

# NIDA

National Institute of Dramatic Art



## BFA ACTING APPLICATION GUIDE

**CRICOS Code: 083696J**

For all enquiries, please contact [applications@nida.edu.au](mailto:applications@nida.edu.au) or (02) 9697 7686

Learn more at [nida.edu.au](http://nida.edu.au)

**NIDA acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the sacred lands, from the mountains to the sea, on which we learn and tell stories.**

**The lands of the Bidjigal, Gadigal, Dharawal and Dharug peoples. We pay our respects to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past and present.**

**Image details:  
Photography by  
Brett Boardman  
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# BEFORE YOU APPLY

## APPLICATION PERIOD

Open Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2025 - Close Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025, 11:59pm (AEST)

## APPLICATION PROCESS SUMMARY

The application process for the Bachelor of Fine Arts (Acting) consists of two rounds:

**Round One** - Online Application and Audition Video (due by Monday 15th September 2025, 11:59pm AEST)

**Round Two** - Recall Audition

**Only applicants who are successful in Round One will be invited to attend a recall audition.**

## BEFORE APPLYING

Before completing your application, please read the following information:

- Course information, dates, fees and frequently asked questions:  
<https://www.nida.edu.au/study/undergraduate/>
- NIDA Student Handbook, Policies and Procedures, and Course Regulations for BFA (Acting) course: <https://www.nida.edu.au/study/students/policies/>

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

# ROUND ONE

## Online Application and Audition

### ONLINE APPLICATION

#### STEP 1 – Application Portal

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

You will receive an email with your login details.

For applicants who have applied to NIDA from 2019 onwards, your login details will be the same.

Please do not create a duplicate profile.

If you are unsure of your applicant number, please email [applications@nida.edu.au](mailto:applications@nida.edu.au) with the following details:

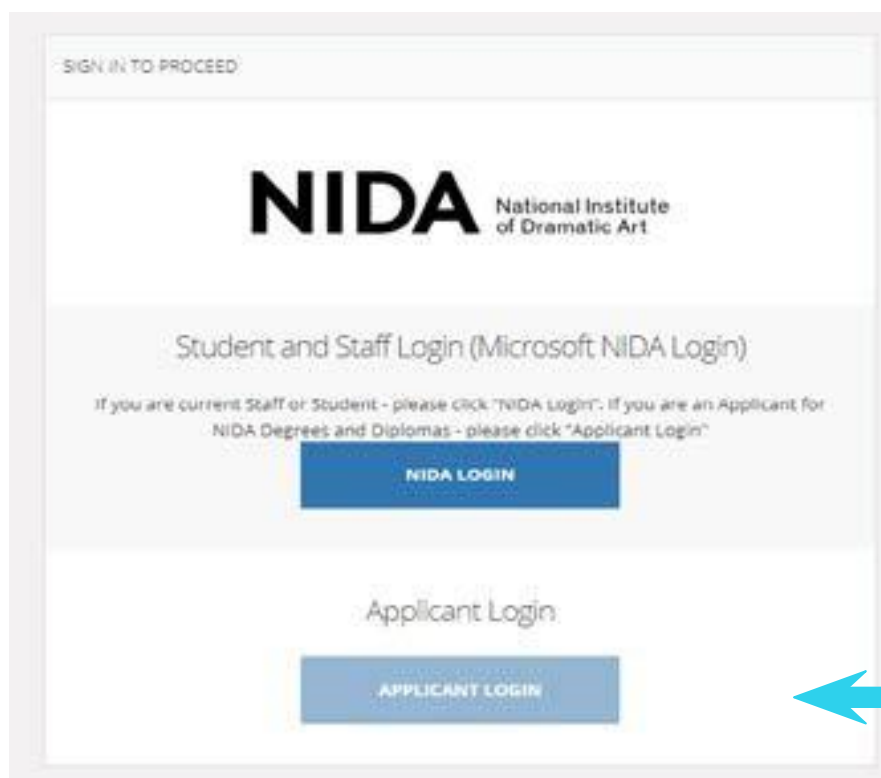
Full Legal name:

Date of Birth:

Email address linked to previous application:

Phone Number linked to previous application:

Log in to the Application Portal and click the **'Applicant Login'** button.




