

Theatre production admissions procedure for entry 2021

- Please make sure you have read these notes prior to applying and retain for your reference.
- All eligible candidates who apply before the closing date will receive an interview.
- All candidates must be 18 by the start of the academic year for which they are interviewing.

Applications

You can apply online at www.rada.ac.uk. Your application must be completed and submitted by 15 January 2021.

For all technical courses

We will acknowledge receipt of your application as soon as it has been processed. We will then contact you to offer an interview date. While we always try to give plenty of notice, there may be occasions where we call to interview at short notice so please do ensure that you feel prepared for your interview, prior to submitting your application.

For 2021 entry, interviews will take place digitally. We take the government guidance on physical distancing very seriously and, if we are able to, we may invite candidates for a building tour. Travel bursaries are available.

Do note that, due to the volume of candidates we interview, we cannot provide feedback – please refer to the RADA Admissions Policy for more information.

Candidates will be assessed in the following categories where applicable:

- Initial impression/presentation
- Openness to learning
- Ability to discuss and focus on questions
- Understanding of course/background research
- Research of profession/industry
- Level of maturity shown
- Standard of work brought to the interview
- Ability to contribute to course/suitability
- Demonstrated interest in the production arts
- Previous experience of artistic collaboration
- Standard of application form

Interviews

These will begin in January 2021 and we hope to have completed the process by the end of May, depending on the volume of applications. The interview panel consists of the Director of Technical Training and/or the Deputy Director of Technical Training and/or two other members of the technical admissions panel.

Second interview

In some circumstances a candidate may be asked to participate in a second interview. In such cases the same criteria for assessment will be used (as above) but the panel may include alternative members of staff.

A second interview could involve an unseen set task. We may ask candidates to work in groups. We will never ask any candidate to take a test or examination.

Examples of work / portfolio:

- Candidates are invited to show the panel examples of their work (e.g. props, artwork, costumes, lighting design plans, etc) during the interview and/or a portfolio showing similar. What you show at interview does not necessarily need to relate directly to theatrical production work. We are interested in anything that you have made that demonstrates clarity of process and artistic/technical ability.
- You will have the opportunity to screen share, if available to you. Don't worry if this is not available, you will be able to show your work to the camera and may be invited to send examples via email.
- We recommend that, where possible, you evidence the processes you have used to complete work as well as the work itself – photographs, notes, sketches etc. and be prepared to speak about it.

Foundation Degree in Technical Theatre and Stage Management interview procedure

Candidates need to demonstrate their suitability for vocational training and to show that they have read and understood the information sent to all candidates concerning the course.

It is the intention of all interview panels that each candidate will be afforded the same opportunity to demonstrate their skills and abilities.

BA (Hons) in Technical Theatre and Stage Management (progression year) interview procedure

Candidates will need to demonstrate their suitability for conservatoire vocational training and to show that they have read and understood the information sent to all candidates concerning the course.

Candidates are asked to show any work that may serve to support their application.

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We recommend that, where possible, you bring evidence of the processes you have used to complete work as well as the work itself – photographs, notes, sketches etc. and be prepared to speak about it.

It is the intention of all interview panels that each candidate will be afforded the same opportunity to demonstrate their skills and ability.

Postgraduate Diploma in Theatre Costume interview procedure

Candidates will need to demonstrate their suitability for the course which could be evidenced with qualifications and/or experience – both within the industry and the candidate's personal growth of the skills involved. We are particularly looking for enthusiasm for theatre and film work plus all the various disciplines within a Wardrobe department.

It is also important that candidates have read and understood the information sent to them pre-interview concerning the course.

Where possible, candidates will be invited for a tour of the RADA facilities and given the opportunity to speak with a current student on the course and ask questions.

Candidates are asked to show any work that they have achieved in support of their application. This could be a garment or making project which has been completed as part of a course, or as a result of self-learning. Pictures and/or the candidate's ability to speak of the processes carried out when making the project is an advantage.

The panel ensures equal time is allocated for each interview and it is the intention of all interview panels that each candidate will be afforded the same opportunity to demonstrate their skills and ability.

Post-interview process

After interview a candidate will be sent an email:

- informing them that they have not been successful.
- or asking them to wait whilst other candidates are interviewed.
- a successful candidate will be emailed an offer letter which will include our terms and conditions and other relevant information. We will require a written acceptance of the place offer (email is fine).
- you may be invited to attend a tour of the Academy.

