



# MASTER OF FINE ARTS (DIRECTING)

## APPLICATION PROCESS FOR 2022 INTAKE

### APPLICATION PERIOD

**Open** 1 June 2021 – **Close** 31 August 2021, 11.59pm (AEST).

Late applications may be considered depending on interview schedule availability.

### APPLICATION PROCESS SUMMARY

The application process for the Master of Fine Arts (Directing) consists of two rounds:

- **Round One** – Online Application, including CV, Portfolio, Essay, and Interview Project (due 31 August 2021, 11.59pm AEST)  
All applicants will then have an interview with Directing staff via Zoom.
- **Round Two** – Directing Recall.

**Only applicants who are successful in Round One will be invited to Round Two: Directing Recall**

### BEFORE APPLYING

Before completing your application please read the following information:

- Course information, dates, fees and frequently asked questions can be found at:  
<https://www.nida.edu.au/courses/graduate>
- The NIDA Student Handbook, Policies & Procedures, and Course Regulations for MFA (Directing) course: <https://www.nida.edu.au/courses/policies>

If you have any further questions at this stage, please contact us at: [applications@nida.edu.au](mailto:applications@nida.edu.au)

## Master of Fine Arts (Directing)

### ROUND ONE

#### ONLINE APPLICATION

##### STEP 1

Create your application account in the Application Portal: [apply.nida.edu.au](https://apply.nida.edu.au)

You will receive an email with your log in details.

Log in to the Application Portal and click the green 'New Application' button.



NEW APPLICATION

# R O U N D 1

##### STEP 2

**Collect the following documents for your application:**

- Copy of your most recent qualification. MFA (Directing) applicants must hold an undergraduate degree (in any area) or have five years relevant experience in a related area.
- Proof of identification showing your date of birth (e.g. passport, driver's licence, birth certificate).

**International Applicants (and non-Australian Citizens with Permanent Visas) must also submit:**

- A copy of your passport, (must be valid for at least the first 12 months of your course).
- Proof of 8.0 Academic IELTS or equivalent for MFA (Directing).
- If you have a Permanent Visa (e.g. Permanent Resident, Partner visa Subclass 801), we require a copy of your visa.

#### CV AND CRITICAL ESSAY

##### STEP 3

You must prepare the following to submit with your application by the deadline of 31 August 2021.

##### **PROFESSIONAL CV**

You should upload a detailed CV highlighting your training, professional work, and other relevant information. If you do not hold an undergraduate degree, your CV must show evidence of at least 5+ years of relevant experience in an area relating to Directing.

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1**STEP 3 CRITICAL ESSAY****(cont.)**

Prepare a two-page critical essay or report on your practice, or a particular cultural event you have experienced.

**STEP 4 Complete and submit your application.**

To complete your application, agree on the Terms and Conditions by ticking the boxes, then enter your name and date of application.

After the deadline, all applications, portfolios, and interview projects will be reviewed by the panel, and you will receive an email of available interview dates via Zoom to choose from. Once you receive this, please reply with your preferred interview schedule within a week from date of notification.

All efforts will be made to give applicants their preferred interview date but NIDA cannot guarantee the date and time – it is subject to staff availability.

**PORTFOLIO AND INTERVIEW PROJECT****STEP 5**

You must prepare the following to submit [by Dropbox link](#) by the deadline of 31 August 2021.

**PORTFOLIO**

You should prepare examples of past work that you feel will support your application and demonstrate your suitability for a career in directing, and in the arts and entertainment industry.

**It should be clearly titled with your name as follows:**

fullname\_portfolio\_MFADIR\_2022

**INTERVIEW PROJECT**

Prepare a project based on a published play text of your choosing.

Consider the following questions in relation to the specified play and be ready to discuss them at your interview:

- **Text:** What ideas is the playwright trying to express? What is the relevance of the play to contemporary Australian audiences?
- **Characters and Actors:** What kind of people are the characters in the play? In what kind of world do they exist? If you had complete freedom of choice, which actors would you cast in your production?
- **Design:** How would you describe the imaginative world of the play? Where is it located?

**STEP 5  
(cont.)**

- **Lighting:** How should lighting be used to reveal and expose areas of this play and the design of your production?
- **Costume, Sets and Props:** What requirements are there in each of these areas?
- **Music and Sound:** What kind of music or sound effects would you use, and why?
- **Theatre:** Where would you stage your production? What kind of theatre or site will it be in? What kind of equipment will you require? What challenges might arise in the staging?
- **Production Design Concept:** Communicate your production through collected material. This could include models/drawings of sets and costumes, impressions in collage or electronic; anything that will help the selection panel to understand your production concept.

