

Carnegie  
Mellon  
University

**APPLY**  
2022

# APPLYING TO CARNEGIE MELLON UNIVERSITY

## What You Need to Know

### COMMON APPLICATION

- Carnegie Mellon uses the Common Application exclusively. Use of the Common Application is governed by the license agreement for Common Application forms, a copy of which is displayed at [commonapp.org](https://commonapp.org).
- We accept fee waivers from students who meet one of the indicators of economic need as outlined on the Common Application. If you have questions about Common Application fee waivers, please contact our office.

### DOCUMENT TRACKING – WHERE AM I IN THE PROCESS? PORTAL

Throughout this process, you'll be sending us a lot of information! All applicants can see what admission and financial aid documents have been received or are missing by logging into the Where Am I in the Process? portal. You can also use the portal to view your admission decision and any eligible financial aid offers. Check out [cmu.is/wai](https://cmu.is/wai) for more information.

### CONNECT WITH US

Please add [admission@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:admission@andrew.cmu.edu) to your contacts to ensure you receive all correspondence from the Office of Admission.

### CARNEGIE MELLON CUSTOM VIEWBOOK

Create your own Carnegie Mellon Custom Viewbook to design your personal introduction to the Tartan experience. Visit [customviewbook.cmu.edu/go](https://customviewbook.cmu.edu/go) to explore our academic programs, campus resources and opportunities to get involved on campus.

## What's Required

Here's a quick glance at what we require to complete your undergraduate application to Carnegie Mellon. Please review this booklet for more information on applying for undergraduate admission, requirements for the fine arts and financial aid.

Please note that we don't require SAT or ACT results this year (see page 2).

- Common Application and essay
- Official secondary school transcript
- TOEFL or IELTS official score reports, if applicable (see page 8)
- Secondary school counselor evaluation
- Teacher recommendation
- Carnegie Mellon writing supplement
- College of Fine Arts additional requirements (see pages 11-12)

## Application Deadlines

### Early Decision 1

Deadline: November 1  
Notified by: December 15  
Enroll by: February 1

### Early Decision 2

Deadline: January 3  
Notified by: February 1  
Enroll by: February 15

### Regular Decision

Deadline: January 3  
Deadline, Drama and Music: December 1  
Notified by: no later than April 1  
Enroll by: May 2



## IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR ALL APPLICANTS

### Fall 2022 FAQ

We hope you find these pages helpful as you submit your application for the fall 2022 academic year. However, you may have specific questions about the application process that you can't find the answer for here. If this is the case, our website's Fall 2022 Frequently Asked Questions page is a great additional resource. Learn more at [cmu.is/admission-faq](https://cmu.is/admission-faq).

### Deferral Requests

If you're admitted to Carnegie Mellon and wish to defer your admission, you must first submit your request in writing to the Office of Admission before submitting your \$800 enrollment deposit in order to confirm enrollment for the following year. You must agree not to apply to or enroll in a full- or part-time degree program at another institution during the year you defer.

### Application Misrepresentation

We value academic and artistic integrity and authenticity in the admission process. Furthermore, Carnegie Mellon assumes that lists of activities, accomplishments, awards, essays and recommendations are authentic, original and accurately reflect student achievements. We reserve the right to launch an investigation when falsified transcripts, artistic submissions of work or misrepresentation of credentials that are not accurate, original and authentic representations of a student's ability and level of accomplishment are suspected. A student's admission status will be placed on hold during an investigation and can result in the cancelation of an application or the withdrawal of an offer of admission. Carnegie Mellon does report confirmed cases of misrepresentation to the Common Application.

All offers of admission are based on the assumption that students will maintain the level of academic performance and community conduct that has resulted in admission to Carnegie Mellon. Admitted and enrolled students are expected to abide by Carnegie Mellon's code of conduct, found within our student handbook, *The Word*.

## APPLYING AS A FIRST-YEAR STUDENT

### Admission Consideration

At Carnegie Mellon University, we select our first-year class from a large group of very qualified candidates. The majority of our applicants are admissible and could be successful at Carnegie Mellon. We use a variety of factors to select our first-year class from those admissible candidates. We don't use a calculation to arrive at our admitted class. Calculations can't take into account all of the factors we consider when making admission decisions. We treat every applicant as an individual, taking great care to make fair and thorough admission decisions in context.

Your non-academic interests, including extracurricular involvement, part-time jobs, family commitments, hobbies and community engagement play a very important role in the admission process. We also consider collaboration, perseverance, passion, advocacy for others and self-direction when making admission decisions. We're interested in students who can be successful at Carnegie Mellon while fully engaging in the university community.

### Academic and Artistic Potential

Our admission process is designed to select a highly talented, diverse undergraduate population with high aspirations who will succeed at Carnegie Mellon. If you're applying to academic programs, your high school talent and/or potential will be a significant factor in our admission decision because it's the most meaningful indication of your motivation and abilities. We pay close attention to your curriculum rigor, the grades you've earned and the work you've accomplished. We're interested in seeing that you've challenged yourself within your secondary school environment. If you're applying to programs in the arts, your artistic performance will be either the main factor or a significant factor (depending on the program) in our admission decision. To better understand your admission process, review the guidelines in the chart at the bottom of this page.

If you're interested in:	You'll be considered primarily on the basis of:
Schools of Architecture, Art, Design, Drama and Music	Portfolio review, pre-screening or audition, as well as academic performance.
Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences Information Systems	Academic performance, with emphasis on reading and comprehension abilities and mathematics courses along with extracurricular contributions, evidence of leadership and community service and ability to communicate thoughts and ideas in writing.
College of Engineering Mellon College of Science School of Computer Science Tepper School of Business	Academic performance, with emphasis on strength in mathematics and sciences along with extracurricular contributions, evidence of leadership and community service and ability to communicate thoughts and ideas in writing.

