



POSTGRADUATE TUITION FEE SCHEDULE 2026

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

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Learn more at nida.edu.au

ABN: 99 000 257 741

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Postgraduate Tuition Fee Schedule 2026

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Introduction

The following is a summary of the current tuition fees and payment options and administration fees for 2026. This information is provided as a guide to assist your understanding of the Master of Fine Arts fees.

Before applying for a course at NIDA, you should consider your financial responsibilities as a full-time international student in Australia. You will have to prove your financial capacity to cover tuition fees, travel and living costs and Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC). For information on the financial test used in the genuine student assessment, see [Link](#).

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- Fees are subject to annual review and may increase each year.
- Any changes to fees are implemented at the beginning of an academic year and apply to all eligible students for the remainder of their course.
- Tuition fees are invoiced on a semester basis.
- All fees are in Australian dollars (AUD).

Applications

NIDA welcomes applications from international students for enrolment in the Master of Fine Arts courses.

International applicants are required to attend an interview in Australia or via Teams. Auditions and interviews are held in November and early December each year.

There is no application fee in 2025 for 2026 intakes.

It is not possible to defer acceptance of an offer to enrol at NIDA. If an applicant is unable to accept an offer to commence at NIDA, it is necessary to apply again for admission in a subsequent year.

Tuition Fees

For international students the 2026 annual tuition fee for Master of Fine Arts Directing and Master of Fine Arts Dramatic Writing is AUD \$53,280.

Please note: Fees are reviewed annually and may increase each year.

Payment

An international applicant who has been offered a place at NIDA must pay a deposit of 100% of the first semesters' tuition fee upon being offered and accepting a place in a course. This will allow for NIDA to generate a Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) for the purposes of the student obtaining a visa.

The subsequent payment of the tuition fees for each semester is due 2 weeks before the commencement of that semester in which you are enrolled. Payment can be made by credit card, direct deposit, or electronic funds transfer.

Census Dates

Census dates are the last date in a semester that you can withdraw without being liable for the full semester tuition fees.

International students who withdraw from unit(s) of study after commencement but on or before the census date will receive a 50% refund of the tuition fees for the unit(s). No refund will be issued for withdrawal made after the census date.

Please note: Fees are reviewed annually and may increase each year.

If you withdraw from the course after commencement of the course but before midnight on the census date of any semester, you will be financially liable for 50% of the fees for that semester. If you withdraw from the course after the census date, you will be liable for the full fee for that semester.

The tuition fee and refund policy for international students is available at:

<https://www.nida.edu.au/study/students/policies/>

As a student, it is your responsibility to be aware of the Census date for each subject and confirming all your enrolment details before this date.

The 2026 census dates for the Master of Fine Arts are included in the course tuition summaries.

Administration Fees 2026

These fees are payable at the time the service is provided or item purchased.

Administration and Other Fees 2026		
Item/Service	Detail	Cost 2026
Photocopying	B/W - single sided	\$0.05
Photocopying	B/W - double sided	\$0.10
Photocopying	Colour - single sided	\$0.20
Photocopying	Colour - double sided	\$0.40
Student ID Card Replacement	Replacement of a lost student card	\$25.00
Locker Key	Deposit	N/A
Locker Key	Replacement of lost locker key	\$25.00
Graduation (+2 guests no charge)	Academic Dress Hire: gown, hood and cap	\$50.00
Graduation	Additional tickets for guests	\$27.50
Testamur replacement	1 testamur – domestic postage	\$100.00
Testamur replacement	1 testamur – standard international postage	\$120.00
Transcript replacement	1 transcript – domestic postage	\$35.00
Transcript replacement	1 transcript – standard international postage	\$50.00

Tuition Fees

MASTER OF FINE ARTS 2026

The Tuition Fees below apply to full time international students enrolment per year.
Any changes in fees will be communicated to you prior to any formal offer of enrolment.

All prices are quoted in Australian dollars (AUD) are subject to change without notice.

CRICOS Code	Degree	Course Duration	2026 Annual Tuition Fee \$AUD *	Course Tuition Fee* \$AUD
113112H	Master of Fine Arts (Directing)	18 months	\$53,280	\$79,920
113111J	Master of Fine Arts (Dramatic Writing)	18 months	\$53,280	\$79,920

*Tuition fees are reviewed annually. If you are enrolled, you are liable for any additional tuition costs should the tuition fees rise during the course of your enrolment.

