



## Admissions Evaluation Process

M.ARCH

### PURPOSE

The purpose of these guidelines is to promote appropriate review of all graduate applications - M.Arch, for the School of Architecture and Community Design (SACD), in the College of The Arts at the University of South Florida, and to provide the records that outside agencies (e.g., NAAB, NCARB, HLC, etc.) sometimes need. Also, these guidelines are required to follow USF Office of Graduate Studies Graduate College Policies set forth in the USF Graduate Catalog.

### GRADUATE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Requirements for Admissions are specified at the following links:

- [https://catalog.usf.edu/preview\\_program.php?catoid=20&poid=9824](https://catalog.usf.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=20&poid=9824)
- <https://www.usf.edu/arts/architecture/apply/admission-requirements.aspx>

### APPLICATION FORMS AND INSTRUCTIONS:

See the following website links below:

Graduate Admission steps:

- <https://www.usf.edu/graduate-studies/students/prospective-students/index.aspx>
- <https://www.usf.edu/arts/architecture/apply/index.aspx>

### ADMISSION COMMITTEE:

The SACD Admissions Committee's purpose is to select those students with qualities, academic, professional, and others, that will allow for success in their Architectural studies.

#### Objectives of the Admissions Committee:

1. The Admissions Committee has direct responsibility for determining who is admitted to the SACD.
2. The Admissions Committee is responsible for assuring compliance with the admissions policies and practices set by the University, the Graduate College, and the SACD.
3. The Admissions Committee, in concert with the Director of SACD, will assume responsibility for assuring that best practices are adhered to.

### Admission Calendar: (See School of Architecture Calendar for updated dates of Admission Cycle)

Early March	Admission Committee Receives Application Materials. Review Process
Begins Mid-March	Review Process Culminates
Mid to Late March	Graduate Acceptance letters sent to all admitted students
Mid-April	Graduate students' final decision deadline.

### Admission Review Process:

Admissions is a strategy that reviews essential application materials, including the traditional measures of academic achievement (e.g., portfolio, GPA, GRE, and letters of reference). This process considers the work in the applicant's portfolio to have primary significance in assessment of an applicant's potential for academic success in the School.

**Criterion used** by the Admission Committee for review of applicants' portfolios:

- **Reproduction Quality:** Are all images of a consistently high quality? Do model photographs capture the quality of interior space and light?
- **Layout of Spreads:** Does the juxtaposition of images across a spread demonstrate an understanding of the hierarchical inter-relationship of the various parts of a project from process to final product?
- **Rhythm or Flow of the Portfolio book:** Is there clarity and consistency, yet still a capacity for surprise/delight in the turn of the page?
  
- **Quality of Written Components:** Are sentences and paragraphs well-composed with good grammar? Is there consistency, but also richness, of voice?
- **Completion** – Do all components of the project appear finished?
- **Craft** – Are all models and drawings neat and well-crafted?
- **Clarity** – Does your design work have a clear part/organization?
- **Complexity** – Does your design work go beyond the most basic solution and add a level of complexity, richness, or detail.
- **Concept** – Does the design reflect depth of thinking, purpose, and conceptual rigor?
- **Clear understanding of architectural scales:** From objects of constructs, small scale to internal volumes, spaces and rooms.
- **Clear understanding of architectural conventions:** Including Plan, Section, Elevation, Axonometric, and Perspectives.
- **Competency with drawings, and photography.**

## **Groups:**

### **Group 1: Admission with High Ranking**

Applicants in this group rank highest by the evaluation and will be considered for special funding if available. The Admission Committee will recommend who the recipients of these funding awards should be.

### **Group 2: Admissions**

Applicants in this group show competency and ability. They will receive admission to the program.

### **Group 3: Wait List**

Applicants in this group met some of the basic requirements but did not show the same level of competency as in Group 1 or 2.

### **Group 4: Not Admitted**

Applicants in this group will not be admitted to the SACD as they ranked lowest in the applicant pool and lack various skills and abilities, as evident in the review process.

## **ADVANCED STANDING**

Applicants with a 4-year preprofessional bachelor's degree in architecture will be reviewed separately and if they meet the admissions requirements and demonstrate qualities, academic, professional, and others, that will allow for success in their Architectural studies, will be advanced to our 54 credit hours Master of Architecture (M.Arch.) graduate program. All applicants will be designated similar to the groups listed above.