# APPLYING AS A FIRST-YEAR STUDENT

## Standardized Testing

Recognizing that standardized testing opportunities may not be available to all potential applicants, Carnegie Mellon is extending our test-optional policy through fall 2022 to accommodate students who are unable to take either the SAT or ACT or choose not to submit scores. We also recognize that candidates who do submit test scores may not have been able to take the SAT or ACT more than once as planned. SAT Subject Tests are neither required nor recommended and aren't considered in our admission process.

## Interest in Carnegie Mellon

We don't consider demonstrated interest in our admission process. As a result, we don't consider a campus visit or communication with the Office of Admission or other members of the Carnegie Mellon community when making admission decisions. We also don't accept supplementary submission of materials, including resumes, research abstracts, writing samples, multimedia demonstrations of talents and maker portfolios.

We don't consider these forms of interest because:

- They can run counter to an accessible and inclusive admission process.
- Extra materials haven't been useful in making our admission decisions.
- Allowing optional materials has deterred some people from applying.
- Explicitly eliminating these items significantly reduces the stress of the application process.

Applicants have space on the Common Application to list accomplishments and involvement for the admission committee's consideration. We encourage students to use this space to share the extracurricular facets of their secondary school experience. We don't offer alumni interviews in advance of admission decisions and have refocused

alumni efforts to connect with admitted candidates.

Our efforts to support access and inclusion extend to our waiting list process as well. If there's space in the first-year class after the regular decision enrollment deadline, applicants on the waiting list can choose to remain active in our admission pool by sending us a quick update. We'll communicate with all students on the waiting list about this update in the spring. To limit stress and extra work in case there's no additional space in the first-year class, we've used a consistent update topic over the past few years and will release it a few weeks before it's due.

## Criminal History Information

Carnegie Mellon does not collect or review criminal history information as part of the admission process. However, individuals who are admitted to Carnegie Mellon will be required to provide criminal history information as a part of the enrollment process.

## College Selection

Carnegie Mellon seeks to enroll a diverse cohort of students of the highest academic and artistic quality, who also have a broad range of experiences, into its six undergraduate colleges. Think carefully about your Carnegie Mellon college selection(s) before applying. While you may apply to up to two colleges or programs that match your interests, bear in mind that most applicants will only be selected for their highest-choice college to which they're admissible. It's rare for students, even of the highest quality, to be granted admission to more than one of their college selections. Early Decision and transfer candidates may only apply to their first-choice college or program at Carnegie Mellon. Please note that admission to the university is always contingent upon maintaining academic performance and community conduct commensurate with that which resulted in admission. Admission decisions will be rescinded for failure to

maintain strong academic performance, community conduct, honesty, maturity and/or moral character. For more information, visit [cmu.is/handbook](https://cmu.is/handbook).

## Application Instructions

### 1. Complete the online Common

**Application.** Request that your secondary school counselor submit all secondary school transcripts, including senior year courses and a school profile, to the Office of Admission as close to January 3 as possible, but no later than January 7. Mid-year grades should be submitted as soon as possible after they become available. It's your responsibility to check what documents we've received on the Where Am I in the Process? portal to acknowledge receipt of these items. Receipt of mailed or faxed materials will be found on your Where Am I in the Process? portal within 7–10 business days after being received by the Office of Admission.

### 2. Apply for admission only to the specific college(s) or program(s) in which you're interested.

- Rank your program and/or major preference.
- You may apply to up to two colleges/programs. (Early Decision and transfer candidates may only apply to one college/program.)
- If applying to more than one college, you must detail your multiple interests in the Carnegie Mellon short response questions.
- Be sure to review the admission requirements for each college/program.

### 3. Follow these guidelines for each specific area of interest:

#### ALL COLLEGES AND PROGRAMS EXCEPT COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS (CFA)

We strongly urge applicants to indicate a program and/or departmental preference at the time they apply. Although students might not declare a major until the end of their first or second years, we've had to limit access to certain departments.

## COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS (CFA)

Students applying to CFA must apply directly to one or more of the following: School of Architecture, School of Art, School of Design, School of Drama or School of Music. (See specific application instructions on pages 11-12.)

**4. Send a non-refundable application fee of \$75 electronically as you complete the Common Application.** This fee is required. However, if you have a College Board or NACAC fee waiver or if you have any of the Common Application's listed economic indicators, you can note this on your registration form in order to have your payment waived. Only U.S. citizens, permanent residents or DACA students are eligible for fee waivers. An additional audition/portfolio review fee will be required at the time of online registration for drama and music pre-screening, audition or portfolio review.

For School of Music applicants, the additional audition fee is \$50. For School of Drama applicants, the pre-screening fee is \$115. These fees are payable at the time of reserving a pre-screening, audition or portfolio review online on the Fine Arts Applicants page of our website. For applicants to the Schools of Art, Architecture or Design, there is a \$15 fee to submit the portfolio. Fee waivers are available for all auditions and portfolio reviews. Please contact the program you're applying to for more information.

**5. If you choose to have your scores considered, you're required to submit all official results of either the SAT or the ACT.** While we're interested in the general pattern of your scores, we give most weight to the highest score you've received on the SAT. On the ACT, we give most weight to the set of scores corresponding to the highest

composite score. Carnegie Mellon doesn't superscore the ACT. Please refer to our Standardized Testing Policy on page 2.

