

Aptitude assessment at the Basel Academy of Art and Design

Dear Applicant

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

● **Application deadline Master's programme
15 March 2026**

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

-> [about Degree Programme and Online-Application](#)

-> [FAQ about Online-Application](#)

There is a registration fee of CHF 200 that must be paid before you
complete your application.

Application

Please take note of the documents you are asked to submit as a
PDF upon registration. -> [How to prepare?](#)

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. In the event of an unsuccessful
application, you will receive a rejection letter per IncaMail.

Communication

Communication regarding the further process and during the
aptitude assessment up to the admission decision are made by
the Master of Fine Arts at the following email address:
admission.MA-art.hgk@fhnw.ch

● **Aptitude assessment**

In part 1 of the assessment, a panel will review the application
documents. If your application is accepted, you will receive an email
invitation for part 2 of the assessment, which is a digital interview.
In the event of an unsuccessful application, you will receive a
rejection letter per incamail.

Introduction

The MA in Fine Arts focuses on artistic practices that are transdis-
ciplinary and transformative, and attentive to values of equality and
thinking in terms of the social. Our programme is based on new ways
of relating to ideas of nature and gender and all of their entangle-
ments, as well as to the many political and aesthetic concerns that
shape not only the artistic practices of the future but our future social
spaces. At the Institute, we also organize a range of events, including
the Art Talks and the semiannual Symposia series, which are open to
all art students in Switzerland and abroad as well as to the general
public. Our podcast series, meanwhile, which narrates our research
and ways of expanding and conversing with our community, is widely
available online. Finally, special projects and art exhibitions are
regularly presented in our exhibition space on campus, der TANK

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

Please upload all the required documents via our application portal.

Application documents

- CV in a tabular format, as PDF (max. 3 DIN A4 pages)
- Portfolio (documentation of artistic work up to date)
- Motivation letter (max. 2,500 characters incl. empties)
- Proof of compliance with admission requirements

Applicants with a foreign language background are required to submit proof of their language proficiency in English at level B2 (or equivalent) according to the standard European reference framework at the beginning of their studies. Students may be compelled by the head of the degree programme to attend a language course if their knowledge is deemed insufficient for the purpose of studying.

Portfolio

- Examples of your artistic work;
work that is important to you and that you have done independently.
- Artistic works/experiments that you have realized independently or within the framework of your previous education/training.
- The documentation may include photographic or reproduced copies of originals with details of title, year, size, and technique. You may also explain the individual works or groups of works in the form of text.
- You determine the scope yourself.

File and size

- Single page (no double pages)
- Max. size of PDF file: 100 MB
- Please list video/audio files as a link in the portfolio
- The portfolio is to be submitted digitally in PDF form using the following file name:
Family name_first name_portfolio_MA_Arts_2026

Motivation letter

In your motivation letter you should explain in your own words how you see your artistic practice, the way you believe it has evolved over time, and what your expectations are for your work in the future. Let us also know what you would like to learn and what you are curious about. Also, tell us a bit about what motivates you to be part of a group of artists learning together, and why you want to study at our institute. Finally, briefly describe a dream or a vision that, if realized, would make you extremely happy.

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

The decision regarding part 1 of the aptitude assessment will be communicated by email. Negative admission decisions to your email by IncaMail.

**Part 2 of aptitude assessment
14 to 17 April 2026**

Part 2 involves the interview, which is conducted by a panel consisting of the head of the degree programme, faculty members from the Institute Art Gender Nature, along with a student representative. The interview typically lasts approximately 20 minutes.

● **Admission decision**

**Announcement of the results of part 2
From 24 April 2026**

The final decision concerning part 2 of the aptitude assessment (and thus the admission decision) is communicated from 24 April 2026 by email.

**Registration deadline for degree programme
8 May 2026**

8 May 2026

Ranked waiting list

In the admission procedure, the available study places are assigned to the candidates that fulfil the admission requirements and have passed their aptitude assessment according to a ranking system. Candidates who were not awarded a study place on the basis of their ranking in the assessment, receive a confirmation that they figure on the ranked waiting list.

**Decision concerning the ranked waiting list
9 May 2026**

As of 9 May 2026, study spaces will be awarded to individuals on the ranked waiting list according to their ranking.

● **Enrolment**

You can submit your definitive application for enrolment (application form HGK Basel) by email to:
admission.MA.hgk@fhnw.ch
After receipt of your application, you will receive detailed information about the programme and the documents to be submitted for enrolment at the Academy.

● **Fall semester 2026/27**

**Introduction week
7 to 11 September 2026**

The compulsory introductory week of the MA Fine Arts take place from 7 to 11 September 2026.

**Start of semester
Structure of academic year**

Monday, 14 September 2026
-> [Structure of academic year 2026/27](#)
-> [Course catalogue HGK Basel FHNW](#)

Questions

If you have any questions, please contact
admission.MA-art.hgk@fhnw.ch

Postal address

Hochschule für Gestaltung und Kunst Basel FHNW
Institute Art Gender Nature (IAGN)

Degree Programme Fine Arts MA
Zulassungsverfahren 2026
Freilager-Platz 1, Postfach
4002 Basel

Dokumente



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



[Study Regulation Fine Arts MA](#)



[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.