Candidates are reminded that being asked to wait does not indicate that they are not wanted on a course, but that interviews are still in progress.

Additional Information

As indicated, there may be a wait time following interview.

The decision of the panel is final. If you are unhappy with the process, you may make a complaint under RADA's Admissions, Appeals & Complaints process (details are on the course pages of the website).

You may apply only once per academic year.

A candidate who is 'on hold' may accept a place at another drama school and hand that place back at any time. A candidate may not hold more than one place at any one time.

Guidance for Disabled Applicants

RADA welcomes applications from candidates with disabilities, including dyslexia, dyspraxia, and other Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLDs).

A high proportion of RADA students come with some form of impairment, mostly specific learning disabilities (SpLDs) such as dyslexia or dyspraxia or with mental health conditions. We have fewer students with physical or sensory impairments (although they are welcomed on our courses and we support students from all backgrounds) and an increasing number of students who we describe as 'neurodiverse' who are on the autistic spectrum or have ADHD.

Accessibility

RADA's main training buildings in Gower/Malet Street and Chenies Street are fully accessible to those with limited mobility.

Tell us about your disability

RADA is committed to admitting and supporting disabled applicants. Applicants are encouraged to declare a disability so that appropriate support can be put into place as soon as possible. The term 'disabled' includes people with a physical or sensory impairment such as limited mobility or hearing loss; a learning difficulty such as dyslexia or dyspraxia; or a mental health condition such as depression.

Please note that if you do disclose a disability or impairment on your application form, this may be shared with the panel.

You are not required to include this information at application stage but we recommend that you do in order to give us time to prepare and arrange suitable support. It will also mean that we can provide appropriate arrangements during the admissions process, where possible.

During an audition/interview

- A member of the admissions team will be on hand as we understand that you might feel nervous.
- Please tell us if you would like to be seen first and we will try to accommodate this.
- Do not worry. The panel will be aware of your particular circumstances if you have made them clear on your application.
- It's fine to ask the panel to repeat any question.
- Take your time.
- Remember that many applicants and students with disabilities and SpLDs have been to RADA before.

Do note that all of our programmes are very physical.

How do RADA support disabled students?

RADA will make reasonable adjustments for all students who declare a disability or impairment and require reasonable adjustments to enable them to participate in the training.

RADA's support is currently jointly managed by the team in Student and Academic Services working with your Course Leader. We will usually encourage students who disclose a disability to speak with their Course Leader as they will be able to advise on adjustments and what would be most helpful in their learning. Students can also talk to RADA's Counselling & Wellbeing Manager, if they are concerned about sharing this information in the first instance.

We encourage students to tell us about any condition that might affect their training, and that they should do so knowing that we will handle that sensitive information in accordance with data protection legislation.

Once we know about a particular condition we will produce a 'Learning Agreement', where necessary. This outlines the adjustments that will be made, who needs to know about this and when it should be reviewed. This will be done with the student and the agreement will only be shared with the people that the student has agreed will have access to it.

Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)

UK students are advised to make an application for [Disabled Students' Allowance](#) (DSA) through the Student Loans Company. This can provide valuable financial assistance to help with the adjustments required for learning for example, particular software for learning support, or a one to one session with an experienced learning support practitioner. It can take several months from the point of application before full support is implemented, therefore do try to apply early. RADA can help with the DSA application process. Student Loans Company will require evidence of the disability in order to make an assessment for DSA. There is more information [here](#).

Students who are not eligible for a UK Disabled Students' Allowance should, in the first instance, seek funding from their own country, funding body, sponsor or other source. However, RADA can offer some Study Skills support sessions and you should contact Student and Academic Services for more information.

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Support for students with specific learning difficulties (SpLDs)

For students with specific learning difficulties, we have relationships with external specialists who can undertake a diagnostic assessment, should there not already be one in place. RADA will pay for the initial assessment and the Disabled Students' Allowance will cover the cost of other support. The Student Loans Company may ask the student to make a contribution to costs (for example, if you prefer an Apple Mac to a PC), but 1:1 Study Skills or mentoring support will be covered. Students may also receive additional funding for printer supplies and photocopying for which receipts should be submitted to SLC at the end of the year for reimbursement.