We believe that college admission testing in the 9th and 10th grades adds to the anxiety of a process that students won't encounter for several years. As a result, we're generally not in favor of any scores from SAT or ACT tests taken before the summer prior to 11th grade. While they may measure knowledge at the time the tests are taken, that level of knowledge degrades over time and doesn't represent the knowledge students bring to college first-year courses. Should students present tests taken two or more years in advance of their first-year experience, we have to take the timing of the test result into consideration. The greater the amount of time prior to college matriculation, the less we can rely on the test result as a fair representation of their preparation entering first-year college courses.

## First -Year Student Application Deadlines

Application Plan	Application Deadlines	Supporting Admission Documents Received by	Admission Notification Dates	File FAFSA and CSS Profile and Submit Other Required Financial Aid Forms by	Financial Aid Offer Notification Date	Enrollment Deadlines
<b>Early Decision 1</b>	November 1 <i>Not available for Acting, Directing, Dramaturgy, Music Theater or the School of Music</i>	November 1	December 15	November 1	January 15	February 1
<b>Early Decision 2</b>	January 3 <i>Not available for the Schools of Art, Design, Drama and Music</i>	January 7	February 1	January 3	February 7	February 15
<b>Regular Decision</b>	January 3  December 1 for Drama and Music	January 7  December 1 for Drama and Music	No later than April 1	February 15	No later than April 1	May 2
<b>Early Admission</b> (high school juniors graduating early)	January 3 December 1 for Drama and Music	January 7 December 1 for Drama and Music	No later than April 1	February 15	No later than April 1	May 2

# APPLYING AS A **FIRST-YEAR** STUDENT

If you choose to submit test scores:

- You must submit all official scores electronically through College Board, ACT or the Educational Testing Service (ETS). When you register for the test, request that an official score report be sent directly to Carnegie Mellon. Make sure your name, address and birthdate on the application matches the information used to register for these tests. The Carnegie Mellon SAT code is 2074 and the ACT code is 3534.
- You can submit your official score reports before or after your application.
- You may also choose to have your counselor submit a copy of your SAT or ACT score report in place of ordering an official copy if the cost of additional score reports is prohibitive. International applicants must submit all official scores electronically through the College Board or ACT.
- Standardized testing should be completed by October for Early Decision 1 and November for Early Decision 2 and Regular Decision. Results of the March tests arrive too late to receive any consideration.

**6. If English isn't one of your first languages, submit additional test results.** Applicants who don't speak English as a first language must submit the results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). To learn more about these tests, please see page 8.

**7. If you're applying to the College of Fine Arts, submit your Common Application before completing portfolio submission, pre-screening or audition requirements.** All of our fine arts programs require that students apply to the university and obtain their Application ID before registering for a pre-screening or audition, or before submitting a portfolio. Early Decision 1 is not available for acting, directing, dramaturgy,

music theater or the School of Music. Early Decision 2 is not available for the Schools of Art, Design, Drama or Music.

If you're applying Regular Decision to the Schools of Drama or Music, apply by December 1. You must also submit your supporting materials by December 1. Submissions after December 1 may not be considered. Refer to the table on page 3 for admission deadlines. Please note that Carnegie Mellon reserves the right to verify original work in admission essays using [Turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com).

**8. Sign the "Confidentiality Statement" on the Common Application School Report Form and then request your secondary school counselor complete the form.** Your counselor should submit this form to the Office of Admission along with the school profile and your transcript.

**9. Choose a teacher to complete the Common Application Teacher Recommendation Form.** Make sure it's submitted to the Office of Admission by:

- Early Decision 1: November 1
- Early Decision 2: January 7
- Regular Decision: January 7

## Enrollment Deposit

If you're offered admission and wish to enroll, you must pay a non-refundable deposit of \$800 by:

- February 1 for Early Decision 1
- February 15 for Early Decision 2
- May 2 for Regular Decision

You need to pay this deposit even if you're receiving financial aid. However, if this deposit presents a barrier to enroll, please contact our office. The deposit will reserve your place in the first-year class and in university housing. We credit the entire amount of your deposit to the first semester's charges. **No extensions of the enrollment deposit will be granted.**

The admission staff assumes that your deposit to Carnegie Mellon is your only deposit. We reserve the right to cancel our offer of admission if you post an enrollment deposit at another university. We'll return enrollment deposits postmarked after May 2 if space is no longer available.

It's expected that all admitted candidates will maintain the same level of academic performance, community conduct, honesty, maturity and moral character which resulted in admission. Failure to do so will result in our cancellation of your admission.

## Mid-Year Enrollment

Carnegie Mellon doesn't accept applications for first-year students looking to start mid-year. Occasionally, Carnegie Mellon accepts a very small number of spring semester transfer applicants who have already completed at least a semester of college by the application deadline.

## Application Plans

Carnegie Mellon offers the following application plans: Regular Decision, Early Decision 1 and 2 and Early Admission for high school juniors. **Please note: Carnegie Mellon doesn't offer Early Action.**

## EARLY DECISION PLAN

Early Decision is a binding application plan for students who view Carnegie Mellon as their first choice university. This means if you're accepted through Early Decision, you're committed to attending Carnegie Mellon and must withdraw any applications you may have submitted to other institutions.

There are two plans that you can choose from. Early Decision 1 is for those applying by November 1, while Early Decision 2 is for those that may decide Carnegie Mellon has become their first choice after November 1.



If you're admitted under Early Decision, you've agreed to enroll, so this isn't the best plan if you want to compare financial aid offers from other institutions. Early Decision also isn't available if you're under the age of 17 or if you're applying Early Admission as a high school junior. Early Decision 1 is not available for acting, directing, dramaturgy, music theater or the School of Music. Early Decision 2 is not available for the Schools of Art, Design, Drama or Music.

We give three admission decisions for students applying Early Decision: admit, not admit or, in rare cases, defer to Regular Decision. Students who receive a "not admit" decision during Early Decision aren't eligible to apply for Regular Decision.