## IMPORTANT NOTE:

You are able to save your application and return to it at any point before the closing date.

To do so, click the pencil icon to the right of the course you wish to continue applying for (refer to the image below).

Please note: You can only edit if the 'Application Status' is set to 'In Process'. Once you submit your application, this option will not be available.

This is located on the summary page when you sign in under the 'Course Applications' heading at the bottom of the page.

10/02/2025	TSM7000025	19/11/2027	Applied	In Process	NIDA_APP		
Showing 1 to 3 of 3 entries							Previous 1 Next
							NEW APPLICATION

## THERE IS AN ERROR IN MY APPLICATION

If you believe you have made an error or uploaded the wrong document, please email [applications@nida.edu.au](mailto:applications@nida.edu.au) outlining the error and include the following information:

Full Legal name:

Date of Birth:

Email address linked application:

Phone number linked application:

Course(s) applied for:

## STEP 2 - Collect the following documents for your application:

- Copy of your most recent qualification (e.g. school report, Higher School Certificate, diploma, university transcript or testamur)
- 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 BFA (Acting)
- If you have a Permanent Visa (e.g. Permanent Resident, Partner visa Subclass 801), we require a copy of your visa.

**Please ensure all documents are either PDF, PNG or JPEG file types.**

**The max file upload size is 80Mb**

## VIDEO AUDITION

### STEP 3 – Record your audition

All Round One auditions are to be submitted as video links in the appropriate field of the online application.

Your audition video should include two monologues. One should be filmed as a **medium shot** (i.e., from your waist up). The other should be filmed as a **long shot** (i.e., your full body).

#### 1. One Modern/Contemporary Piece

This is a short monologue from a published play. 'Contemporary' means a play spanning the period of Anton Chekov (early 1900s) to the present day. You are welcome to present your modern/ contemporary piece in the language of your cultural background, but you must be prepared to present it in English as well. **MUST** be shot as a medium shot.

We suggest choosing a piece from this [Monologue List](#).

#### 2. One Heightened Text and Language Piece

This is a short monologue in verse. **MUST** be shot as a long shot.

We suggest choosing a piece from this [Monologue List](#).

#### 3. If you have indicated that you are applying for the Singing Actor stream, you will also be required to upload a separate 60-second video performing a song from a musical theatre piece of your choice. This could even be an opera or operetta! This must be sung without any accompaniment (a cappella).

## FILMING INSTRUCTIONS

### 1. Recording Format

You don't have to record with a professional camera; your audition can be recorded on your mobile phone. The important thing is that you are seen and heard clearly.

If you use your phone, please make sure the camera is not in 'HEIC' Mode. You should be able to check this in your phone's camera settings. YouTube is unable to accept files in this format.

### 2. Set Up

You can use a stand or a surface or have someone hold your phone/camera for you.

Do not look directly into the camera, but just to one side; pick a focal point to your left or right. If someone is holding your phone/camera for you, you can speak your monologue to them as another character or a member of your audience.

**If you are using your phone, shoot in landscape, NOT portrait.**

### 3. Background

You must be seen clearly. Try to record against a plain, light background, without harsh shadows. Avoid busy, distracting images, or 'hard' colours like green and red. Grey can work well for a wide range of skin tones on screen.

### 4. Lighting

Do not sit directly in front of a window. A window in front of your face and behind the camera will work better. You can also use additional lighting, like the torch light from your phone, stand lamps, or bedside lamps. Avoid hard or awkward shadows.

### 5. Sound

You must be heard clearly. Check the space for sound disturbances. This could involve closing windows, turning off devices that beep or play music, air-conditioning, or noise/talking/cooking sounds from a nearby room.

