

Aptitude assessment at the Basel Academy of Art and Design

Dear Applicant

Thank you for your interest in the Master's degree programme **Transversal Design** at the Basel Academy of Art and Design.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Application deadline Master's programme 15 March 2026 	<p>To be eligible for participation in the aptitude assessment, please apply on the registration portal as soon as possible – no later than 15 March 2026.</p> <p>-> about Degree Programme and Online-Application -> FAQ about Online-Application</p> <p>There is a registration fee of CHF 200 that must be paid before you complete your application.</p>
<p>Application</p>	<p>Please take note of the documents you are asked to submit as a PDF upon registration. -> How to prepare?</p> <p>After receipt of your registration via the registration portal, you will receive a first email as confirmation of receipt. A second email confirmation will be sent if the formal admission requirements for the aptitude assessment are met.</p>
<p>Communication</p>	<p>Communication regarding the further process and during the aptitude assessment up to the admission decision. Admission decisions are made by the Master's degree programme Transversal Design at the following email address: admission.MA-transversaldesign.hgk@fnw.ch</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Aptitude assessment 	<p>The aptitude assessment is carried out in two steps.</p>
<p>Introduction</p>	<p>We look forward to receiving your application for MA Transversal Design. We welcome applicants with undergraduate degrees in design and the arts as well as graduates from other disciplines who are interested in applying their knowledge in practice- and research-based design projects. Together, we want to critically think through responsible, equitable, sustainable, and careful approaches to worlds in transition which are informed by collective and community engagement. You'll find more about the program on our website, including an FAQ about the registration process and a link to the online registration.</p> <p>Please be in touch with our team if you want to learn more!</p>

**Part 1 of aptitude assessment latest by
15 March 2026 (24.00 hrs)**

Application documents

- CV in tabular format (max. 3 DIN A4 pages)
- Proof of compliance with admission requirements
- Portfolio (documentation of the artistic design and/or research and/or practice / relevant projects to date)
- Motivation letter: statement concerning your motivation and interest to study on MA Transversal Design

Portfolio

- The portfolio is to be submitted digitally in PDF form using the following file name:
family name_first name_portfolio_Transversaldesign_2026
- The portfolio should contain the documentation of 3 - 4 works at most, each with a written description and reference to one's own role in the project (in the case of joint projects).
- The works should be numbered; you yourself can decide on the order.
- It is up to you whether and how you wish to integrate your CV and motivation letter in the portfolio.

**Announcement of the results of part 1
7 April 2026**

After receipt of the portfolio and the complete application documents, the respective admissions commission will decide on admission to part 2 of the aptitude assessment, in accordance with the study regulations.

If your application meets the requirements, you will receive an invitation by email to the second part of the assessment. Negative admission decisions are sent by IncaMail.

**Part 2 of aptitude assessment
22 - 24 April 2026**

Interview with review of portfolio

Interviews for MA Transversal Design will be conducted in Spring 2026. Topics of the interview include your portfolio, your motivation to join the program, previous education and/or experience, and your professional expectations for the future.

Duration: 30 minutes

Interviews will be on site for those in the region, and virtual where required.

● **Admission decision**

**Announcement of the results of part 2
6 May 2026**

Following the interviews, positive decisions as well as final rejections will be sent by email on 6 May 2026.

Your acceptance of a study place is confirmed by returning the completed registration from HGK Basel (no later than 15th May after receipt of the letter of admission).

**Registration to the program
15 May 2026**

Latest by 15 May 2026

After receipt of your registration, you will receive detailed information about the documents to be submitted for enrollment to the MA program.

Waiting list

In the admission procedure, the available study places are assigned to the candidates that fulfill the admission requirements and have passed an aptitude assessment.

Candidates who are not awarded a study place in the first instance but whose work shows great potential will receive a confirmation that they have been placed on the waiting list for the program.

Decision concerning the waiting list

The definite decision concerning those candidates on the waiting list will be informed on an ongoing basis at the latest by end of August 2026.

● Fall semester 2026/27

Start of semester
Structure of academic year

Monday, 14 September 2026
-> [Structure of academic year 2026/2027](#)

Questions

Please address any questions regarding the admission procedure to Nathalie Bahala admission.MA-transversaldesign.hgk@fhnw.ch or by phone under +41 61 228 40 66

For general course questions, contact Prof.Dr. Kit Braybrooke kit.braybrooke@fhnw.ch

Postal address

Hochschule für Gestaltung und Kunst Basel FHNW
Institute Experimental Design and Media Cultures (IXDM)

Degree Programme Transversal Design
Zulassungsverfahren 2026
Freilager-Platz 1, Postfach
4002 Basel

Documents

[Fee schedule for education \(Bachelor and Master\) FHNW \(in German\)](#)



[Handout for the admission procedure Transversal Design \(DE / EN\)](#)



[How to prepare?](#)



[General provisions](#)

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Basel Academy of Art and Design

Admission procedure HGK Basel, status July 2025
Subject to changes and adjustments.
