

ADMISSION REGULATIONS KABK 2026

Section 1 General provisions

Article 1.1 Applicability of the regulations

These regulations apply to admission to the bachelor's and master's programmes at the Royal Academy of Art. The terms used have the same meaning as in the Education and Examination Regulations.

Article 1.2 Admission decision

1 The directorate of the Royal Academy of Art (hereinafter: 'directorate') decides on admission to its study programmes.

2 The directorate has delegated the admission decision to the department heads, under the specific parameters and regulations as described here.

3 Department heads take the advice of the admissions committee into account when admitting students. Each educational department has its own admissions committee.

4 Candidates are conditionally admitted by the educational departments on artistic grounds. The Student Administration is mandated by the directorate to assess whether conditionally admitted candidates meet the (legal) admission requirements. If a department head has a different opinion about the admissibility of a candidate, the directorate will decide.

5 In the case of a request for admission to a higher year, the Examination Board evaluates the exemption request before the admission to a higher year can be made final. See also Article 4.5 Admission to a higher year. In anticipation of the decision of the Examination Board, a candidate can be admitted to the first year.

Article 1.3 Admissions Committee

1 An admissions committee is a committee established by the institution's board within the meaning of Section 7.26a(3) of the Higher Education and Research Act (WHW). The institution's board delegates authority to the directorate, which in turn delegates authority for the establishment and composition of admissions committees to the heads of the educational departments.

2 An admissions committee consists of at least the following members:

- the head or coordinator of the study programme;
- a lecturer from the study programme in question.

3 For candidates who are registered in the KABK Preparatory Year, the admission committee consists of both the representatives of the study programme as mentioned in paragraph 2 as well as the main tutor of the student.

4 The composition of the admissions committee may vary per round in the admissions process.

Section 2 Admission requirements

Article 2.1 Prior education for bachelor's programmes

1 Anyone wishing to enrol as a student (hereinafter also referred to as 'candidate') for a bachelor's programme must have a secondary school diploma at VWO, HAVO or MBO 4 level as described in articles 7.24, 7.28(1) and (2) and article 7.29 of the WHW. See also the Student Charter HdK, Chapter 3: Admission, enrolment and termination of enrolment.

2 Equivalent prior education: with regard to diplomas other than those mentioned in paragraph 1 of this article, the guidelines relating to diploma evaluation of the NUFFIC will be followed. The Student Administration is responsible for applying these guidelines.

3 The following additional admission requirements apply at programme level. These can also be found on the KABK website, on the programme webpage under 'Admission requirements'.

Part-time Fine Arts programme (Amalgam): Candidates must hold a completed bachelor's degree in any discipline.

4 Colloquium doctum: Anyone who does not meet the prior education requirement as referred to in paragraphs 1 or 2 of this article may be invited to participate in a competence test (colloquium doctum), in accordance with Article 7.29 of the WHW.

5 The content and implementation of the competence test is outsourced to an independent assessment bureau. Costs for the test will be borne by the candidate.

6 The Student Administration has been mandated by the Examination Board to assess whether the results of the competence test meet the admission requirements. In case of doubt, the department head is consulted.

Article 2.2 Prior education for master's programmes

1 In accordance with Article 7.30b of the WHW, the candidate must hold a bachelor's degree obtained in the Netherlands or abroad. See also the Student Charter HdK, Chapter 3: Admission, enrolment and termination of enrolment.

2 The following additional admission requirements apply at programme level. These can also be found on the KABK website, on the programme webpage under 'Admission requirements'.

Master Interior Architecture (INSIDE): Candidates must have a bachelor's degree obtained at an art or design academy or a comparable education. Or have demonstrable experience in spatial design and a bachelor's degree in any field.

Master Non Linear Narrative: Candidates must have a bachelor's degree in a related field.

Master Photography & Society: Candidates must have a bachelor's degree in a comparable and relevant field.

Master Type and Media: Candidates must have (at least) a bachelor's degree in graphic design.

3 Admission without appropriate prior education: Those who do not meet the prior education requirement as referred to in paragraph 1 of this article may be admitted as an exception by the directorate after evaluation of the following information:

1. a convincing justification by the admissions committee concerned based on a portfolio that convincingly justifies the applicants previously earned competences as being at Level 6 of the Dutch Qualifications Framework;
2. a positive recommendation from the head of the most related bachelor's department about the alleged bachelor's level of the candidate. This concerns the following heads:

MAPS: Photography

MAR: Fine Arts

MIA and MID: Interior Architecture and Furniture Design

NLN and T&M: Graphic Design

3. a positive recommendation on the level shown in relation to the bachelor's final qualifications given by an independent head of the bachelor's programme.