If you apply Early Decision, we encourage you to submit non-Early Decision applications to other colleges/universities. However, **you must agree to withdraw these applications if notified of Early Decision acceptance.**

Applying Early Decision won't affect your overall admission decision. Students applying Early and Regular Decision are admitted at almost exactly the same rate.

#### **Early Decision application instructions:**

- Indicate on the Common Application that you'd like to be considered for Early Decision.
- Choose one college for Early Decision consideration.
- Submit the application and all official score reports no later than November 1 for Early Decision 1 and January 3 for Early Decision 2.
- If applying to the College of Fine Arts, complete all program-specific fine arts requirements outlined on the Fine Arts Applicants page of our website and by the School you're applying to.

#### **If you're admitted under Early Decision:**

- You'll be notified officially by mail and in your Where Am I in the Process? portal no later than December 15 for Early Decision 1 and February 1 for Early Decision 2. If accepted, you must submit your online reply form along with an \$800 enrollment deposit by February 1 for Early Decision 1 and February 15 for Early Decision 2. or your admission offer will be canceled.
- If you're applying for financial aid, you can find more information on our website at [cmu.is/applyforaid](http://cmu.is/applyforaid).
- You must withdraw all admission applications to other colleges or universities.

#### **REGULAR DECISION PLAN**

This is the most common plan used by students applying to Carnegie Mellon.

#### **Regular Decision application instructions:**

- Submit your application by January 3 and all other required documents by January 7.
- Submit your application by December 1 if you're applying to the School of Drama or School of Music.
- If you're admitted under Regular Decision, you'll be notified officially by mail and on the Where Am I in the Process? portal by April 1. Candidates who are waitlisted or denied admission are officially notified on the Where Am I in the Process? portal only.
- If you wish to enroll, submit an \$800 enrollment deposit and complete the enrollment reply form by May 2.
- If your program participates in Early Decision, you can switch your application to Early Decision 1 by November 1. You can also switch your application to Early Decision 2 through January 3.

#### **EARLY ADMISSION PLAN**

This is a rare opportunity for highly qualified high school juniors to apply early to Carnegie Mellon. Early Admission is ideal for mature, responsible juniors who have exhausted their high schools' most rigorous courses.

While the campus environment is rich in educational and social opportunities, students younger than traditional college age often face unique challenges in becoming acclimated to the university community.

It's the responsibility of students under the age of 17 and their parents to contact the Dean of Student Affairs Office to discuss services and resources available in addressing their specific needs. Only students 17 years of age or older are permitted to reside in university housing. The university doesn't participate in any homestay programs. Carnegie Mellon does not offer Early Action.

#### **Early Admission application instructions:**

- Follow the same procedures as Regular Decision applicants.
- Early Admission candidates aren't eligible for our Early Decision plans.

Note that Carnegie Mellon accepts Early Admission applicants only on rare occasions.

# APPLYING AS A **TRANSFER** STUDENT

If you're interested in transferring to Carnegie Mellon, we must first make sure there's space available in your program of interest. Please note that space in these programs is extremely limited. If there's space, we'll look closely at your official college transcript, your professor's recommendation, secondary school grades and test scores (all SAT, ACT or TOEFL/IELTS scores, if available). If you don't have official ACT or SAT results, there's no expectation to submit them.

## Transfer Application Instructions and Deadlines

**1. Apply for admission to the specific college or program in which you're interested.** Make sure to note which department you prefer on the Common Application. Transfer students will only be considered for one college.

- Fall transfer is possible if space is available.
- Spring transfer may be possible for some colleges, but is extremely limited due to space constraints. CFA applicants can't apply for spring admission.
- External transfers are unable to apply to BXA programs.

**2. Send a non-refundable application fee of \$75 electronically as you complete the Common Application.** This application fee is required, except in extenuating financial circumstances. To request a waiver, send us a letter from a college advisor or your dean requesting an application fee waiver in place of the application fee. Only U.S. citizens or permanent residents are eligible for fee waivers.

**3. Send all college/university and secondary/high school transcripts to the Office of Admission.** If you wish to attend Carnegie Mellon as a transfer student and have previously applied to the university, you must resubmit an updated Common Application with your application fee and all other required materials.

**If you're admitted, make arrangements to have a final copy of your college transcript(s) sent to Carnegie Mellon.**

**4. Send a copy of course descriptions from a college catalog from each college/university you attended so we can evaluate transferable credits.** Course descriptions should be sent through the Common Application or electronically with this form: [admission.cmu.edu/register/collegecourses](https://admission.cmu.edu/register/collegecourses). You should copy and paste your course descriptions into a single document, saved as a PDF that has your name, address and Common Application ID on the first page. **If you're applying to Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences for admission to select programs, you may be also asked to submit course syllabi.**

**5. Sign the "Confidentiality Statement" on the Common Application College Report Form.** Have your dean or advisor at the college you're attending (or last attended) complete this form. Your dean or advisor should return the form directly to the Office of Admission.

**6. Once available, check your Where Am I in the Process? portal for an official admission decision.** If accepted, you'll need to complete an enrollment reply form. Please note that admission to the university is contingent upon maintaining academic performance and community conduct commensurate with that which resulted in admission. Admission decisions will be rescinded for failure to maintain strong academic performance, community conduct, honesty, maturity and moral character.

## Transfer Enrollment Deposit

If you're offered admission for the spring semester, we don't require a tuition deposit due to the short time interval between December 15 and the start of the second semester.

For fall transfer students, the \$800 enrollment deposit will reserve your place at the university and accommodations in university housing if available. The deposit will be credited to your first semester charges.

**IMPORTANT:** If you accept our offer of admission, we assume that your tuition deposit to Carnegie Mellon is your only tuition deposit. We reserve the right to cancel our offer of admission if you post a tuition deposit at more than one university. Enrollment deposits received after the deposit deadline will be returned if space is no longer available.

