



# POSTGRADUATE TUITION FEE SCHEDULE 2026

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

For all enquiries, please contact [applications@nida.edu.au](mailto:applications@nida.edu.au) or  
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# Postgraduate Tuition Fee Schedule 2026

## International Students

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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).

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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).

## Application Fee

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.

## 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 \$80,000.00.

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

International students must pay tuition fees upfront.

## Upfront payments:

You can pay:

- In full per year, or
- Per Study Period (semester)

## Payment

An international applicant who has been offered a place at NIDA must pay a deposit of 100% of the first study period's 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 tuition payment for the course plus Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for the duration of enrolment are due on the submission of your completed enrolment documentation.

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

## 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.

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.

You will be asked to provide proof of this on your first day of school. This is also a condition of your visa. For more information go to [Health Insurance for Visa Holders](#).

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

## Census Dates

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

A commencing international student who withdraws from a course before midnight (Australian Eastern Standard time) on the census date of first semester will receive a refund of tuition fees paid less an administrative charge of \$300.

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

If you withdraw from the course before midnight on the census date of any semester, you will not be financially liable for fees due for that semester. If you withdraw from the course after the census date, you will still be liable for fees due for that semester.

The tuition fee and refund policy for international students is available at:  
<https://www.nida.edu.au/study/students/policies/>

The Census date occurs each study period. As a student, it is your responsibility to be aware of the Census date for each study period and confirming all your enrolment details before this date. It is also the last date that you can change your mind about studying without incurring academic penalty.

**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   |
| Withdraw – International Student   | Administrative Fee                            | \$300.00  |

## 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<br>(Directing)        | 18 months       | \$53,333.00                     | \$80,000.00               |
| 113111J     | Master of Fine Arts<br>(Dramatic Writing) | 18 months       | \$53,333.00                     | \$80,000.00               |

\*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 <sup>st</sup> Year 2026   |                                   |               |            |                    |                      |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------|------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Subject Code                | Subject                           | Credit Points | EFTSL**    | Tuition Fee*       | Census Dates 2026    |
| <b>Semester 1 2026</b>      |                                   |               |            |                    |                      |
| DIR9101A                    | Directing Techniques A            | 20            | 0.17       | \$8,889.00         | Thu 12 March 2026    |
| DIR9102A                    | Directing Practice A              | 25            | 0.21       | \$11,112.00        | Thu 12 March 2026    |
| DIR9104A                    | The Contemporary Director A       | 5             | 0.04       | \$2,222.00         | Thu 12 March 2026    |
| DIR9105A                    | Dramaturgy A                      | 10            | 0.08       | \$4,444.00         | Thu 12 March 2026    |
| <b>Total for Semester 1</b> |                                   | <b>60</b>     | <b>0.5</b> | <b>\$26,667.00</b> |                      |
| <b>Semester 2 2026</b>      |                                   |               |            |                    |                      |
| DIR9101B                    | Directing Techniques B            | 20            | 0.17       | \$8,889.00         | Thu 20 August 2026   |
| DIR9102B                    | Directing Practice B              | 25            | 0.21       | \$11,112.00        | Thu 20 August 2026   |
| DIR9104B                    | The Contemporary Director B       | 5             | 0.04       | \$2,222.00         | Thu 20 August 2026   |
| COM9103B                    | Practice Based Research Project B | 10            | 0.08       | \$4,444.00         | Thu 3 September 2026 |
| <b>Total for Semester 2</b> |                                   | <b>60</b>     | <b>0.5</b> | <b>\$26,667.00</b> |                      |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year 2026   |                                   |               |            |                    |                      |
| <b>Semester 1 2026</b>      |                                   |               |            |                    |                      |
| DIR9104C                    | The Contemporary Director C       | 10            | 0.08       | \$4,444.00         | Thu 12 March 2026    |
| DIR9106C                    | Major Directing Project C         | 40            | 0.34       | \$17,778.00        | Thu 12 March 2026    |
| COM9103C                    | Practice Based Research Project C | 10            | 0.08       | \$4,444.00         | Thu 12 March 2026    |
| <b>Total for Semester 3</b> |                                   | <b>60</b>     | <b>0.5</b> | <b>\$26,667.00</b> |                      |
| <b>TOTAL COURSE</b>         |                                   | <b>180</b>    | <b>1.5</b> | <b>\$80,000.00</b> |                      |

\*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 3 decimal places. This is not indicative of the full value of the EFTSL but represents an accurate load for fee calculations.