The reasons given by the Admissions Board and the advice given by two heads of bachelor's departments are added to the advice given to the directorate to admit the candidate. The directorate weighs these recommendations and then decides whether the candidate will be admitted.

Article 2.3 Language requirements

1 For all bachelor's and master's programmes, students must be able to write and speak English sufficiently well to be able to follow their studies successfully.

2 All non-EU/EEA candidates, regardless of their residence status, must demonstrate their command of the English language during the application procedure by means of an official certificate with a sufficient test score, obtained from one of the approved English testing institutes. The following tests and their corresponding minimum scores are required:

Language tests taken in an examination centre	For admission to education at Bachelor's and Master's level or premaster's level
Cambridge English scale Exams: B2 First, C1 Advanced and C2 Proficiency	Scale 169 - 175
IELTS Academic, met overall band score	6.0
LanguageCert Academic	65
Pearson PTE Academic	61
TOEFL iBT Traditional & Paper Edition	80
TOEIC ² Listening and Reading	865
Speaking and Writing	335

¹ The table is not meant to mutually compare language tests or scores. It is only intended to formulate the accepted language tests and minimum scores for the admission requirements of international students.

² The threshold values must be achieved for both elements.

Source: Code of Conduct International Student in Higher Education

See also the KABK website, Admission and Application, English requirements.

3 Exceptions:

- Students with a valid passport from the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia or New Zealand are exempt from submitting an English language test.
- Non-EU/EEA students with a diploma from an English-language secondary school in the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada, Australia or New Zealand are exempt from taking an English language test.
- Students with an English-language International Baccalaureate (<https://www.ibo.org/>) diploma obtained in any country are exempt from taking an English language test.

4 The English language proficiency of EU/EEA candidates must be at least at the level indicated in the table in paragraph 2 of this article. However, EU/EEA candidates do not need to submit a test score certificate. English language proficiency will be assessed during the admission assessment (see Section 3). The admissions committee will assess whether the level is sufficient to follow the programme. The outcome of this assessment will be recorded on the admissions form.

5 Candidates with insufficient English language skills will not be admitted. In case of doubt, it is recommended that they take a course.

Section 3 Admission assessment

Article 3.1 Grounds

1 Article 7.26a of the WHW, concerning additional requirements for programmes in the field of art, applies to all bachelor's programmes. Article 7.30b(2) of the WHW, concerning additional requirements, applies to all master's programmes. To enrol in a KABK bachelor's or master's programme, candidates must successfully complete the admission assessment.

Article 3.2 Admission competencies

1 During the admission assessment referred to in paragraph 1, the admissions committee assesses whether the candidate possesses the necessary competencies or at least shows promise of developing these competencies during the programme. The competencies used are extrapolated from the [Educational Profile for Fine Arts and Design](#) developed at a national level by the OBK (Overleg Beeldende Kunst en Vormgeving).

Article 3.3 Assessment

1 For the purposes of the admissions assessment, candidates are required to upload a number of assessment documents, namely a portfolio, a CV and letter of motivation. The following programmes are exceptions to this rule:

MAPS: also requires a research proposal

Photography: does not require a CV and letter of motivation. Does require several additional assignments

IMD: also requires an assignment

IAFD: does not require a letter of motivation. Does require a questionnaire and assignment.

The specifics of the required documents can be found on the programme pages of the KABK website under 'Admission requirements'.

2 The admission assessment consists of two rounds: the assessment of the documents as described in paragraph 1 of this article and an interview. The interview round may take the form of a single interview, a group interview, multiple interviews or an admission day. Interviews may take place either online or offline. Candidates who proceed to the interview round will be informed of the specifics of this phase.

3 Candidates with functional constraints and chronic health conditions can participate in the interview round of the admission assessment in a manner that accommodates their specific challenges. To be entitled to these adaptations, the candidate must report these constraints to the student counsellor within 5 working days of receiving the invitation to the

interview round. The student counsellor will advise the Head or coordinator of the department who will make arrangements, if necessary. The admission assessment criteria will not change.

