Architecture at Chicago

UIC

UIC School of Architecture Graduate Programs

Master of Architecture (MArch): 3-year professional program
Master of Arts in Design Criticism (MAD-Crit): 2-year program
Master of Science in Architecture* (MSArch): 1-year program

Joint Degree Programs
MArch/MAD-Crit: 4-year degree
MSArch*/MAD-Crit: 2-year degree

*To be eligible for the MSArch program, applicants must already have a professional degree in architecture (a 5-year Bachelor of Architecture or a Master of Architecture)

Application Requirements

- Online graduate application
- $70 application fee
- Personal statement
- 3 letters of recommendation
- GRE test score
- Transcripts from all previous schools attended
- Portfolio
- *International applicants*: see website for further requirements

See complete instructions at
arch.uic.edu/graduate-admissions

Submitting Application Materials

All materials should be submitted electronically directly through the online application portal. For letters of recommendation, applicants must include their recommenders' names and contact information in the application; this will prompt an email to each recommender with instructions to submit their letter electronically. Portfolios must be submitted as a PDF.

Application Deadlines

December 15: Deadline for University Fellowship consideration
January 15: Priority application deadline. *The recommended deadline for ALL applicants. Students who want to be considered for financial support from the school must apply by this date.*
February 15: Final deadline for international applicants
March 15: Final deadline for domestic applicant

Prepare to Apply

Non-Credit Preparatory Programs
We offer a few options for current undergraduate students, recent graduates, and working professionals who have an interest in learning more about architecture or who want to strengthen or expand a portfolio for graduate school applications.

YArch is a four-week intensive summer program offered each July. The curriculum mirrors the structure and rigor of our graduate program. At its core is a series of studio projects that immerse participants in the discipline of architectural design. Beyond the studio, tutorials, seminars, field trips, and office visits to introduce participants to the basic history and theory, practice, and current work of the field. A special emphasis on the graphic presentation of architectural work provides participants with the skills to create a portfolio for graduate applications. *More information: arch.uic.edu/yarch*

TryArch is a one-day intensive workshop offered each fall. Participants experience an architecture studio environment, learn about drawing and fabrication, and build content for a portfolio. School of Architecture faculty lead participants through a series of drawing, composition, or modeling exercises. The workshop explores formal, spatial and material organizations in the hopes of discovering new avenues of architectural inquiry while leaving students with content to begin building a portfolio. *More information: arch.uic.edu/tryarch*

Visit

Prospective students are encouraged to visit the school if they are able to. Students may contact the Graduate Advisor to schedule a one-on-one information session and tour of the school. We also suggest attending school events, including our Graduate Open House for prospective students (held each fall), Year End Show (held at the end of each academic year), Graduate Portfolio Day, public lecture series throughout the academic year, student reviews at the end of each semester, and so on. Event dates appear on our website: arch.uic.edu.

Graduate Admission Timeline

Summer-early fall

• Consider attending the school's YArch program to build portfolio content, become familiar with UIC's approach to architecture, and get an idea of what it's like to study architecture at the graduate level
• Decide which schools you're interested in and consider visiting and attending open houses, public lectures, student reviews, etc.
• Prepare for and schedule the GRE (www.gre.org)
• International applicants: prepare for and schedule TOEFL or IELTS if needed

October

• Attend the fall Graduate Open House to learn more about the School of Architecture and our graduate programs
• Begin working on a draft of your portfolio
• Begin working on a draft of your personal statement
• Ask recommenders if they will write you a letter; begin online application, enter recommenders' information so they can submit letters early

November

• Consider attending the one-day TryArch workshop
• Collect copies of your undergraduate transcripts
• Look into university/external scholarships, and fellowships.
• Get feedback on your portfolio and personal statement
• Complete GRE and send scores to UIC (school code: 1851)

December

• Submit online application with all required materials uploaded
• Confirm with recommenders that their letters will be submitted on time

January

• Ensure all outstanding application materials are submitted by January 15
• Domestic applicants: prepare to submit a FAFSA

Common Questions

Tuition & Aid

The School of Architecture offers three types of aid: scholarships, tuition waivers, and assistantships. Aid is awarded annually through a merit-based process. Much of the school's aid is allocated to continuing students with a smaller percentage awarded to newly admitted students. Approximately 40 to 50 percent of *all* graduate students receive one of these three types of aid from the school each year.

UIC's Office of Student Financial Aid and Graduate College also offer many resources and opportunities for students seeking funding. Domestic students who wish to be considered for federal aid must submit a FAFSA. The FAFSA becomes available each year on October 1.

Tuition and Fees per Year *for 2020-2021 academic year*	In-State	Out-of-State
Tuition	$11,870	$24,738
Tuition Differential*	$6,084	$6,084
Fees	$3,546	$3,546
Assessments	$1,140	$1,140
Total:	$22,640	$35,508

Differential varies by program. The yearly differential is $6,084 for the MArch program, $4,402 for the MAD-Crit, and $5,038 for the MSArch.

Prerequisites

Applicants without a prior degree in architecture are welcome to apply to the graduate program. If admitted, they must have completed one calculus course and two art history or architecture history courses before beginning graduate study. Prerequisites may be completed at any accredited institution (through a community college, online coursework, etc.). Please contact the School of Architecture if you have questions about which courses may be appropriate to fulfill these requirements.

Minimum GPA and GRE Scores

We prefer to see a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, and we encourage applicants to aim for GRE scores of 153 on the verbal and quantitative sections and a 4.5 on analytical writing. However, these are not minimum requirements. The admissions committee considers applications as a whole, and those with lower scores may still be admitted given the strength of other aspects of their application.

Questions?
contact Gwen Fullenkamp,
Graduate Academic Advisor
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