### 6. Audition Pieces

You may record both pieces in one continuous shot or film these separately and edit them together.

In **mid shot** (waist up – leave a little head room) start by saying your name, Applicant number (e.g., A12345) and tell us which pieces you will be performing (character, title, and author).

Then present your first piece in mid shot frame.

Adjust your position so you are now in **long shot** (entire body in frame) and perform your second piece. This is an opportunity to embody the expressive range of the character.

## HOW TO SUBMIT

### STEP 4 – Upload your video audition

- Review your recordings. This will help you pinpoint areas to improve on, including sound/vision quality. Have a break and then repeat the process. Don't overthink it! As a rule, try not to film more than three takes.
- You will not be timed, but the length of each monologue should aim to be close to 2 minutes. Your entire audition video should aim to be close to 4 minutes long (5 minutes if you are auditioning for the singing actor stream).
- When you are happy, upload your video to YouTube, making sure it is 'Unlisted'. This means only people with the link can view your audition. You are responsible for ensuring that your video link works before submitting your application.
- Your video description should include your name and NIDA Applicant number (e.g., A12345).
- Only upload one submission.
- If you have any problems with the upload, contact [applications@nida.edu.au](mailto:applications@nida.edu.au).

Click [HERE](#) for tips on how to record your audition.

Because you are submitting your audition with your online application, your video must be completed and submitted by the deadline of 11:59pm, Monday 15th September 2025.

### STEP 5 – 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.

You will receive a confirmation email when your application has been successfully submitted.

After the deadline, all applications and audition videos will be reviewed by the panel, and you will receive an email advising you on the result of your application.

**Only applicants who are successful in Round One will be invited for a recall audition.**

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

If you are successful, you will receive an invitation for Round Two. This will include instructions on how to select your recall audition date and location.



# ROUND TWO

## Recall Audition

### **STEP 6 - Select your recall date and location.**

If the panel would like to see more from you, they will invite you to a recall audition, which will take place in person.

Recall auditions will take place in November/December 2025 in most Australian capital cities. There will be no recall auditions held via Zoom. This means that international students must attend recall auditions in-person in Australia.

To book your recall location and time please log into the application portal using your login credentials and select the city and date from the lists of available recall sessions.

### **STEP 7 - Prepare for your recall audition.**

#### **Some tips:**

1. If you applied for the **Actor stream**, you will be asked to present **a third piece of your choice – this can be something not on our list.**
2. If you applied for the **Singing Actor stream**, you will be asked to present a song chosen from the *Song List* in the Appendix of this guide. This must be sung in the specified key. NIDA will provide accompaniment on the day of your recall.

You will be asked to perform your Round One monologues again for the panel. Be ready to be redirected away from your original choices, and to work with other auditionees as scene partners.

**Following your recall audition, you will be informed by the panel if you are selected for the Shortlist.** After Shortlisting, you will be informed by telephone if you are being invited to study at NIDA. Unsuccessful applicants will be informed via email.

## SOME TIPS AND ADVICE

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

Remember, the more time and effort you put into your monologues, the better prepared you will be and the more you will enjoy the audition.

### **DO:**

- Only select monologues from published texts. Excerpts from unpublished TV shows or films are not appropriate.
- Read the whole play your monologue comes from – research is important!
- Choose characters close to your current age range.
- Choose characters that are in circumstances you can identify with and that you will enjoy exploring.
- Select pieces that are new and fresh to you.
- Pick monologues that will showcase you and your skills.
- Look for contrasting material when choosing your monologues (e.g., serious and comedic; internal and external).
- Think about who you are talking to in the monologue and what you want from them – know what you mean, and what you want to achieve.
- Relax and enjoy yourself!

### **DON'T:**

- Don't use a book of monologues, except as a reference – if you find a piece you like, you must still read the whole play.
- Don't choose material for shock value. There are no real rules around this, but we suggest you avoid material with strong sexual references or excessive use of explicit language.