4 Candidates who are registered in the KABK Preparatory Year will always advance to the interview round. The interview will take place at the same moment as their final presentation for the preparatory year.

5 The outcome and reasoning behind the admission assessment will be recorded by the admissions committee in a digital admission form, archived in Osiris.

Section 4 Admission process

Article 4.1. Application for admission

1 Applications for bachelor's or master's programs at the KABK must be submitted via Studielink. Students are asked to upload the documents required for assessing whether the candidate can be admitted to the desired program via Osiris. The requirements for these documents may vary per program and are listed on the program pages of the KABK website under 'Admission requirements'.

3 Applications via Studielink are open from October 1.

4 Applications after March 1 will only be considered if there are places available or if places become available. March 1 is used as the application deadline in communications.

5 By March 1 at the latest, the minimum amount of places reserved for Preparatory Year students is communicated by all bachelor departments to the head of the preparatory courses.

Article 4.2. Conditional admission

1 Complete applications will be processed and undergo the admission assessment (see section 3). This process starts after the application deadline of March 1. Some programmes have earlier admission rounds. Candidates will be informed of this when they apply.

2 A positive recommendation following the admission assessment means that the candidate is conditionally admissible, but this is no guarantee that the candidate will be admitted. The department head decides on the allocation of the available places. If there are more conditionally admissible candidates than places, candidates who are not immediately offered a place will be placed on a waiting list. If a place becomes available, a candidate from the waiting list will be offered a place.

3 Candidates who have successfully finished the Preparatory Year and are not immediately accepted, are always placed on the waiting list.

4 Conditional admission, rejection, or placement on the waiting list will be communicated to the candidate by email by the Student Administration.

Article 4.3. Final admission

1 A candidate who accepts an offered place is conditionally admitted. A student is only finally admitted once all admission requirements have been met. In addition to the requirements described in section 2, this means a valid residence permit (if applicable) and fulfillment of the payment obligation.

2 As long as a candidate does not meet all admission requirements, their status will remain conditionally admitted. The student has until August 31 to demonstrate that they meet all admission requirements. If the student does not demonstrate that they meet all admission requirements in time, their conditional admission will lapse and they will not be admitted.

3 The Student Administration is mandated to assess whether conditionally admitted candidates meet the admission requirements and to admit students administratively. See also article 1.2.4.

Article 4.4 Validity of admission

1 The validity of an admission is limited to the upcoming academic year for which the candidate has applied.

2 In the event of a temporary interim withdrawal (for a maximum of one academic year), the admission remains valid with retention of the results achieved, as long as the student enrolls for the following academic year to continue their studies.

3 If a student interrupts their studies for more than one academic year, they will be required to take an entrance examination again upon re-enrollment. See also article 12.2, paragraph 4 of the Education and Examination Regulations.

Article 4.5 Admission to a higher year

1 Candidates must always register for the first year in Studielink. During the interview round, the candidate can indicate that they wish to enter a higher year.

2 If the admissions committee agrees, the head or coordinator of the program will submit an exemption request to the Examination Board. See the BA Education and Examination Regulations, Appendix 1B.

Section 5 Registration and Enrollment

Article 5.1 Registration Deadline

Upon receiving a formal communication of admission, the applicant is required to complete their registration within 15 working days.

Article 5.2 Allocation of Forfeited Places

If an applicant fails to register by the specified deadline, the Royal Academy of Art (KABK) reserves the right to offer the position to the next eligible candidate on the waiting list. In such cases, the KABK can no longer guarantee the availability of a position for the original applicant should they wish to register at a later date.

Article 5.3 Students with Disabilities and Learning Differences

The KABK is committed to providing an inclusive learning environment. Applicants with disabilities, chronic illnesses, or learning differences are encouraged to consult with the Student Counselor regarding necessary study accommodations prior to completing their registration.

- **Extension of Deadline:** To allow sufficient time for this consultation and the assessment of support requirements, these applicants may request an extension of the standard registration period.
- **Purpose of Consultation:** This process ensures that both the student and the Academy are fully informed of the possibilities for support and any practical implications for the course of study before the commitment to enroll is finalized.

Section 6 Entry into force

Article 6.1 Entry into force

These regulations shall enter into force on February 1, 2026.

These regulations were adopted by the board of the University of the Arts on January 26, 2026.