

## | **BAS admission requirements**

### Academic requirements

Ontario High School applicants must have a **minimum overall average of 75%** in the 6 best Grade 12 U/M courses and successfully complete:

- 1 Grade 12 English U/M course
- 2 Grade 12 U/M Math courses
- 3 other Grade 12 U/M courses

Applicants who have completed Advanced Placement Courses and/or the International Baccalaureate or applicants from outside an Ontario High School can find more information online.

### MSoA Application Package

The following three documents are mandatory for all applicants and must be directly submitted to the MSoA:

#### 1) Portfolio

The purpose of the portfolio is to demonstrate your creativity, skills and interests. All work presented in your portfolio must be your own. The portfolio is an essential part of the application; **you will not be considered for admission unless you submit one.**

Each year, the MSoA selection committee bestows between five and ten Portfolio Awards (including a **\$500 scholarship**) to the most impressive portfolios.

What to include in the portfolio:

Any work you feel that best demonstrates a wide range of your creative skills and abilities. It should contain a minimum of 10 individual pieces (original pieces and/or good quality photographs). Every piece should be accompanied by a descriptive label indicating its title, the year of creation and a brief description of the conceptual thinking and/or realization process. You may include a few images or photographs per piece (to show details or the process, for example). Possible pieces may include (but are not limited to):

- Drawings or paintings;
- Craft work such as furniture making, model-building, ceramics, jewellery;
- Multimedia work such as graphic design, animation, videos, websites;
- Photography or mixed media work;
- Music samples or live performances (for e.g., music, dance, etc.);
- Creative writing such as poetry, essays, criticism;
- Drafting or architectural drawings (in a limited amount, only if you have prior experience);

We accept both **physical** copies and **electronic** submissions. **Electronic submissions should be prioritized in order to speed up to processing of your files.** All portfolio submissions must be clearly labelled with your full name. Below please find the guidelines for the best format for either a physical or digital portfolio:

**Physical copy:** The recommended size is 11" x 17" or smaller. The size of your portfolio should achieve the optimal balance between being compact without losing its visual power to show details of your original pieces, drawings and larger work. You can either build a case or box to hold your work or buy a portfolio case. What is important is that your portfolio be designed as a holistic package.

In order for your portfolio to be returned to you, you must include a self-addressed and prepaid envelope in the portfolio. Please ensure that you include the correct size of packaging and correct postage. Also please note that successful applicants will be asked to pick up their portfolios in person at the start of the Fall semester, in which case their packaging and postage will also be returned to them.

**OR**

**Electronic copy:** The design and format of the portfolio should allow you to present your work with clarity, and to display your graphic design abilities. You must use the platform *Issuu* to publish your portfolio online and then send us the link by email, along with the other required MSoA application documents.

## 2) Statement of interest

The statement of interest should be **500-1000 words in length** and must explain your interest in architecture as well as your choice of McEwen School of Architecture.

Tell us about your background. You can mention your life goals and objectives, academic achievements, relevant work experience, artistic and fabrication activities, community service, personal projects and initiatives, significant travel experiences, and any other elements that help explain why you are a great candidate. Do not hesitate to discuss the people or the personal experiences that influenced and inspired you to pursue architectural studies. Demonstrate that you are a creative, passionate, curious, rigorous and autonomous individual. Explain why you are interested specifically in the BAS program at the McEwen School of Architecture. You may mention what caught your attention or how you think the program best fulfills your interests.

The selection committee will also pay particular attention to the overall organization of your ideas and to the quality of your written English or French.

## 3) References

You must provide the name and contact information for two references (when possible, at least one from a current teacher). There is no need to include letters of recommendation from those references. The selection committee might contact your references, but only when deemed necessary.

Avoid family members or friends and prioritize professors, employers or any other person that can impartially speak to your skills and qualities.

**Information relative to application process, deadlines to apply and send the documents, and where to send documents electronically or physically can be found online.**