



Portfolio Submission

2027

Deadline
8/3/2027

We Want You!

TU Dublin School of Art & Design is delighted to invite applicants for our programmes in Fine Art, Visual Communication Design, Interior Design and Visual Merchandising and Display to submit their portfolios for 2027 entry. We are looking forward to seeing your work and would like to assure you that we will take a positive and inclusive approach to reviewing your portfolio- our aim is not to be exclusive, but only to ensure that entrants will enter their chosen degree with the required background skills and abilities in order to be able to progress in their studies.

We use an online system for portfolio submission - please find information on this process and answers to some questions you may have below.

We wish you best of luck with your submission and hope to see you in September 2027!

What type of work should I submit?

We would like to see a selection of your work (up to 25 pieces) that best represents your Drawing, Practical and Conceptual skills and abilities. We like to see a range of work from notebooks and sketchbooks to process and development work to finished pieces. We like to see that you have an inquiring mindset and the ability to explore concepts through your art/design work.

How do I submit my portfolio?

Portfolios for 2027 are submitted through our online platform.
The platform will open in January 2027.

Which Programmes Require Portfolio Submission?

TU973 BA Visual Communication
TU974 BA Fine Art
TU975 BA Interior Design
TU795 BA Visual Merchandising and Display

What information will I need for my application?

You will need your 2027 CAO number, date of birth, the email address you used in your CAO application and any files you wish to upload. You may also make an optional Applicant's Statement (see below).

What is the closing date for applications?

The closing date is Monday, 8th March 2027 at 5pm.

Can I start my application now and save it for editing/ submission later?

Once logged in to our system you can save your application and complete/ amend it anytime up to the deadline. Please note that you must remember to 'Submit' your application before the closing date- applications saved in draft format will not be assessed. Once submitted, applications cannot be edited.

What types of files can I upload?

You can submit up to 25 pieces of work. These can be in the following formats:

- Images (up to 5MB each), PDFs (up to 10MB each), Video (up to 250MB each)
- You may also link to media from YouTube and Vimeo

What if my images/ files are too big?

The above file limits should be more than adequate to represent your work, however there are plenty of ways to reduce your file sizes online if required such as:

Images: <https://photoshop.adobe.com/>

Pdfs: <https://www.adobe.com/ie/acrobat/online/compress-pdf.html>

How should I photograph my work?

You can photograph your work with a digital camera or good phone camera. The most important thing is to take your time and ensure you have good light. The tips below may help:

- > Generally try to get a flat, even light across your work.
- > You could try photographing your work outside. A bright but cloudy/ overcast day may work well as you will not have to worry about shadows and should have an even light.
- > If taking photos inside, it may be best to hang your work on a wall/ door. If you photograph work placed on the ground you are more likely to have shadows across your work.
- > Avoid using flashes– it is normally better to find somewhere to take your photos which already has good enough light.
- > Try to place your work on white, grey black or neutral background, or crop/ frame you photos to avoid any clutter or anything that will detract from your work.
- > Generally, try to take your photo looking straight at your work, not at an angle.
- > Take your time to set up your photographs to ensure you present your work as well as possible.

How can I show my sketchbooks/ notebooks?

We are keen to see more than just finished work and strongly encourage applicants to submit rough work, sketchbooks, notebooks in any of the following formats:

Video: Make a short video using a phone or camera. You might try to use a simple tripod or set up your camera or phone in a fixed position so you can flick through the pages. Remember to follow the relevant photography tips, particularly in terms of lighting. Videos should not be longer than 1 minute.

Slideshow: Scan or photograph the pages of your sketchbook and assemble them into a slideshow which could be uploaded as a video. Videos should not be longer than 1 minute.

Pdf: Scan or photograph pages of your sketchbook and assemble them into a pdf with multiple pages. Remember that pdfs must be less than 10MB each.

Do I need to make an Applicant's Statement?

Applicants have the opportunity to make a personal statement. This will help us learn a little about you and your interest in our programmes. There is no prescribed format for this, but you may use it as an opportunity to explain your work or your interest in the programme you are applying for. This is not marked but may give some context to your work.

How will my work be marked?

The portfolio is used to review the applicant's potential to benefit from and contribute to the programme(s) chosen and will be marked using the following evaluation criteria:

Evidence of Drawing ability (200 marks)

- Examples of freehand, observation and/or technical drawing
- Use of colour and texture
- Variety of subject and media

Evidence of Practical ability (200 marks)

- Skills in visualisation (3D and 2D)
- Quality of presentation
- Control over media

Evidence of Conceptual ability (200 marks)

- Investigation
- Idea generation
- Imagination and creativity

The maximum portfolio score is 600 points. Applicants must obtain at least the minimum score outlined below to be considered for each programme:

TU973 (Visual Communication) - 400 points minimum

TU974 (Fine Art) - 400 points minimum

TU975 (Interior Design) - 350 points minimum

TU795 (Visual Merchandising & Display Design) - 300 points minimum

In all cases, the decision of the review panel will be final.

How will I get my results?

Portfolio scores will be issued to the email address supplied on your CAO application. These will be sent by TU Dublin City Admissions Office as soon as they are available and are not available from the School.

Please ensure you use the same email address for your CAO application and portfolio submission. Results will not be given out over the phone or by any method other than that outlined above.

What if I have a query?

For general course or portfolio queries contact: school.artanddesign@tudublin.ie / (01) 2206164

For score queries contact Admissions: admissions@tudublin.ie / (01) 2206100

Where can I find course information?

Visit www.tudublin.ie or use the QR codes below:

Creative Industries &
Visual Culture



Visual Communication
Design



Fine Art



Interior Design



Visual Merchandising &
Display

