

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR MASTERS BY COURSEWORK
COLLEGE OF DESIGN AND ENGINEERING, NUS

Master of Design in Integrated Design (MDes)

Applications for our MDes programmes for **August 2027** intake will open from
1 October 2026 – 28 February 2027

If you are a graduating student, please note that you must be able to provide evidence of degree conferred before the end of July 2027; otherwise, please apply for the subsequent intake.

Please check all your details and documents uploaded carefully before submission, as you will not be allowed to make changes after you submit. Submissions of hard copies are no longer required; hence you DO NOT NEED to print or send us anything by post to apply.

Please refer to the [Applicant guide to the GDA System](#) for step-by-step instructions when completing the online application, except for:

- **Full name:** Please enter your FULL NAME in ENGLISH in the (Family Name Given Name) order of your passport or NRIC.
- **Source of finance:** You are not required to upload payslips and bank statements.
- **Specialization/ Area of Study (AOS):** You are not required to select a specialization during application.

Compulsory Documentary Evidence to be uploaded (in PDF format):

- Passport page bearing your name and passport number (*for international applicants*)
- Singapore NRIC or citizenship certificate (*for Singaporean Citizens*)
- Singapore NRIC (blue) and Entry permit (*for Singapore Permanent Residents*)
- Employment Pass / Work Permit / S Pass (*for International applicants working in Singapore*)
- Documentary proof of change in name (*if you had your name changed and your name on NRIC / Passport is not identical to the name printed on your degree scroll/certificate and university transcript*)
- Polytechnic results and certificate or its equivalent (*if applicable*)

- University Transcript (showing results from 1st year to final / Honours year), including explanatory notes on grading system and overall CAP/CGPA/Average Mark obtained.
[Current students, please submit your latest transcript/results slips for all of the semesters taken up to date in the meantime]
- Degree scroll/certificate (if you are a current student, please state the expected date of conferment of your degree)
- Official IELTS/TOEFL Scoresheet meeting the requirements below *(Only required for applicants whose first language is not English; may be exempted if they completed their full bachelor degree programme taught entirely in English, situated in an English speaking country, for example (non exhaustive list) Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, India, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, United Kingdom, USA.)*

85 (for [TOEFL internet-based test*](#)) or 6.0 (for [IELTS \(Academic\)*](#))

Other tests (including the TOEFL Institutional Test) and those that claim to be predictions, estimations, equivalents, simulations, etc. (e.g. MyBestscores) of the TOEFL or IELTS (Eg. Oneskill retake) are unacceptable.

The TOEFL score or IELTS result is only valid for 2 years after the test and should be valid at the beginning of the application period for the designated MSc degree.

For verification purposes, scores will be verified online hence there is no need to post the hardcopies of the results to us. For TOEFL iBT test scores, please nominate our Institution code: 9084 to be accessed electronically through ETS Data Manager. IELTS scores will be verified through IELTS Test Report Form (TRF) Verification Service without any nomination.

01 Detailed CV & Examples of Previous Design Work (Case Studies)

This should be submitted under the field “Academic Design Portfolio” in GDA3.

Mandatory Format: Optimised for screen view (A4/A3)

- Include your detailed CV
- Include 3–4 previous case studies maximum
- Select projects that best showcase your work and thinking as a designer, with a focus on your approach, process, and areas of interest.
- Keep each case study to a maximum of 5 pages.
- Submit the portfolio as a PDF file, with a maximum file size of 20 MB.
- Add QR codes for any external links, such as videos, mock-ups, or other supplementary material included in your portfolio.

Each case study must include:

- Context
 - What was the project about?
 - What was the timeframe, and how long did the project take?
 - Was it a student project or a live project with a client?
- Your contributions
 - What was your role in the project?
 - Did you work independently or as part of a team?
- Key learnings and reflections
 - Wins: What aspects are you most proud of?
 - Key learnings: What did you learn from the project?
 - Next time: What would you do differently if you approached it again?
- Challenges
 - What were the main challenges you faced during the project?
 - How did you address or overcome them?

02 Have a Conversation with our Program Lead (Video Ask)

We use a video platform to invite you to answer 4 questions from our Program Lead. You will see the questions after signing in. Don't worry—this is not a test. We simply want to get to know you better, including who you are and why you want to study with us.

The link to the Video Ask submission will be provided to all shortlisted applicants through their personal email address.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- Candidates who do not submit the above documents by the application closing date will not be considered.
- The following documents are not required for Master of Design in Integrated Design: GRE, GATE, evidence of financial support. You may choose to upload additional documents which may include (i.e scholarships, prizes or awards certificates, professional membership certificates) but it is not necessary. Please do not email us documents that are not stated as per our list of documentary evidence, unless you have been contacted.
- All supporting documents submitted in a language other than English MUST be accompanied by an officially translated and certified copy in the English language. Original documents submitted will not be returned for any reason.
- All supporting documents are to be uploaded at GDA3 during the [application period](#). Certified true copies of the English translation of the document(s) must accompany any document(s) not in English.

PAYMENT

- A non-refundable, non-transferable application fee of \$163.50 (inclusive of 9% GST) is payable before you are allowed to submit your application.
- Refer to Point 4.1 in the GDA3 [Userguide](#)

STATUS AND OUTCOME:

- Applicants *may* be contacted via email by the Office of Graduate Programmes and/or Division of Industrial Design assessing your application for any outstanding documents. Do check your email regularly.
- The admission outcome will be released in batches from November 2026 to April 2027. Successful candidates will receive an email with their offer accordingly. Due to the large number of applicants seeking admission, we are sorry that we will not be able to attend to enquiries on the status of applications.
- The University is not obliged to give reasons for unsuccessful applicants. Do note that our selection of candidates for admission is on a competitive basis. The application fee paid is non-refundable and non-transferable.
- Successful applicants will receive an email offer in batches; kindly refrain from checking with us if you hear of someone who has received the outcome earlier, as you will be notified in due course.
- Upon receipt of your offer, please complete the online acceptance procedures and pay the acceptance fee before the deadline.
- The non-refundable/non-transferable acceptance fee will be credited to the tuition fee upon registration.

Do also refer to our FAQ at

<https://cde.nus.edu.sg/graduate/graduate-programmes-by-coursework/faqs-graduate-coursework/>

For application-related enquiries, please contact us at

Department of Design: ddpgcoursework@nus.edu.sg

College of Design and Engineering (Coursework): CDEGradcoursework@nus.edu.sg

Important

The University has not engaged any external agencies to undertake graduate student recruitment on its behalf. Candidates interested in our graduate programmes are advised to apply directly to the University and not through any agents. Candidates who apply through agents will not have any added advantage in gaining admission, and the University reserves the right to reject such applications without giving reasons.