the MFA in Graphic Design program, a student may reapply the following year or request that his/her application be reviewed by graduate faculty in another program area. Fewer spaces are available for spring-semester entry.

Transcripts and university graduate application should be sent directly to Graduate Admissions, Enrollment Services Center, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011-2011, or apply online at <http://www.admissions.iastate.edu/apply/graduate.php>

More Information

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