For details of tuition fees by course and subjects and for other costs associated with your chosen course for 2026, please refer to the specific course page in this schedule.

Master of Fine Arts (Directing)

CRICOS Code 113112H

Course duration: 18 months (3 semesters)

Tuition Fees

1 st Year 2026					
Subject Code	Subject	Credit Points	EFTSL**	Tuition Fee*	Census Dates 2026
Semester 1 2026					
DIR9101A	Directing Techniques A	20	0.17	\$8,880.00	Thu 12 March 2026
DIR9102A	Directing Practice A	25	0.21	\$11,100.00	Thu 12 March 2026
DIR9104A	The Contemporary Director A	5	0.04	\$2,220.00	Thu 12 March 2026
DIR9105A	Dramaturgy A	10	0.08	\$4,440.00	Thu 12 March 2026
Total for Semester 1		60	0.5	\$26,640.00	
Semester 2 2026					
DIR9101B	Directing Techniques B	20	0.17	\$8,880.00	Thu 20 August 2026
DIR9102B	Directing Practice B	25	0.21	\$11,100.00	Thu 20 August 2026
DIR9104B	The Contemporary Director B	5	0.04	\$2,220.00	Thu 20 August 2026
COM9103B	Practice Based Research Project B	10	0.08	\$4,440.00	Thu 3 September 2026
Total for Semester 2		60	0.5	\$26,640.00	
2 nd Year 2026					
Semester 1 2026					
DIR9104C	The Contemporary Director C	10	0.08	\$4,440.00	Thu 12 March 2026
DIR9106C	Major Directing Project C	40	0.34	\$17,760.00	Thu 12 March 2026
COM9103C	Practice Based Research Project C	10	0.08	\$4,440.00	Thu 12 March 2026
Total for Semester 3		60	0.5	\$26,640.00	
TOTAL COURSE		180	1.5	\$79,920.00	

*The tuition fees are reviewed each year and you will be liable for the additional tuition costs if the tuition fees rise during the course of your enrolment.

** EFTSL – Effective Full-Time Study Load: indicates the relative study load of a subject against a full-time study load of 1.0 for an academic year. For consistency the EFTSL** have been rounded to 2 decimal places. This is not indicative of the full value of the EFTSL.

Master of Fine Arts (Directing)

Additional Costs

Book List

As part of your course, you must acquire copies of the following books.

Knebel, Maria (2021). *Active Analysis*. ed. Anatoli Vassiliev, trans. Irina Brown. Routledge.

Merlin, Bella (2007). *The Complete Stanislavsky Toolkit*. Nick Hern Books.

Mitchell, Katie (2009). *The Director's Craft*. Routledge.

Tools

Laptop/tablet.

Information Technology Recommendations

Students are required to have access to a Laptop (Windows 10 and later), MacBook (Mac OS 10.15 Catalina or later). All the devices should comply with 5ghz (dual band).

For file transfers and data backup, it is advised to use the Microsoft OneDrive storage provided by your NIDA Account, for optimum video processing (if required by your subject) on your computer (Laptop/MacBook/Desktop etc.)

A 1GB dedicated graphics card is recommended but not compulsory.

Master of Fine Arts (Dramatic Writing)

CRICOS Code 113111J

Course duration: 18 months (3 semesters)

Tuition Fees

1 st Year, 2026					
Subject Code	Subject	Credit Points	EFTSL**	Tuition Fee*	Census Dates 2026
Semester 1 2026					
DWR9101A	Principles of Dramatic Writing	30	0.25	\$13,320.00	Thu 26 February 2026
DWR9102A	Story & Culture	10	0.08	\$4,440.00	Thu 12 March 2026
DWR9103A	Writing for Stage	20	0.17	\$8,880.00	Thu 30 April 2026
Total for Semester 1		60	0.5	\$26,640.00	
Semester 2 2026					
DWR9104B	Writing for Screen	20	0.17	\$8,880.00	Thu 6 August 2026
DWR9105B	Episodic Writing	20	0.17	\$8,880.00	Thu 1 October 2026
DWR9106B	Business of Writing	10	0.08	\$4,440.00	Thu 20 August 2026
COM9103B	Practice Based Research Project	10	0.08	\$4,440.00	Thu 3 September 2026
Total for Semester 2		60	0.5	\$26,640.00	
2 nd Year 2026					
Semester 1 2026					
DWR9107C	Interactive and Immersive Story Telling	10	0.08	\$4,440.00	Thu 12 March 2026
DWR9108C	Major Writing Project	40	0.34	\$17,760.00	Thu 12 March 2026
COM9103C	Practice Based Research Project	10	0.08	\$4,440.00	Thu 12 March 2026
Total for Semester 3		60	0.5	\$26,640.00	
TOTAL COURSE		180	1.5	\$79,920.00	

*The tuition fees are reviewed each year and you will be liable for the additional tuition costs if the tuition fees rise during the course of your enrolment.

