2017 GRADUATE APPLICATION GUIDE

Thank you for your interest in applying to the College of Architecture at Illinois Institute of Technology. We look forward to reviewing your application materials. In order for your application to be given full consideration it is important to abide by the requirements outlined below. For the graduate degree programs to achieve their objectives, it is necessary to restrict the number of admitted students. All applicants are considered on a competitive basis, with every effort made to select outstanding candidates.

Upon beginning your application you will be sent an email containing a link to set your password. Please note: your email address will also be your username throughout the process. You will be required to provide all information and documents before submitting your application (excluding test scores or letters of recommendation). Students are no longer required to mail a hard-copy of their portfolio.

We encourage you to reference the College of Architecture website, arch.iit.edu, for additional information about our programs. If you have questions during the application process, contact our office at arch@iit.edu or 312.567.3230.

REQUIREMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS

All of the following items must be on file with the College of Architecture before an admission decision will be made. Please check individual program descriptions for any additional program specific requirements.

Applicants who have changed their name and may have documents with their previous name must indicate this clearly on their application.

1. AN APPLICATION FORM completed online at http://bit.ly/IITGraduateApplication.

2. ORIGINAL OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS or certified “true copies” indicating degree(s) awarded, course titles, credit hours, and grades or scores earned from all graduate and undergraduate schools attended. All transcripts must bear an original signature and seal, either of the issuing institution or a notary public, and must have been issued within a year of the application date. Student copies of documents are not accepted.

If an applicant’s current degree program is in progress, he/she may be conditionally admitted subject to receipt of a final transcript verifying the degree awarded. A final official transcript with degree posted must be submitted within 30 days of the first day of classes.

3. GRADUATE RECORD EXAMINATION (GRE) scores are required for all graduate applicants. GRE scores are valid for five years and must have been taken five years prior to the application deadline for the particular program. Meeting the minimum standards does not guarantee admission. Please direct your test scores to the appropriate location: IIT’s institution code number for the GRE is 1318; no department code is required. Required minimum GRE scores: 292 (quantitative + verbal) and 2.5 (analytical writing). Please allow two to four weeks from the date of your test or score request for delivery and processing of your scores. Your application status will be updated when we receive them.

4. TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION are required and should be from individuals who are able to assess your academic and/or career achievements and potential. Recommenders may include individuals such as professors or employers but may not include family members. Letters of recommendation must be submitted through the Applicant Portal. You will submit the recommender’s name and email address, and they will receive an electronic invitation to then submit a letter in PDF format. You will not have access to submitted letters of recommendation.

The post-professional programs require applicants to hold a professional, accredited 5 year Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch) degree or Master of Architecture (M.Arch) degree, which must be from a NAAB accredited institution if earned within the United States. Applicants to the post-professional programs with a degree earned outside of the United States must have the equivalent to a first professional degree in architecture and be eligible for licensure in their home country.

Applicants to the doctoral program must hold a professional Master of Architecture degree (M.Arch.) from a NAAB-accredited U.S. university or the equivalent. Candidates who have not completed the required professional M.Arch. degree may apply for either the Master of Science in Architecture or the Master of Architecture program at IIT to fulfill that requirement, as a non-terminal program of studies preparatory for the doctoral program.

Please direct your GRE scores to the appropriate location: IIT’s institution code is 1318; no department code is required.

For more information on the GRE, call 866.473.4373 (U.S. & Canada) or 608.771.7670 (all other locations) or visit www.gre.org
5. A PORTFOLIO DEMONSTRATING YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND EXPERTISE is required for all admissions, including for those students without an architecture background. For M.ARCH & MLA applicants, portfolios should demonstrate your skills in design and problem solving. Include at least three projects (6-8 are common). Typical length is 5-15 pages. For applicants to the advanced standing program, the portfolio is a very important part of the application packet and should offer the admission committee a view of your aptitude for design work. For those applicants coming from allied fields, the challenge will be to demonstrate that your design ability and work skills are adequate to advanced architectural studies. For those students coming from fields that are not architecture or design related the work shown should demonstrate an aptitude for the unique way of engaging in design. All portfolio files must be PDFs and no larger than 10 MB.

For M.S Arch & PhD applicants, portfolios should focus on your skills in leading innovation projects and teams. Include at least three projects (4-6 are common). Typical length is 5-15 pages. Work should strive to demonstrate critical thinking, problem framing, and communication skills. All portfolio files must be PDFs and no larger than 30 MB.

Websites can be included in a portfolio, however IIT College of Architecture cannot be held responsible if those sites are not available at the time your application is reviewed.

6. A PROFESSIONAL STATEMENT describing your motivations for graduate study at IIT, which includes your goals while a student as well as your future professional goals. The professional statement should be approximately 500 words in length (one to two pages). If applicable, please include any special topics of study. Please note the professional statement cannot be revised or resubmitted after you submit the application.

7. A NON-REFUNDABLE APPLICATION FEE of $60 (payable to IIT) must be submitted by all first time applicants. IIT must receive this fee before considering your application. This fee will not be applied toward tuition charges.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT REQUIREMENTS

International applicants must meet all of the general requirements listed above as well as the following additional requirements.

1. ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS of transcripts are required for applicants whose institutions do not issue transcripts in English. The translation must be certified by a consular official or person authorized to translate documents. The translator's original signature and seal are required and original foreign transcripts must be attached to the translation. Individual mark sheets must be included if individual course titles and grades are not listed.

2. ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAM (TOEFL/IELTS) SCORES are required for applicants from non-English speaking countries or applicants holding degrees from institutions at which the primary language of instruction was NOT English. Based on the results of the exam, you may be required to complete additional English courses at IIT at the current tuition rate. International applicants with degrees from institutions where the primary language of instruction was English are NOT required to submit TOEFL scores; however, documentation verifying that the primary language of instruction was English may be requested. The TOEFL/IELTS must have been taken within the two years prior to the annual application deadline for the particular program. Required minimum TOEFL score: 550/80 or 6 (paper based/internet based). Students with a TOEFL/IELTS score between 550/80 and 599/99 or 5.5 and 6 may be required to take English language courses if admitted. English courses taken at IIT do not count towards a student's program of study credit requirements.

3. A FINANCIAL AFFIDAVIT OF SUPPORT FORM is required for international applicants needing a student visa to study in the U.S. Applicants will need to submit a Financial Affidavit of Support covering the full costs of the program for one academic year (9 months). The Financial Affidavit of Support form must be properly completed, certified, signed by all relevant individuals, and returned to IIT before an I-20 or DS-2019 can be issued. A certified bank statement may be submitted in place of Section 3 of the Financial Affidavit of Support form and must include an official signature and seal.

4. COPY OF PASSPORT IDENTITY PAGE must be submitted through the Applicant Portal. This documentation aids in efficient processing of your I-20, if you are admitted.

5. SCHOOL TRANSFER FORM (Transfer International Transfer Applicants Only) must be submitted by any international student currently studying on an F-1 visa who intends to transfer to IIT from another institution in the United States. It indicates the release of your I-20 by your current institution, permitting IIT to create a new I-20 for you. This form should be submitted only after you officially have been admitted to IIT.

Please direct your TOEFL scores to the appropriate location:
IIT's institution code is 1318.
For more information on the TOEFL, call 877.863.3546 (U.S. & Canada) or 609.771.7100 (all other locations) or visit www.toefl.org.

We encourage applicants to submit their Financial Affidavit of Support & copy of passport at the time of application but an admission decision can be made without a Financial Affidavit of Support and copy of passport on file.
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FALL 2017 APPLICATION DEADLINES
M.ARCH, MLA, AND M.S.ARCH
  PRIORITY: January 15, 2017
  FINAL: April 15, 2017 (international)
  August 1, 2017 (domestic)

PH.D
  PRIORITY: December 31, 2016
  FINAL: April 15, 2017 (international)
  August 1, 2017 (domestic)

ADMISSION DECISIONS
Applicants submitting their materials by the Priority deadlines will be notified of their admission decision in March. IIT cannot be held responsible if, for any reason, the student fails to receive a decision letter in time to enroll for a particular term.

TUITIONS AND FEES
MASTERS PROGRAMS
Students in the masters level graduate architecture programs take between 15-18 credit hours per semester. Tuition is charged per credit hour. The estimated expenses below are based upon the 2016-2017 tuition rate, with an estimated increase of 5-7% each year.

2016-2017 ESTIMATED EXPENSES/9 months
TUITION: 36 credits at $1,400 per credit $50,400
FEES: health insurance, service, CTA, activities, model shop, orientation $4,355
ROOM AND BOARD: $13,275
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST: $68,030

PH.D. PROGRAM
Students in the Ph.D. program take a minimum of 9 credits hours per semester for full-time status. Tuition is charged per credit hour. The estimated expenses below are based upon the 2016-2017 tuition rate, with an estimated increase of 5-7% each year.

2016-2017 ESTIMATED EXPENSES/9 months
TUITION: 18 credits at $1,400 per credit $25,200
FEES: health insurance, service, CTA, activities, model shop, orientation $4,275
ROOM AND BOARD: $13,275
ESTIMATED TOTAL COST: $42,750

FUNDING AND FINANCIAL AID
The College of Architecture offers a limited number of merit-based scholarships and fellowships. These awards are reserved for candidates who are considered to have outstanding credentials. Award decisions are determined by the Graduate Admissions Committee after an admission decision has been made. We do not require a separate application form for scholarship consideration. If you are awarded a scholarship, you will be notified within your admission letter. Students who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents may apply for federal financial aid by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Visit www.fafsa.ed.gov for more information.

HOUSING
While many graduate students choose to live off campus in independent housing, others enjoy the convenience of living on campus. The on-campus facilities include graduate apartment style housing. If you are interested in living on campus, please contact the Housing Office using the information listed on the right.

MEDICAL EXAMS AND INSURANCE
Prior to matriculation, admitted students intending to enroll in the College of Architecture must meet IIT requirements for documented medical examinations and immunizations. If your would like more information, please contact the Student Health Services Office using the information listed on the right.

CAMPUS VISITS
We invite you to visit the College of Architecture to view our facilities, meet with admissions staff and see the student work in progress. Individual visits may be scheduled by contacting us at arch@iit.edu or 312.567.3230. We recommend visiting on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday between 2:00 pm and 4:00 pm when architecture design studios are in session.