## 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 2026 must accept the offer within the time frame indicated.
- It is not possible to defer a study offer at NIDA

# FAQs

## **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 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 higher education course at NIDA must have completed their Higher School Certificate or equivalent.

## **WHAT DO I DO IF I HAVEN'T RECEIVED LOGIN 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?**

BFA (Acting) Round One auditions will take place via pre-recorded video submission. Recall auditions will take place in-person (dates and locations TBC).

## **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 in December, and study offers will be distributed to successful applicants via email.

## **WHEN CAN I APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS FOR NIDA?**

Scholarship applications will be available to all those applicants who are invited to Round 2 interviews or auditions. See [NIDA Scholarships](#) page for further details.

If you are shortlisted and offered a place at NIDA, your scholarship application will be assessed, and you may be invited to an interview with the Scholarship Committee.

# APPENDIX

## Song List

Song	Musical	Character	Composer/ Lyricist	Key	Sheet Music
The Ballad of Jane Doe	<i>Ride the Cyclone</i>	Jane	Brooke Maxwell & Jacob Richmond	F Minor	<a href="#">Band Camp</a>
Daddy's Girl	<i>Grey Gardens</i>	Edie	Scott Frankel & Michael Korie	Eb Major	<a href="#">Music Notes</a>
For Better or Worse	<i>Great Gatsby</i>	Daisy	Jason Howland & Nathan Tyson	Bb Major	<a href="#">Music Notes</a>
Let's Start a War	<i>Atlantis</i>	Thalia	Matthew Lee Robinson	C Minor	<a href="#">Matthew Lee Robinson</a>
Home	<i>Beetlejuice</i>	Lydia	Eddie Perfect	D Major	<a href="#">Music Notes</a>
Chasing My Tail	<i>The Lovers</i>	Helena	Laura Murphy	D Major	<a href="#">Buy Me a Coffee</a>
I'm Watching You	<i>The Connector</i>	Robin	Jason Robert Brown	F Major	<a href="#">Music Notes</a>
What Happens	<i>The Notebook</i>	Middle Allie	Ingrid Michaelson	Db Major	<a href="#">Music Notes</a>
Something of My Own	<i>Dessa Rose</i>	Dessa	Lynn Ahrens & Stephen Flaherty	E Minor	<a href="#">Music Notes</a>
It's Hard to Speak My Heart	<i>Parade</i>	Leo	Jason Robert Brown	E Major	<a href="#">Music Notes</a>
Mr Andrews' Vision	<i>Titanic</i>	Mr Andrews	Maury Yeston	C Major	<a href="#">Muse Score</a>
Wait For It	<i>Hamilton</i>	Burr	Lin Manuel-Miranda	Db Major	<a href="#">Music Notes</a>
Dust and Ashes	<i>Natasha Pierre and the Great Comet of 1812</i>	Pierre	Dave Malloy	G Minor	<a href="#">Music Notes</a>

<b>Song</b>	<b>Musical</b>	<b>Character</b>	<b>Composer/ Lyricist</b>	<b>Key</b>	<b>Sheet Music</b>
Wait With You	<i>My Brilliant Career</i>	Harry	Mathew Frank & Dean Bryant	E Major	<a href="#">My Brilliant Career Musical</a>
Nature Boy	<i>Moulin Rouge</i>	Lautrec	Eden Ahbez	C Minor	<a href="#">Music Notes</a>
Why Do All Men?	<i>Death Takes A Holiday</i>	Death	Maury Yeston	C Major	<a href="#">Music Notes</a>
Great Expectations	<i>The Outsiders</i>	Ponyboy	Jonathan O'Neal, Zachry Chance Bearden & Justin Levine	G Major	<a href="#">Music Notes</a>
Giants in the Sky	<i>Into The Woods</i>	Jack	Stephen Sondheim	Ab Major	<a href="#">Music Notes</a>