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**Regulations for determining the artistic-creative aptitude of prospective students  
for Design and Interaction, M.A. of the Faculty of Communication and Environment of  
Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences**

**Dated 12 June 2020**

**As amended by the First Amending Statutes  
Dated 20 March 2024  
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## **Section 1 Purpose**

(1) Enrolment in Design and Interaction, M.A. of the Faculty of Communication and Environment requires successful completion of an artistic-creative aptitude test for the degree programme that is conducted according to these regulations. General admission requirements for master's degree programmes, as well as additional admission requirements set forth in the degree programme's examination regulations, remain unaffected.

(2) The purpose of the aptitude testing process is to determine whether applicants possess sufficient artistic and creative abilities such that they can be expected to achieve the objectives of the programme. An expert panel will judge whether applicants possess the required aptitude in visual perception and creativity based on three criteria: perceptive abilities, conceptual abilities, and design abilities.

## **Section 2 Aptitude test**

(1) The degree programme-related aptitude testing process is conducted every semester and results are valid from the following semester. Testing dates will be published on the website of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences. To participate, applicants must submit an application before the deadline set by the University. Applications must be addressed to the dean of the Faculty of Communication and Environment.

(2) Applications must include the following:

- a) Completed application form.
- b) A project idea specific to the degree programme (as an exposé, no more than two pages).
- c) Two or three examples of past projects (as explanations and images, no more than 15 pages).
- d) An additional interview with the applicant (optional, see Section 4 (6)).

(3) Submitted documents can be retrieved in person after the aptitude testing process has concluded, but documents cannot be returned by post.

## **Section 3 Expert panel**

(1) An expert panel will be formed in the Faculty of Communication and Environment to implement the aptitude testing process.

(2) This panel will consist of two professors representing the degree programme. They will be appointed by the full-time professors in the degree programme Design and Interaction, M.A., and their appointment will be confirmed by the Faculty Council. At least one proxy will also be selected.

(3) The panel will elect a chairperson from among its members. The panel confers and decides in closed sessions; it has a quorum when all members are present.

## **Section 4**

### **Testing process**

(1) Decisions on the degree programme-related artistic-creative aptitude of applicants will be based primarily on the documents defined in Section 2 (2) (b) and (c).

(2) Each member of the expert panel will separately score both the project idea specific to the degree programme (Section 2 (2) (b)) as well as examples of past projects (Section 2 (2) (c)) on a scale of 0 to 25 according to the aforementioned criteria “perceptive abilities”, “conceptual abilities” and “design abilities”.

(3) The awarded scores correspond to the following assessments:

0 to 5 points = abilities not recognisable

6 to 10 points = faintly recognisable

11 to 15 points = sufficiently present

16 to 20 points = good

21 to 25 points = excellent

(4) An applicant’s degree programme-related artistic-creative aptitude is thus determined by the sum of points received from each member of the expert panel for the submitted project idea and past project examples. Applicants can receive a maximum of 100 points. Applicants who receive at least 45 points are considered to have sufficient degree programme-related artistic-creative aptitude for admission.

(5) If an applicant clearly meets the aptitude requirements based on their submitted documents, then a follow-up interview is not required. If an applicant’s degree programme-related artistic-creative aptitude is not clearly evident based on submitted documents, then an additional interview is required before a decision is made.

(6) For applicants whose degree programme-related artistic-creative aptitude cannot be clearly determined according to subsection (3), but who scored between 40 and 45 points, the expert panel will arrange a follow-up interview. This interview should be between 30 and 60 minutes in length. It serves as an opportunity for applicants to explain in greater detail their submitted documents and creative abilities. A decision on the applicant’s degree programme-related artistic-creative aptitude will be made immediately after the interview.

## **Section 5**

### **Testing records**

(1) The aptitude testing process will be documented in full, including, in particular, the date and location, the names of the members of the expert panel, the name or application number of each applicant, as well as the final decision and grounds for the decision according to Section 4 for each applicant.

(2) Applicants may view this record upon written request. Requests must be directed to the dean of the Faculty of Communication and Environment within one year of announcement of the aptitude test results.

## **Section 6**

### **Announcement of results**

The Faculty of Communication and Environment will notify applicants of the results of the aptitude test in writing. Detrimental decisions will be justified in writing and include an explanation of available legal recourse.

## **Section 7**

### **Repeating the process**

Applicants who did not pass the degree programme-related artistic-creative aptitude test for Design and Interaction, M.A. may repeat the process at the next scheduled testing date at the earliest.

## **Section 8**

### **Period of validity**

(1) The results of the degree programme-related artistic-creative aptitude test are valid for the degree programme Design and Interaction, M.A. As a rule, they will remain valid for the degree programme's next three admission periods. In justified cases, the dean of the Faculty of Communication and Environment can extend the period of validity. If a student is returning to their studies after an interruption and had successfully completed examinations or other graded coursework prior to leaving the University, then their degree programme-related artistic-creative aptitude test results will remain valid beyond the time period defined in sentence 2.

(2) In addition to the degree programme-related artistic-creative aptitude test offered by Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences, aptitude tests offered by identical degree programmes at other universities subject to the Higher Education Act of North Rhine-Westphalia can also be recognised. Subsection (1) sentences 2 and 4 also apply in this case.

(3) The results of aptitude tests offered by other universities for different degree programmes can be recognised – even if they occurred outside the scope of application of the Higher Education Act of North Rhine-Westphalia – if their equivalence can be confirmed by the dean of the Faculty of Communication and Environment. Subsection 1 sentences 2 and 4 also apply in this case.

## **Section 9**

### **Entry into force**

These regulations will enter into force on the day after their original publication in the Official Notices of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences.

*Note: These degree programme-related artistic-creative aptitude test regulations entered into force on 8 June 2024.*