

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
**EDWARDSVILLE**  
ART & DESIGN

## B.F.A. DEGREE PROGRAM APPLICATION PROCEDURES

The B.F.A. (Bachelor of Fine Arts) degree is considered a professional art degree. The BFA program in studio art is for the serious art student who considers making the professional practice of fine art or graphic design his or her career.

A student must be a matriculating B.A. or B.S. art major at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville prior to applying for the BFA program.

Application for admission to the B.F.A. degree program most often occurs during the junior year and typically after at least a year in residence at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. To be accepted into the program, and to remain in the program, a student must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 system) and 3.0 in studio work. Students must take a minimum of two semesters in B.F.A. program before graduating.

Admission to the program is by portfolio review according to the procedures outlined below. All applicants for the B.F.A. degree program must submit a portfolio of work to be presented to a committee of the entire studio faculty. Applicants should specify their intended area of studio specialization. A faculty member from the student's major area must agree to serve as the students' mentor.

### APPLICATION DEADLINES

FALL      November 1 by NOON  
SPRING    April 1 by NOON

Applications will be reviewed as soon as possible following the deadline. Applicants will be notified, in writing, of their acceptance or rejection to the B.F.A. program.

NOTE: Review of credentials will not be undertaken unless ALL of the application materials have been received.

The Department highly recommends you work closely with your CAS Art Advisor regarding specific General Education and Graduation requirements.

The BFA thesis exhibition can occur after two semesters once accepted into the program. An on-campus exhibition is required in fulfillment of the ART 499 requirement. Any off-campus exhibition should not be scheduled during the on-campus exhibition.

BFA campus exhibitions are held twice a year. Exhibitions are scheduled towards the end of the fall or spring semester. Campus exhibitions are group shows. The amount of work displayed by each student will depend on the number of students exhibiting in that group, the amount of space available, and the scale of the work. BFA Exhibitions reflect the accomplishments of the students in the BFA program, Final decisions regarding logistics (show dates, install, etc) of B.F.A. exhibitions rest with the BFA coordinator and Department of Art & Design.

# **MATERIALS TO BE SUBMITTED BY BFA APPLICANT:**

All of the following should be presented, professionally, in folder/disc holder provided by the Art Office, the folder should have a cover sheet with name, address, phone number and e-mail of the applicant. Materials should be turned in to the main office of the Department of Art and Design, Box 1774, SIUE, Edwardsville, IL 62026 prior to deadline.

## **1. A COVER SHEET**

Applicant Name  
Area of Specialization  
Contact Information (address, phone number and e-mail)

## **2. AN APPLICATION SHEET**

(complete with Faculty Signature) Application cover sheet must include signature(s) from the area head of the studio in the student's proposed area of specialization. The major area studio faculty member will become the student's B.F.A. mentor.

## **3. A COPY OF EDUCATIONAL TRANSCRIPTS**

## **4. A STATEMENT OF INTENT**

(see attached for guidance)

## **5. A PORTFOLIO OF 10-20 IMAGES ON THUMB/FLASH DRIVE**

in PowerPoint (Mac format)

At least half of the images must be in your area of specialization. In some cases all the images could come from your area of specialization. Work from outside your intended specialization work should be at least 300-level coursework. Each image (slide in powerpoint) should be clearly labeled to match the image list information.

## **6. AN IMAGE LIST**

(top of this sheet should have your name and area of specialization)  
(see attached example for formatting)

Title (if no title use project topic)  
Course ART XXX (Name)  
Dimensions of work (width by height by depth)  
Date work was done  
Medium/Material (Accordion Fold/Heavy Paper-Laser Print)  
Parameters or Goal of Project  
One sentence on how your met this goal

**MATERIALS SUBMITTED WILL NOT BE RETURNED.**

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
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B.F.A. APPLICATION SHEET

Candidate \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID Number \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Term of Admission \_\_\_\_\_  
November 1 – Spring Term, April 1 – Fall Term

Area of Specialization \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Faculty Signature)

Application Status:                      New  
    Re-application

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APPLICATION STATUS	DATE	APPROVER INITIALS
Approved	_____	_____
Approved with Conditions (see below)	_____	_____
Denied – Reapply at Later Date	_____	_____
Denied	_____	_____

Conditions (if indicated above)

## Written Statement of Purpose/Intent

An application statement (not to exceed 500-750 words) reflecting upon your interests, background and aspirations pertaining to the BFA in Art & Design with a focus in your area of interest.