## Transfer Applications to the College of Fine Arts

If you're applying to CFA as an external transfer student, we'll consider you alongside fall 2022 first-year applicants, meaning you must meet our first-year CFA deadlines and you'll likely have first-year status if you enroll.

All CFA applicants must complete additional requirements for their school or program of interest. These may include pre-screening materials, auditions, portfolios and/or interviews. For a complete list of each program's requirements, please visit our Fine Arts Applicants webpage or refer to the links on page 12 of this booklet.



University Housing

University housing isn't guaranteed for transfer students. The Carnegie Mellon Off-Campus Housing Service is a resource available to help you locate housing accommodations in the local area in the event that campus housing isn't available. Visit the service at [offcampus.housing.cmu.edu](http://offcampus.housing.cmu.edu).

Transfer Credit

The college/school to which you're admitted will determine transfer credit for courses you've taken at other universities. We only offer transfer credit evaluations to admitted students. Transfer credit is considered on an individual basis. We may award elective credit for courses with no Carnegie Mellon equivalent.

Transfer credit for courses you're taking while we're reviewing your existing college record depends upon successful completion of each course. Grades aren't transferred — only credits. Sometimes transfer students have to take specific courses and accumulate a larger total number of credits than the normal amount required for graduation. The time it takes for you to graduate will depend on the time you need to complete the full university degree requirements — not on your class standing at a previous institution.

If you transfer in the fall semester, you'll be given instructions on how to receive an estimate of the additional academic work you must complete in order to fulfill the university degree requirements.

If you transfer in the spring semester, you'll have the opportunity to meet with an associate dean or advisor in order to outline the additional academic work you must complete to meet the university degree requirements.

It's best for transfer students in CFA to assume they'll receive first-year status. Occasionally advanced standing is awarded based on review of previous college courses.

You must make arrangements to have a final copy of your college transcript(s) forwarded to Carnegie Mellon's Office of Admission by July 1.

Transfer Student Deadlines

Application Plan	Application Deadlines	Supporting Admission Document Deadline	Admission Notification Dates	File FAFSA and CSS Profile and Submit Other Required Financial Aid Forms by	Financial Aid Offer Notification Date	Enrollment Deadlines
Spring Transfer*	October 15	November 1	December 15 or soon after	November 1	December 15 or soon after	January 3
Fall Transfer	February 15	March 15	May 15	March 1	No later than May 31	June 1
Fall Transfer for CFA	December 1 for performing arts; January 3 for visual arts	December 1 for performing arts; January 7 for visual arts	April 15	February 15	April 15	May 2

\* Spring transfers must have completed a semester of college before the application deadline in order to apply for admission.

## APPLYING AS AN **INTERNATIONAL** STUDENT

If you're an international student (i.e., not a U.S. citizen, permanent resident or DACA recipient), apply to Carnegie Mellon by following the procedures outlined for either first-year (page 1) or transfer (page 6) students. Also be aware of this additional information:

**1. Carnegie Mellon doesn't offer financial aid to international students.** If you're an international student who plans to enroll at Carnegie Mellon, you and your family must assume the total cost of attendance. Visit our International Students page on the Admission section of our website for more details.

**2. International students aren't eligible for application fee waivers.** Financial need is considered when making admission decisions for international candidates. Financial aid and installment payment plans aren't available to international students.

**3. If English isn't one of your first languages, you're required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or the Duolingo English Test.**

**TOEFL:** We accept three versions of the TOEFL — the iBT, the iBT Home Edition and the Essentials exam. Carnegie Mellon requires scores of at least 102 on the TOEFL iBT or iBT Home Edition or at least 11 on the TOEFL Essentials. Sub-scores are also carefully reviewed, with consideration given to those with sub-scores of 25 or higher on the TOEFL iBT or iBT Home Edition or 11 or higher on the TOEFL Essentials. Carnegie Mellon doesn't consider TOEFL MyBest results.

**IELTS:** Carnegie Mellon requires an overall score of at least 7.5 on the IELTS. Sub-scores are also carefully reviewed, with consideration given to those with sub-scores of 7.5 in each section.

**Duolingo English Test:** Beginning fall 2021, Carnegie Mellon will accept Duolingo's English Test. For information about score considerations, please visit [cmu.is/standardized-testing](https://cmu.is/standardized-testing).

Regular Decision applicants should arrange to have these scores sent to Carnegie Mellon no later than January 7.

**4. InitialView interviews are recommended for non-native English speakers.** Often these interviews can measure readiness for engagement in the classroom and also showcase a student's personality, likes and dislikes as well as the area of intended major. InitialView interviews can show English language proficiency while also corroborating the application with more details about the student.

## APPLYING AS A DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS **(DACA)** STUDENT

Carnegie Mellon welcomes applications from students with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status. Follow the procedure outlines for either first-year (page 1) or transfer (page 6) students. We accept College Board or NACAC fee waivers for the non-refundable application fee. Students who need an application fee waiver should contact the Office of Admission. Also be aware of this additional information:

- When completing the Common Application, students with DACA status should apply for either first-year or transfer admission as international students by selecting "other (non-US)" as your citizenship status.
- Students with DACA status may be eligible for institutional financial aid and must apply for financial aid in order to be considered.
- To apply for institutional financial aid, you must complete the CSS Profile and

provide either federal tax returns or documentation of household income to the College Board IDOC service.  
**The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) isn't required for students with DACA status.** Students who need a CSS Profile fee waiver should contact the Office of Admission.

- At the time of admission, Carnegie Mellon may request DACA documentation to confirm your status in order to process financial aid accordingly.