**It should be clearly titled with your name as follows:**

fullname\_project\_MFADIR\_2022

**Your project should be submitted by Dropbox link by 31 August 2021.**

<https://www.dropbox.com/request/x5M0i91Z3QitE8bSZPNJ>

**STEP 6**

**Attend your interview**

Interviews are conducted by two or more NIDA staff members. All Round One interviews will take place via Zoom. Interviews will run for approximately 50 minutes.

1. First, there will be a brief talk about NIDA, the MFA (Directing) course and what will happen during the interview. There will be an opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have about NIDA or about the interview itself.
2. Each applicant will then be interviewed for around 45 minutes. During the interview, we will discuss your project; your ideas about theatre, film and the broader creative industries; and why you want to study Directing at NIDA.

**Some tips:**

We know that interviews can sometimes be stressful, but we will do our best to make your experience as relaxing and enjoyable as possible.

**STEP 6  
(cont.)**

The interview process is friendly, informal, and open, and is designed to give you the best opportunity to show us your potential and readiness to study at NIDA.

Remember, the more time and effort you put into your application and portfolio, the better prepared you will be, and the more you will enjoy the interview.

**You will be advised by email if you are successful in Round One.**

If you are successful, you will receive an email confirmation for Round Two and you will need to log into the Application Portal to select a Directing Recall time within a week from date of notification. **You must pick your availability to attend the Directing Recall.**

All efforts will be made to give successful Round One applicants their preferred Directing Recall time, but NIDA cannot guarantee the date and time – it is subject to staff availability. If there will be a different schedule from what you have selected, NIDA will send you an email advising on the new Recall time.

## ROUND TWO: Directing Recall

### STEP

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#### **Attend the Directing Recall**

If the selection panel would like to see more, you may be asked back for a Recall interview on a separate date. Depending on development of circumstances regarding COVID-19, your Recall audition may be in person or live via Zoom. Recall auditions, both in-person and remotely, will take place in November.

Due to COVID-19, details and requirements for the final round of auditions will be outlined closer to the time and will be dictated by government guidelines.

If you are short-listed for acceptance into the course after the Recall, you may be asked to submit a list of three referees who have seen your work, or worked with you in some arts-related capacity. NIDA may contact these referees before making a study offer.

Please note applicants who do not make it through to the Recall stage for Master of Fine Arts (Directing) should consider their application unsuccessful for the 2022 intake.

### CONDITIONS OF APPLYING

- Selection is based on merit; not all applicants who meet the published minimum entry requirements will receive a study offer.
- All applicants are responsible for reviewing the course requirements and tuition fees as stated on the NIDA website.
- It is not possible to provide applicants with individual written or oral feedback on their audition/interview.
- Applicants who receive a study offer for 2022 must accept the offer within the time frame indicated.
- It is not possible to defer a study offer at NIDA.

## **FAQs ABOUT INTERVIEWS**

### **CAN I APPLY FOR MORE THAN ONE COURSE?**

Yes, however a separate online application form is required for each course you would like to apply for.

### **WHAT ATAR SCORE DO I NEED TO GET INTO NIDA?**

Entry into NIDA is by audition or interview only. We do not ask for exam scores or ATARs. However, all applicants applying for any MFA (Directing) must have an undergraduate degree (in any area) or at least five years relevant experience in a related area.

### **WHAT DO I DO IF I HAVEN'T RECEIVED DETAILS OF MY APPLICATION ACCOUNT?**

If you do not receive any automated emails from NIDA regarding your application account, please check your junk/spam/promotions filter. If you are still experiencing difficulties please contact us at [applications@nida.edu.au](mailto:applications@nida.edu.au)

### **WHERE WILL MY INTERVIEW TAKE PLACE?**

All Round One interviews for MFA (Directing) will take place via Zoom. Round Two (Directing Recalls) may take place in person or via Zoom, dependent on travel restrictions.

### **DOES NIDA GIVE INTERVIEW FEEDBACK?**

Due to the large number of people being interviewed, it is not possible for NIDA to provide individual feedback.

### **WHAT HAPPENS AFTER MY AUDITION/INTERVIEW?**

Final selections are made for each course by December, and study offers will be distributed to successful applicants via email.

## **APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS AT NIDA**

As part of the application process, once applicants have reached a level of eligibility for scholarships they will be notified to apply. Please see the NIDA website to obtain more information about scholarships.

<https://www.nida.edu.au/courses/undergraduate/scholarships>

### **WHEN CAN I APPLY FOR A FUTURE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS FOR NIDA?**

NIDA notifies an applicant that they are successful in getting through to the relevant round. The applicant may then apply for a Future scholarship via the link to the application form.

### **WHEN DO I APPLY FOR ENROLLED STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS FOR NIDA?**

On your first week at NIDA, you will be sent an email with an application form to apply for scholarships for enrolled students.