## 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 <sup>st</sup> Year, 2026  |   |               |            |                    |                      |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------|------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Subject Code                | Subject                                 | Credit Points | EFTSL**    | Tuition Fee*       | Census Dates 2026    |
| <b>Semester 1 2026</b>      |   |               |            |                    |                      |
| DWR9101A                    | Principles of Dramatic Writing          | 30            | 0.25       | \$13,333.00        | Thu 26 February 2026 |
| DWR9102A                    | Story & Culture                         | 10            | 0.08       | \$4,444.00         | Thu 12 March 2026    |
| DWR9103A                    | Writing for Stage                       | 20            | 0.17       | \$8,889.00         | Thu 30 April 2026    |
| <b>Total for Semester 1</b> |   | <b>60</b>     | <b>0.5</b> | <b>\$26,667.00</b> |                      |
| <b>Semester 2 2026</b>      |   |               |            |                    |                      |
| DWR9104B                    | Writing for Screen                      | 20            | 0.17       | \$8,889.00         | Thu 6 August 2026    |
| DWR9105B                    | Episodic Writing                        | 20            | 0.17       | \$8,889.00         | Thu 1 October 2026   |
| DWR9106B                    | Business of Writing                     | 10            | 0.08       | \$4,444.00         | Thu 20 August 2026   |
| COM9103B                    | Practice Based Research Project         | 10            | 0.08       | \$4,444.00         | Thu 3 September 2026 |
| <b>Total for Semester 2</b> |   | <b>60</b>     | <b>0.5</b> | <b>\$26,667.00</b> |                      |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Year 2026   |   |               |            |                    |                      |
| <b>Semester 1 2026</b>      |   |               |            |                    |                      |
| DWR9107C                    | Interactive and Immersive Story Telling | 10            | 0.08       | \$4,444.00         | Thu 12 March 2026    |
| DWR9108C                    | Major Writing Project                   | 40            | 0.34       | \$17,780.00        | Thu 12 March 2026    |
| COM9103C                    | Practice Based Research Project         | 10            | 0.08       | \$4,444.00         | Thu 12 March 2026    |
| <b>Total for Semester 3</b> |   | <b>60</b>     | <b>0.5</b> | <b>\$26,667.00</b> |                      |
| <b>TOTAL COURSE</b>         |   | <b>180</b>    | <b>1.5</b> | <b>\$80,000.00</b> |                      |

\*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 3 decimal places. This is not indicative of the full value of the EFTSL but represents an accurate load for fee calculations.

## 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 Temporary Entrant Requirements assessment. The GTE 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 short-listed international applicants for NIDA courses are required:

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 Temporary Entry (GTE) check.

Short listed international applicants will be contacted about a conditional offer and we will work with them to set up a suitable interview time.

GTE Interviews will be conducted by a member of NIDA's student engagement staff member.

The amount charged for the student visa application is dependent on which visa you are applying for. 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 written offer from NIDA. 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 Orientation 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, Orientation 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](https://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\$26,667.00 (total amount of the first semester) by the due date in order to accept an offer of a place at NIDA. The balance of the tuition fees for the semester must be paid by the due date, which will be on the fee invoice.

## Student Visa

On receipt of the deposit NIDA will issue a Confirmation of Enrolment for Overseas Students (CoE), which a student requires in order to apply for a student visa for travel and temporary residence in Australia.

## Deferment

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.

## Health insurance – Overseas Student Health Cover

The Australian Government requires that student visa holders are covered by medical insurance ([Overseas Student Health Cover](#)) for the duration of their study in Australia. Students are responsible for obtaining their OSHC and must show proof of payment to NIDA at enrolment.

## Payment of Tuition Fees

Tuition fees are charged on the basis of the units of study (subjects) in which the student is enrolled. Tuition fees are reviewed annually and will usually increase each subsequent year. Tuition fees must be paid by the due date and can be paid by electronic funds transfer to NIDA. All payments must be made in Australian dollars.

## Non-payment of tuition fees

Failure to pay tuition fees by the due date may result in a student's enrolment being cancelled. Students who have a family member or organization, who has agreed to cover their tuition costs, must note that NIDA considers the student to be solely responsible for any financial liability to NIDA. Students experiencing difficulties with payment of tuition fees should speak to the Manager of Student Services. Students who do not pay their fees or have an overdue debt to NIDA will not have access to assessment results, NIDA facilities or official transcripts of 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 that of 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.

## **Withdrawal Prior To Enrolment - Commencing International Students**

A refund of all tuition fees paid, less an administrative charge of \$300, will be made if a student, who has accepted a place at NIDA, withdraws before enrolment.

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 Enrolment and on or Before the Census Date – Commencing International Students**

An international student in a Master of Fine Arts course, who withdraws from the course before the first census date, will receive a refund of tuition fees paid for that period less an administrative charge of \$300. Notice of withdrawal must be received by NIDA via the official withdrawal form on or before the required withdrawal date.

An international student in a Master of Fine Arts course, who withdraws from the course before the second or third census dates, will receive a refund of all tuition fees paid for the study period in which they withdraw. Notice of withdrawal must be received by NIDA via the official withdrawal form on or before the required withdrawal date.

## **Withdrawal after the census date – commencing and re-enrolling international students**

An international student who withdraws from a course after the census date will not receive a refund of tuition fees paid for that semester. Any tuition fees that have been paid in advance for a subsequent semester will be refunded.

## **Refund of Tuition Fees – Special Circumstances**

A student, who withdraws from a course after the census date of the semester, may apply to receive a refund of tuition fees paid for that semester on the basis of special circumstances.

Special circumstances are circumstances which:

- 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

The student must provide independent supporting documentary evidence and demonstrate that there are special circumstances that meet this definition.

## Refund Procedure – All Students

A refund request form must be submitted in order to enable the refund to be made. Refunds of tuition fees will be made within four weeks from the date of request or the date of clearance of the original payment, whichever is the later. 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.

## Consumer Protection

This policy does not remove the right to take further action under Australian consumer protection laws.

## Withdrawing from NIDA

A student may withdraw from a course at any time by completing NIDA's official withdrawal form. All fees, loans and fines must be paid, all borrowed books and journals returned to the NIDA Library and the University of New South Wales Library, and all equipment returned.

The relevant course census date is the last date for students to withdraw from NIDA and receive a refund of tuition fees for the period.

If a student withdraws after the census date, there will be no refund of fees.

A Master of Fine Arts student, who wishes to withdraw from a course after the census date, will have 'Withdrawn' recorded on their transcript, as long as the withdrawal takes place prior to 31 October in that year. If a student withdraws after that date, the transcript will record a result of 'Fail' for the relevant subjects.

## 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.