## APPLYING AS A **NON-TRADITIONAL** STUDENT

Carnegie Mellon welcomes applications from students with non-traditional academic backgrounds, including prospective students who are seeking a second bachelor's degree or those interested in a first bachelor's degree several years after graduating from high school.

For all applicants with their first bachelor's degree, please keep in mind that Carnegie Mellon doesn't offer financial aid to students seeking a second bachelor's degree. If you're applying for your second bachelor's degree and plan to enroll at Carnegie Mellon, you and your family must assume the total cost of attendance.

### **To apply for a second bachelor's degree if your first degree is from Carnegie Mellon:**

- Directly contact the associate dean of the college/school you're applying to. The associate dean will authorize the admission into the new degree program.

### **To apply for a second bachelor's degree if your first degree is from another college or university:**

- Complete the Common Application for Transfer Students.
- Contact the Office of Admission at 412.268.2082 or [admission@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:admission@andrew.cmu.edu) for more information.
- Follow the procedure for transfer applicants on page 6.

### **To apply for a first bachelor's degree from a non-traditional background:**

- Complete the Common Application for First-Year Students.
- Contact the Office of Admission at 412.268.2082 or [admission@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:admission@andrew.cmu.edu) for more information. You may also want to schedule an admission counseling session with a member of the admission counseling staff.

- Submit an essay explaining what you've been doing since graduating from high school.
- Submit a recommendation from a counselor, teacher, colleague or advisor who can speak of your potential for success at Carnegie Mellon.
- Other than completing the first-year application, follow the procedure for transfer applicants on page 6.

Campus housing is only available for traditional-age college students.

## APPLYING AS A **HOME-SCHOOL / CYBER-SCHOOL** STUDENT

Carnegie Mellon welcomes applications from students who've been schooled at home or online. Follow the procedure outlined for first-year applicants on page 1.

Home-schooled applicants should submit the Common Application and an academic portfolio/transcript consistent with state guidelines and a list of all textbooks used for your coursework. You must also provide proof that you'll have met, by the end of May of the year of graduation, all requirements for an official secondary school diploma and submit an official final transcript, a GED or a certificate of completion from your

local school district or state board of education by the end of July of the year of matriculation.

### **To apply to the university, you must:**

- Submit a completed Common Application.
- Submit a syllabus/course descriptions of the work you've completed prior to applying.
- Submit a transcript of grades and/or evaluation of your work.
- Submit a recommendation from a counselor, representative of the State Board of Education, your home school association or other person of authority.

- Schedule an admission counseling session with an admission staff member by November 1 (not required but strongly recommended).
- Submit all required language proficiency tests, if applicable. SAT and ACT tests are optional. Please review page 2 for more information.



## PLACEMENT/CREDIT FOR COLLEGE-LEVEL WORK

For the most up-to-date information on placement/credit and necessary scores for Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB) tests/classes and Cambridge General Certificate of Education, visit [cmu.is/credit](https://cmu.is/credit). If an exam you've taken or test score you've received isn't listed, please note that advanced credit won't be granted. Most course descriptions can be found in the Carnegie Mellon Undergraduate Catalog found at [coursecatalog.web.cmu.edu](https://coursecatalog.web.cmu.edu).

Please note that this information is subject to change and that different departments grant credit differently. The college/school in which you enroll will tell you how advanced credit will affect your degree requirements.

It's possible to receive credit that doesn't count toward your major.

### Advanced Placement (AP)

Carnegie Mellon may grant advanced placement and credit if you've taken an advanced placement course and have achieved a score of four or five on exams taken in the College Board Advanced Placement program. When you take the tests, be sure you request that the results be sent to Carnegie Mellon.

### International Baccalaureate (IB)

Carnegie Mellon also recognizes the International Baccalaureate Examinations. We may grant advanced standing and/or credit in various fields for scores of six and seven on the higher-level examinations.

### College-Level Work

We may grant placement or credit for college work you've completed while in high school. Please have your college transcript(s) sent to Carnegie Mellon for transfer credit evaluation. Please send the descriptions of the college courses as well.

### Cambridge General Certificate of Education

Carnegie Mellon recognizes the Cambridge GCE A-Level (advanced level) examinations in various higher level subjects and may grant advanced placement and/or credit for exemplary grades.

### Special Administration Results during COVID-19

If your AP or IB tests were impacted by COVID-19, you may still be able to receive credit. Carnegie Mellon will accept official test results from AP special testing administrations offered during COVID-19 and taken at home. We'll also accept calculated official IB results if your IB tests were canceled because of COVID-19. For more information, visit [cmu.is/credit](https://cmu.is/credit).

## APPLYING AS A **BXA** STUDENT

The BXA programs are intercollege degree-granting programs designed for students who'd like to combine and blend their interests in the fine arts and one of the following academic areas: computer science (BCSA), humanities/social sciences (BHA), or natural sciences/mathematics (BSA).

In order to apply for a BXA program, select the College of Fine Arts school that you wish to apply to and then you'll be asked if you'd like to be considered for a BXA program.

At that point you'll be able to note your interest in another school or college: the School of Computer Science, the Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences or the Mellon College of Science.

Applicants will be considered for both the fine arts school as well as the BXA program as part of the admission process. BXA options aren't available for those applying to the School of Drama for Acting, Directing or Music Theater or to the School of Music for Electronic Music. Under Early Decision 1, BXA is only available for the School of Drama options in Design/Production and the Schools of Architecture, Art and Design. Under Early Decision 2, BXA is only available for the School of Architecture.

For more information, visit [cmu.is/bxa](https://cmu.is/bxa).

Application components vary somewhat for BCSA, BHA and BSA candidates depending on your intended focus in CFA.

