



Board of Governors, State University System of Florida
Specialized Admissions Status
Initial Approval Request Form

In Accordance with Board of Governors Regulation 8.013, Specialized Admissions

INSTITUTION: University of Florida

DEGREE PROGRAM: Bachelor of Design in Interior Design

CIP CODE 50.0408

Effective Academic Year: 2023

1. Does this request for specialized admissions status apply to the whole degree program?
YES
2. Which criteria for specialized admissions status does the program meet?
 - Limited Resources (if approved, the status will last a maximum of four years)**
 - Minimal Skills (if approved, the status will last a maximum of five years)
 - Accreditation Requirements (If checked, you must also select either limited resources or minimal skills)
3. Provide a rationale for why the program meets the criteria selected above.
 - If the program is seeking specialized admissions status due to **limited resources**, provide details regarding which types of resources are limited and how the current demand for the program outpaces these resources.

This request for specialized admission status applies to the whole Interior Design degree program. We are submitting this request on the basis of limited resources.

The core instructional mode for this program (like with most other design programs) is the design studio. In these courses, students learn to design projects similar to the ones they will do in practice after graduation. This happens in a studio environment similar to a design studio environment in a design firm. This mode of instruction requires modest student-instructor ratios, typically in the neighborhood of 15 – 1. The department has two design studio spaces for juniors and two for seniors and each studio has capacity for 16 students, thus limiting cohort sizes to 32 students beginning with the junior year.

Demand for the program is often more than our capacity. Consequently, we use a Selective Admissions process whereby students in the major compete for spots in the upper level curriculum. At the end of the sophomore year, students prepare an exhibit with samples of their best work to date (done during the previous 4 semesters). The work, and their GPAs are evaluated by the faculty in the program and selections are made for admission to the upper-level half of the curriculum, based on merit, spots available and number of applicants.

4. If the program is seeking specialized admissions status due to limited resources and/or is a Program of Strategic Emphasis, provide the institution's plan and timeline for increasing program resources. If the institution does not plan to increase capacity over the next few years, please provide a rationale.

The Interior Design program is a Program of Strategic Emphasis. Although we would like to increase capacity, we do not anticipate that being possible in the near future, unless the college, somehow, could increase its instructional space allocated to design studios. The DCP college will be expanding its facilities in the near future, but the expansion does not include additional design studios.

5. If approved for specialized admissions status, what will be the program's admissions requirements? Additionally, please indicate how these requirements and procedures ensure equal access for qualified Florida College System Associates in Arts graduates competing for available space in the program.

We do not anticipate changes to our program's current admissions requirements. They are: Admissions standards are:

- **60 credits and/or Associate of Arts degree**
- **3.0 GPA**
- **Completion of the following courses: MAC 1147, PHY 2053, ARH 2051**

These requirements make the program accessible to existing UF students as well as qualified transfer graduates with Florida College System Associates in Arts degrees.

6. What is the current race and gender profile of the program? Describe the potential impact on the race and gender profiles of the program. What strategies will be implemented to promote and maintain diversity in the program?

The Interior Design Program enjoys a good mix in terms of diversity, with more than 20% of students identifying as Hispanic, African American, Native American or other (non-white) groups. The selective admissions process has had no impact on our ability to maintain a diverse student body. In order to promote and maintain diversity in the program faculty is expected to complete training on diversity and inclusion, to revise their syllabi to include more inclusive language, and to diversify course content by adding content that addresses the realities of diverse groups. Furthermore, a culture of respect is expected at all times from faculty, staff, and students.

Required Signatures

Roberto J Rengel
Requestor/Initiator

7.14.22
Date

Chimay J. Anumba
Signature of College Dean

7/15/2022 | 8:55 AM EDT
Date

Signature of Campus EO Officer

Date

Signature of Provost

Date

Signature of Chair of the
Board of Trustees

Date

Date Approved by the Board of Trustees