This essay will be submitted as part of your BFA application. Attention should be given to presentation and writing quality.

## Self-Evaluation

As an artist/designer you are expected to be able to communicate effectively in writing as well as visually. Use your statement to define your interests and experience in the field of study (ceramics, graphic design etc.)

- 1 Clearly state your specific interest in the BFA program (one sentence)
- 2 Discuss your present knowledge/experience about your specific area, This could include:
  - *A summary of your craft/design skills, with specific examples from your work.*
  - *A summary of key craft skills you have developed in the production of your work.*
  - *One example of how you have used color to create a successful project.*
  - *A brief summary of your technical strengths and weaknesses.*
  - *A summary of topics(skills) you intend to pursue and/or improve in future coursework.*
  - *Discuss a previous project or topic you might consider as a research area project to pursue as part of your BFA Thesis work. Is your interest in the process or the research method or the finishing aspects of the work.*
- 3 Your personal goals and how they relate to the professional practice of your discipline as an area of study or a career choice. (this should not be about the money or that job you hope to get) (what is it about that area that excites you)

Use past experiences from

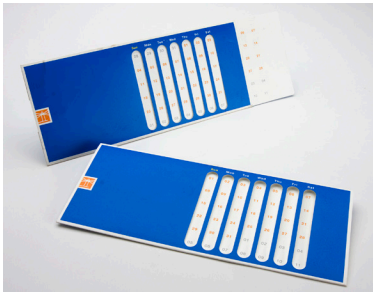
- course work in art or design,
- aspects of travel,
- other university classes,
- work experiences,
- other life experiences that may support your goals and interests.

This statement is important and should inform the committee about your thought process and your ability to articulate your ideas. Be sure your name is also on the typed statement and part of the application packet.

Make sure it is clean and clear.. Type it in Times New Roman 12 pt. (14 pt. leading-average)  
If you choose to use headings or titles use 16 pt. Times New Roman Bold.

# EXAMPLE OF IMAGE LIST

## Image List for BFA Applicant: John Smith BFA application in (Your AREA of Focus)



### 1 Title (if no title use project topic-not untitled)

Course ART XXX

Dimensions of work

Medium/Material (Folded /Heavy Paper-Laser Print)

Parameters or Goal of project

One sentence on how you met this goal



### 2 Title (if no title use project topic-not untitled)

Course ART XXX

Dimensions of work

Medium/Material (Glossy Paper-Laser Print)

Parameters or Goal of project

One sentence on how you met this goal



### 3 Title (if no title use project topic-not untitled)

Course ART XXX

Dimensions of work

Medium/Material (Photo Paper-Laser Print)

Parameters or Goal of project

One sentence on how you met this goal



### 4 Title (if no title use project topic-not untitled)

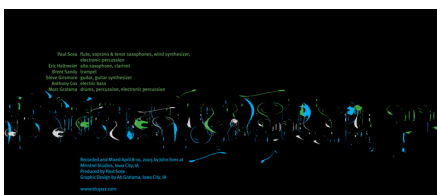
Course ART XXX

Dimensions of work

Medium/Material (Heavy Paper-Laser Print)

Parameters or Goal of project

One sentence on how you met this goal



### 5 Title (if no title use project topic-not untitled)

Course ART XXX

Dimensions of work

Medium/Material (Photo Paper-Laser Print)

Parameters or Goal of project

One sentence on how you met this goal