You must complete the specific application requirements (portfolio review, pre-screening, audition or interview) for your particular CFA focus.

Students interested in drama may select from three options in the School of Drama and BXA: 1) Design, 2) Dramaturgy or 3) Production Technology & Management. Students interested in music may select from the four options in the School of Music: 1) Audio Recording & Production, 2) Composition, 3) Music Performance or 4) Sound Theory & Practice.

To learn more about the additional application requirements for your CFA concentration within BXA, visit [cmu.is/finearts-app](https://cmu.is/finearts-app).

## REQUIREMENTS FOR THE COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS

We consider not only College of Fine Arts applicants' academic performance but also their artistic potential. To assess this, each CFA program requires either an audition or portfolio submission. We honor audition or portfolio review appointments on a first-come, first-served basis. Please register as soon as possible to secure a pre-screening/audition or portfolio review appointment. Applicants to the Schools of Architecture, Art, Design, Drama and Music are required to apply to the university in order to reserve an audition or portfolio review and are encouraged to apply to the university as soon as possible after **August 15** in order to register for a pre-screening/audition or portfolio review. Audition and portfolio review registration begins **September 1**. For more information, visit [cmu.is/finearts-app](http://cmu.is/finearts-app).

### Communication of Information and Admission Decisions

- In order to register for a pre-screening, audition or portfolio review, you must first submit the Common Application to Carnegie Mellon.
- Once you've registered for the appropriate pre-screening, audition or portfolio review on our website, you'll receive further information by email.
- Final admission decisions aren't made at the time of auditions or portfolio reviews. We'll consider the artistic evaluation as part of your application along with your other credentials and notify you by the appropriate notification date (listed on page 3 or page 7).

#### Please Note

Follow specific admission procedures for each school. For more information, visit our website.

► [cmu.is/finearts-app](http://cmu.is/finearts-app)

If you apply to more than one of these programs, you'll need to complete the registration process for each program's required artistic component.

Students interested in

**BXA interdisciplinary degrees (Bachelor of Computer Science and Arts, Bachelor of Humanities and Arts, Bachelor of Science and Arts)** must apply and be admitted to one of the five CFA schools *and be admissible to* their academic choice (e.g., the Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Mellon College of Science or School of Computer Science).

► [cmu.is/bxa](http://cmu.is/bxa)

**All fine arts applicants** are required to submit the Common Application in order to submit their portfolio and/or register for a pre-screening, audition or portfolio review. Audition and portfolio review dates fill on a first-come, first-served basis.

## College of Fine Arts Admission Deadlines

School	What's Due	Deadlines		More Information
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE	Application	Early Decision 1	November 1	soa.cmu.edu/undergraduate-admissions
	Formal portfolio review registration	Early Decision 2 Regular Decision Fall Transfer	January 3	
		Portfolio submission	Early Decision 1	
		Early Decision 2 Regular Decision Fall Transfer	January 3	
SCHOOL OF ART	Application	Early Decision 1	November 1	art.cmu.edu/admissions/bfa/
		Regular Decision Fall Transfer	January 3	
		Online portfolio review submission	Early Decision 1	
		Regular Decision Fall Transfer	January 15	
Early Decision 2 isn't available for the School of Art.				
SCHOOL OF DESIGN	Application	Early Decision 1	November 1	design.cmu.edu/apply/undergrad
		Regular Decision Fall Transfer	January 3	
		Online portfolio & materials submission	Early Decision 1	
		Regular Decision Fall Transfer	January 15	
Early Decision 2 isn't available for the School of Design.				
SCHOOL OF DRAMA	Application	Early Decision 1 for Design/Production	November 1	drama.cmu.edu/admissions/undergraduate/
		Regular Decision Fall Transfer	December 1	
		Pre-screening, audition or interview registration	Early Decision 1 for Design/Production	
		Regular Decision Fall Transfer	December 1	
Early Decision 1 isn't available for Acting, Directing, Dramaturgy or Music Theater. Early Decision 2 isn't available for the School of Drama.				
SCHOOL OF MUSIC	Application (Composition and technology applicants upload portfolios, media and supporting materials)	Regular Decision	December 1	cmu.edu/cfa/music/apply/undergraduate_admission/
	School of Music audition requirements	Regular Decision	December 1	
Early Decision 1 and 2 aren't available for School of Music applicants.				



## UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS OF STUDY/MAJORS

### College of Engineering (Engineering)

BXA Intercollege Degree Programs  
Engineering & Arts\*

Biomedical Engineering Department  
Biomedical Engineering\*

Chemical Engineering Department  
Chemical Engineering (BS)

Civil & Environmental Engineering Department  
Civil Engineering (BS)  
Environmental Engineering (BS)

Electrical & Computer Engineering Department  
Electrical & Computer Engineering (BS)

Engineering & Public Policy Department  
Engineering & Public Policy\*

Materials Science & Engineering Department  
Materials Science & Engineering (BS)

Mechanical Engineering Department  
Mechanical Engineering (BS)

### College of Fine Arts (CFA)

BXA Intercollege Degree Program  
Bach. of Computer Science & Arts (BCSA)  
Bachelor of Humanities & Arts (BHA)  
Bachelor of Science & Arts (BSA)

School of Architecture  
Architecture (BArch or BA)

School of Art  
Art (BFA)

School of Design  
Design (BDes)

School of Drama  
Drama (BFA)  
Acting  
Design  
Costume  
Lighting  
Scenic  
Sound  
Video & Media

Directing  
Dramaturgy  
Music Theater  
Production Technology & Management  
Production Technology  
Stage & Production Management  
Technical Direction

School of Music  
Electronic Music (BFA)  
Music & Technology (BS)  
Music Composition (BFA)  
Music Performance (BFA)  
Instrumental  
Piano  
Vocal

### Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences (DC)

BXA Intercollege Degree Programs  
Bachelor of Humanities & Arts (BHA)

Economics Program‡  
Economics (BA or BS)  
Economics & Mathematical Sciences (BS)  
Economics & Politics (BS)  
Economics & Statistics (BS)

English Department  
Creative Writing (BA)  
Literature & Culture (BA)  
Film & Visual Media (BA)  
Linguistics (BA)  
Professional Writing (BA)  
Technical Writing & Communication (BS)

History Department  
Ethics, History, & Public Policy (BA or BS)  
Global Studies (BA)  
Social & Political History (BA or BS)

Institute for Politics & Strategy  
International Relations & Politics (BS)

Interdepartmental Majors  
Environmental & Sustainability Studies\*  
Health Humanities\*  
Information Systems (BS)\*\*  
Student-Defined Major (BA or BS)

Modern Languages Department  
Applied Multilingual Studies (BA)  
Chinese Studies (BA)  
French & Francophone Studies (BA)  
German Studies (BA)  
Japanese Studies (BA)  
Linguistics (BA)  
Russian Studies (BA)  
Hispanic Studies (BA)

Philosophy Department  
Ethics, History, & Public Policy (BA or BS)  
Linguistics (BA)  
Logic & Computation (BS)  
Philosophy (BA)

Psychology Department  
Cognitive Science (BS)  
Linguistics (BA)  
Neuroscience (BS)  
Psychology (BA or BS)  
Psychology & Biological Sciences (BS)

Social & Decision Sciences Department  
Behavioral Economics, Policy &  
Organizations (BA)  
Decision Science (BS)  
Policy & Management (BS)

Statistics & Data Science Department  
Economics & Statistics (BS)  
Statistics (BS)  
Statistics/Mathematical Sciences (BS)  
Statistics/Neuroscience (BS)  
Statistics & Machine Learning (BS)

### Mellon College of Science (MCS)

BXA Intercollege Degree Programs  
Bachelor of Science & Arts (BSA)

Biological Sciences Department  
Biological Sciences (BA or BS)  
Biological Sciences & Psychology (BS)  
Biological Sciences/Neuroscience (BS)  
Neuroscience (BS)

Chemistry Department  
Chemistry (BA or BS)  
Chemistry/Biological Chemistry (BS)

Interdepartmental Majors  
Environmental & Sustainability Studies\*  
Health Humanities\*

Mathematical Sciences Department  
Computational Finance (BS)  
Mathematical Sciences  
Computational & Applied  
Mathematics (BS)  
Discrete Mathematics & Logic (BS)  
Mathematical Sciences (BA or BS)  
Operations Research & Statistics (BS)  
Statistics (BS)  
Mathematical Sciences & Economics (BS)

Physics Department  
Physics (BA or BS)  
Physics/Applied Physics (BS)  
Physics/Astrophysics (BS)  
Physics/Biological Physics (BS)  
Physics/Chemical Physics (BS)  
Physics/Computational Physics (BS)

### School of Computer Science (SCS)

BXA Intercollege Degree Programs  
Bach. of Computer Science & Arts (BCSA)

Artificial Intelligence (BS)\*\*

Computer Science (BS)

Computational Biology (BS)

Human-Computer Interaction (BS)

Robotics\*

### Tepper School of Business (Tepper)

Business Administration (BS)  
Accounting  
Business Analytics & Technologies  
Entrepreneurship  
Finance  
Global Economics & Business  
Marketing Management  
Operations Management  
Strategic Management

\* May be taken as an additional major only.

\*\* May be taken as a primary major only.

‡ Multi-college program; apply to Dietrich only.

► [cmu.is/majors-programs](https://cmu.is/majors-programs)



# Carnegie Mellon University

## OFFICE OF ADMISSION

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[CMadmission](#)



[CarnegieMellonU](#)



[CarnegieMellon](#)



[Carnegie Mellon University](#)

**[cmu.edu/admission](http://cmu.edu/admission)**

Carnegie Mellon University does not discriminate in admission, employment or administration of its programs or activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap or disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, creed, ancestry, belief, veteran status or genetic information. Furthermore, Carnegie Mellon University does not discriminate and is required not to discriminate in violation of federal, state or local laws or executive orders.

Inquiries concerning the application of and compliance with this statement should be directed to the university ombudsman, Carnegie Mellon University, 5000 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, telephone 412-268-1018.

Obtain general information about Carnegie Mellon University by calling 412-268-2000.

Carnegie Mellon University publishes an annual campus security and fire safety report describing the university's security, alcohol and drug, sexual assault and fire safety policies, and containing statistics about the number and type of crimes committed on the campus, and the number and cause of fires in campus residence facilities during the preceding three years. You can obtain a copy by contacting the Carnegie Mellon Police Department at 412-268-2323. The annual security and fire safety report also is available online at [www.cmu.edu/police/annualreports](http://www.cmu.edu/police/annualreports).

Information regarding the application of Title IX, including to admission and employment decisions, the sexual misconduct grievance procedures and process, including how to file a report or a complaint of sex discrimination, how to file a report of sexual harassment, and how the university responds to such reports is available at [www.cmu.edu/title-ix/](http://www.cmu.edu/title-ix/). The Title IX Coordinator may be reached at 5000 Forbes Ave., 140 Cyert Hall, Pittsburgh, PA 15213; 412.268-7125; or [tix@cmu.edu](mailto:tix@cmu.edu).

For more information regarding the statement of assurance please visit [www.cmu.edu/policies/administrative-and-governance/statement-of-assurance.html](http://www.cmu.edu/policies/administrative-and-governance/statement-of-assurance.html).

Produced by University Communications & Marketing. August 2021, 22-010.