

NIDA

National Institute of Dramatic Art



MFA CULTURAL LEADERSHIP APPLICATION GUIDE

CRICOS Code: 086128F

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

Learn more at 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 Amy Joyce
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BEFORE YOU APPLY

APPLICATION PERIOD

Open Tuesday 10th June 2025 - Close Monday 13th October 2025, 11:59pm (AEST)

APPLICATION PROCESS SUMMARY

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

Round One - Online Application, including CV and Personal Statement (due Monday 13th October 2025, 11:59pm AEST)

Round Two - Interview

Only applicants who are successful in Round One will be invited to attend an interview.

BEFORE APPLYING

Before completing your application, please read the following information:

- Course information, dates, fees and frequently asked questions:
<https://www.nida.edu.au/courses/graduate>
- NIDA Student Handbook, Policies and Procedures, and Course Regulations for MFA (Cultural Leadership) 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

ROUND

Online Application, CV and Personal

ONLINE APPLICATION

STEP 1 – Application Portal

Create your application account in the Application Portal: [HERE](#)

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. Do not create a duplicate profile.

If you are unsure of your applicant number, please email 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.

SIGN IN TO PROCEED

NIDA National Institute of Dramatic Art

Student and Staff Login (Microsoft NIDA Login)

If you are current Staff or Student - please click "NIDA Login". If you are an Applicant for NIDA Degrees and Diplomas - please click "Applicant Login"

NIDA LOGIN

Applicant Login

APPLICANT LOGIN


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 | | | | | | | <div>Previous1Next</div> |
| | | | | | | | <div>NEW APPLICATION</div> |

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 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. MFA (Cultural Leadership) 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 (who are not on Permanent Visas) are not able to enrol in a part-time course and in 2026, the MFA Cultural Leadership is only offered part-time.

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

The max file upload size is 80Mb

STEP 3 - Prepare your CV and Personal Statement.

You must prepare the following to submit with your application by the deadline of Monday 13th October 2025.

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 Cultural Leadership and you should upload your CV in lieu of a transcript.

Please title your CV submission with your name as follows:

fullname_cv_MFACUL_2026

PERSONAL STATEMENT

You must submit a personal statement of no more than 600 words, outlining your interest in the course, new knowledge you hope to acquire, and how you see the course intersecting with your current work, projects and future goals.

Please title your Personal Statement submission with your name as follows:

fullname_statement_MFACUL_2026

You must upload both your CV and Personal Statement in the **'Course Specific Application Requirements'** attachment section of your online application.

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, CVs and personal statements will be reviewed by the panel, and you will receive an email advising the result of your application.

Only applicants who are successful in Round One will be invited to attend an interview.

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

If you are successful in Round One, you will receive an email confirmation and you will need to log into the Application Portal to select an interview time within a week from date of notification. Interviews will take place over Microsoft Teams. A link will be provided to you prior to your interview.

All efforts will be made to give successful Round One applicants their preferred interview date, but NIDA cannot guarantee the date and time – it is subject to staff availability. If your selected time cannot be accommodated, NIDA will send you an email advising you of the new interview time.

ROUND

Interview

STEP 5- Attend your interview

Interviews are conducted by at least two NIDA staff members on Microsoft Teams.

All eligible applicants will be interviewed to assess their capacity for leadership.

Interviews will run for approximately 30 minutes.

During the interview, we will discuss your ideas about current issues related to the arts and cultural sector, and why you want to be a Cultural Leadership student at NIDA.

There will also be an opportunity to ask any questions you may have about the course, or about NIDA.

Some tips:

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

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 statement, the better prepared you will be, and the more you will enjoy the interview.

You will be advised of the outcome of your interview via email.

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 MFA (Cultural Leadership) 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 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.

WHERE WILL MY INTERVIEW TAKE PLACE?

Interviews for MFA (Cultural Leadership) will take place online via Teams. A link will be provided to you via email.

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 INTERVIEW?

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