

Frequently Asked Questions | Graduate Programs in Art

DEADLINE

What is the deadline to apply?

The Fall 2026 semester application cycle will open on October 1, 2025.

The deadline will be February 1st, 2026, at 11:59 PM (PST).

There is no Spring semester admission.

PROGRAMS

What CSUF Graduate Programs are offered?

Our Graduate program offers MFA degrees (60 units) in one of 8 studio art areas (ceramics; creative photography and experimental media; drawing and painting; glass; graphic and interactive design; jewelry and metals; illustration; and sculpture). The MA degrees (30 units) are offered in 2 areas (art history; and graphic and interactive design). Please consult the most current version of the College of the Arts University Catalog in the "Students" tab above for more information about the course offerings for those degrees. [College of the Arts University Catalog](#)

APPLICATION INFO

How do I apply to the CSUF Graduate Programs in Art?

*The application process has two parts. You must complete both the University application through [Cal State Apply](#) and the [Department of Art Graduate Applications through SlideRoom](#) by the deadline to be considered for graduate admissions. *Please note there is a required \$70 Cal State Apply fee.*

[Part 1 Cal State Apply](#)

[Part 2 Department of Art Graduate Applications through SlideRoom](#)

**For your application to be considered, you need to complete both parts.*

***Reminder you should also apply for [Financial Aid FAQ](#) right away.*

What are the requirements for admission to CSUF?

All of the university requirements are outlined in the [Graduate Student Application Checklist](#), under "Step 1" - "Before you Apply."

- University requirements include having a minimum GPA of 2.5 (cumulative or last 60 semester GPA units), a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution, and good standing with the last attended institution.*
- CSUF will only accept 4-year degrees or equivalent. If you have a 3-year degree, you can submit a WES report or IEE report that can verify your degree is equivalent to the US bachelor's 4-year degree.*
- Students who attended a university outside of the United States and do not qualify for a waiver must take an English Language Proficiency (ELP) test, regardless of citizenship. You may submit unofficial test scores with your application, but official test scores will be required to complete the admission process. Please note, we now accept Duolingo English Test.*

What are the Department of Art application requirements and process?

Everything is outlined in the Graduate Applications. Links to both applications can be found on the [Graduate Studies in Art](#) page.

Can I meet with faculty and get advice about my application or portfolio?

Unfortunately, no, faculty cannot advise prospective students on their applications or portfolios.

Do you have any information sessions about the Graduate Programs where I can ask general questions?

Yes, upcoming information sessions are listed on the [Graduate Studies in Art website](#)

What are the requirements for international students?

International students, please review the [International Graduate Eligibility Requirements](#) and these [frequently asked questions](#).

Applicants whose undergraduate degree was completed in a country where English is not the primary language must submit proof of English language proficiency. Please review the Office of Admissions website for specific program exam requirements and benchmarks.

TUITION & COSTS**MUST I BE ACCEPTED FOR ADMISSION BEFORE I APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID?**

No. In fact, if you wait until you're admitted to apply, you may miss the March 2 priority filing date to qualify for Cal Grants & other aid programs. You may apply for financial aid any time beginning October 1 & no later than March 2 for the following academic year (fall & spring). In fact, we encourage you to apply for financial assistance before you are admitted to the University. However, you must have an admission application on file with the University before we can begin processing your FAFSA & you must be formally admitted to the University before we will produce an award letter for you.

What are the costs of the programs?

Resources can be found here: [Cost of Attendance](#) and [CSUF Net Price Calculator](#).

Financial Aid Info is here: [Financial Aid for Graduate Students](#) and [Office of Financial Aid FAQ](#).

Are there non-resident tuition fee waivers available?

Yes, each year, 1 to 3 graduate program applicants who live outside California may qualify for a tuition fee waiver. This helps reduce their tuition costs.

Is it possible to waive the Cal State Apply fee?

Unfortunately, it is not possible. All CSUF applicants must pay the \$70 Cal State Apply fee. This includes international and domestic applicants.

Does the Department of Art Graduate SlideRoom Application have a fee?

No

MORE INFO**How do I find out more about the faculty?**

https://www.fullerton.edu/arts/art/about_us/faculty_staff/index.php

Are there scholarships available?

Yes, all scholarship info can be found [here](#)

What kind of housing is available to graduate students and international graduate students?

There are a couple of housing options available on and off campus.

On campus-

Housing information can be found on the website for [Housing and Residential Engagement](#) and the [International Students and Scholars Website](#). The Student Housing Suites are designed for International Students.

Off campus-

There are also housing options at [Grand Central Art Center in their Live/Work MFA/MA apartments](#). These apartments are available for rent to students accepted into Cal State Fullerton's College of the Arts graduate programs. Once a student has received an acceptance letter into a CSUF College of the Arts Master's program, they can apply for an apartment. The studio and one-bedroom student apartments include: internet, all utilities, a parking structure pass, security key card access, a shared private patio area, and an on-site studio space.

Are there TA or GA opportunities or other Teaching opportunities?

Yes, there are Graduate Assistantships where you work with a faculty member in their class, and opportunities for Graduate Students to teach their own class in the undergraduate program.

Are there other opportunities for International students to work on campus?

Yes, the [On-Campus employment office](#) outlines the requirements on its website.

Will I have a studio?

No, not all graduate students in art receive their own studio.

Are there exhibition opportunities for my work?

Yes, the Leo Freedman Foundation Studio + MFA Gallery is approximately 600 square feet each and located adjacent to the CSUF Begovich Gallery in the beautiful new building G.

How long does the MFA degree program typically take to complete?

3 Years

If I still have questions, whom can I contact?

Email questions to Anne (Graduate Administrative Assistant) anshanahan@fullerton.edu