** EFTSL – Effective Full-Time Study Load: indicates the relative study load of a subject against a full-time study load of 1.0 for an academic year. For consistency the EFTSL** have been rounded to 2 decimal places. This is not indicative of the full value of the EFTSL.

Master of Fine Arts (Dramatic Writing)

Additional Costs

Information Technology Recommendations

Students are required to have access to a Laptop (Windows 10 and later), MacBook (Mac OS 10.15 Catalina or later). All the devices should comply with 5ghz (dual band).

For file transfers and data backup, it is advised to use the Microsoft OneDrive storage provided by your NIDA Account, for optimum video processing (if required by your subject) on your computer (Laptop/MacBook/Desktop etc.)

A 1GB dedicated graphics card is recommended but not compulsory.

Student Visa

International students are required to demonstrate and/or declare to the Department of Home Affairs that they have genuine access to sufficient funds to be granted a student visa.

All applicants who are being considered for a place must take part in the Genuine Student Requirement assessment. The GS requirement is used by the Australian Government to ensure the student visa program is accessed by students who genuinely intend to stay in Australia temporarily for study purposes.

In addition to the audition/applications interview process, before a formal offer can be made, all shortlisted international applicants for NIDA courses are required to:

1. Complete a [Financial Declaration form](#).
2. Provide financial documents to prove financial support, and
3. Take part in an interview to complete their Genuine Student Entry (GS) check.

Shortlisted international applicants will be contacted about a conditional offer and a suitable time for an interview.

GS Interviews will be conducted by a member of NIDA's Learning and Innovation team.

The amount charged for the student visa application is dependent on which visa you are applying for. For Visa Information, please refer to the website of the [Department of Home Affairs](#).

Applying for a Student Visa

A student visa application can be made once you have received a Confirmation of Enrolment from NIDA after tuition fees are paid. For information on how to apply for a student visa go to the [Study Australia](#) website.

It is expected that all students will be available to start on the first day of the NIDA year, with the first week for new students being Welcome Week. If there is a valid reason, such as a visa issue, commencing students can seek permission to miss some or all of the first week, Welcome Week.

Only in the most exceptional circumstances will permission be given to start at NIDA at some other day at the beginning of the first term.

Cost of Living

The government estimates that you need approximately AUD \$30,000.00 - \$34,000.00 to cover living expenses in Sydney for each year of study.

In addition, we recommend that you have at least AUD \$3,500.00 - \$4,000.00 to hand when you arrive to cover the initial costs of books, rental bond, and furniture.

These figures do not include large household items such as a refrigerator or a car. We recommend that you use public transport, as owning a car can be expensive and there is very limited parking near NIDA.

To estimate your expenses, go to costofliving.studyaustralia.gov.au.

Acceptance of an Offer of Admission - Tuition Fee Deposit

International students are required to pay a tuition fee deposit of AUD\$26,640.00 (total amount of the first semester) by the due date in order to accept an offer of a place at NIDA.

Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC)

In addition to your tuition fees if you hold an international student visa, a condition of your visa is that you hold Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for the duration of your visa. For more information go to [Health Insurance for Visa Holders](#).

To meet this requirement, you should pay for overseas student health cover (OSHC) for yourself and any family members who will live with you in Australia. The OSHC provides medical and hospital insurance. Students studying in Australia must satisfy the health requirements specified in the Migration regulations. Students are responsible for obtaining their OSHC and a list of health providers will be provided on acceptance of a course offer.

For more information on studying in Australia as an international student, visit the Commonwealth Government website [Study Australia](#).

Non-payment of tuition fees

Failure to pay tuition fees by the due date may result in a student's enrolment being cancelled, which will also result in the cancellation of their visa.

Students who have a family member or organisation, who have agreed to cover their tuition costs, must note that NIDA considers the student to be solely responsible for any financial liability to NIDA.

Tuition fees that are outstanding beyond 90 days of invoice may result in a student's enrolment being cancelled. Students experiencing difficulties with payment of tuition fees should speak to Student Services.

Students who do not pay their fees or have an overdue debt to NIDA will not be allowed to attend classes or participate in productions, have access to assessment results, NIDA facilities or official transcripts or results and will not be permitted to enrol in any subsequent semester or to graduate (whichever is applicable) until the debt has been cleared.

Change of Residency

A student, who is granted Australian permanent residency on or before the census date of a semester, may change their status to a domestic student for that semester and subsequent semesters. The student must provide NIDA with proof of residency on or before the census date.

A student, who is granted Australian permanent residency after the census date of a semester, is liable for international student fees for that semester but is considered a domestic student for subsequent semesters. The student must provide NIDA with proof of residency on or before the census date of the subsequent semester.

Refund Policy – International Master of Fine Arts Students

An international student in a Master of Fine Arts course must always be financial. An invoice for payment will be issued before each semester commences.

International students who withdraw from unit(s) of study after commencement of the semester but on or before the census date will receive a 50% refund of the tuition fees for the unit(s) of study. No refund will be issued for withdrawals made after the census date.

Withdrawal prior to Commencement – commencing International Students

A refund of all tuition fees paid will be made if a student, who has accepted a place at NIDA, withdraws before course commencement.

A refund of all tuition fees paid will be made without an administrative charge if the student is not able to enrol in the course due to:

- Not being granted a student visa or
- NIDA not being able to provide the course for which the offer has been made or
- Illness, or exceptional circumstances, for which documented evidence is provided. A refund request form must be submitted in order to enable the refund to be made.

Withdrawal after Commencement and on or before the Census Date – commencing International Students

An international student in a Master of Fine Arts course, who withdraws from a unit of study after course commencement but before the census date, will receive a 50% refund of the tuition fees for that unit of study.

Notice of withdrawal must be received by NIDA via the official withdrawal form on or before the required withdrawal date.

Students who temporarily defer or suspend their studies will not be granted a refund for any monies paid in advance.

Withdrawal after the census date – commencing and re-enrolling International Students

An international student who withdraws from a unit of study after the census date will not receive a refund of tuition fees paid for that unit of study.

An postgraduate student will have 'Withdrawn' registered on his/her academic transcript providing the withdrawal takes place no later than one calendar month after the census date in the relevant semester. If a student withdraws after that date, a result of 'Fail' will be recorded on the transcript for the relevant subject/s.

Refund of tuition fees - exceptional circumstances

In the event of exceptional circumstances or misadventure that prevents an international student from continuing to study, the student may be granted a full or partial refund of fees on application.

A student must provide independent supporting documentary evidence and demonstrate that there are exceptional circumstances as per the definition outlined in the Fee Policy-International Students and that these circumstances are beyond the student's control; do not make their full impact on the student until on, or after, the census date; and make it impracticable for the student to complete the requirements for the course during the period in which the student undertook or was to undertake the course. Applications must be made using the Refund e-form.

Refunds are authorised at the discretion of the NIDA CEO.

Students who have their visa cancelled for breach of their international student visa conditions or for breach of NIDA's policies and procedures will not be eligible for a refund.

Refund Procedure

A refund request form must be submitted to enable the refund to be made.

Where a student is eligible for a refund because of provider default, NIDA will pay the refund within 14 days of the default.

Where a student is eligible for a refund because of student default, NIDA will pay the refund within 4 weeks of the student default.

Refunds will be paid in Australian dollars and are usually made by the original payment method to the person or account from which the original payment was received.

Grievances and Appeals

Students wishing to appeal a decision related to fee payments or refunds may do so by following Non-Academic Complaints and Appeals Policy and process.

This policy and associated grievances and appeal policies and processes does not affect the rights of the student to take action under the Australian Consumer Law if the Australian Consumer Law applies.

Indebtedness to NIDA or UNSW

The Director of Learning and Innovation, after proper notice, may withhold assessment results, prohibit re-enrolment, or refuse graduation to any student who is in debt to NIDA and/or UNSW.

Indebtedness includes failure to pay any fee, fine, loan or other charge and failure to return all library books and other equipment. Under special circumstances, the CEO may waive or defer these matters.