

INFORMATION ON APPLICATIONS FOR 2018/2019

1. Admission conditions

Candidates will be admitted to study at the **dffb** solely on the basis of the entrance exam; here the focus is on the candidate's artistic aptitude, not on his or her technical/practical skills. Applicants to the dffb must be 21 years old when their course of study begins. A maximum of two applications per person may be submitted at the **dffb**, irrespective of the section to which the application is submitted.

Studies at the **dffb** are strongly practice-oriented, yet also call for an ability to engage with all aspects of film on a theoretical level.

2. Teaching programme

The teaching in the first year takes a generalist approach – it does not divide up the various disciplines involved in film production. All students become acquainted with the most important crafts of filmmaking – screenwriting, production, directing, cinematography, sound, editing – and complete their first year with the production of their own short-film. Specialization begins in the second year of studies.

For the directing, cinematography and producing programs:

The course of study for directing, cinematography and producing comprises a minimum of 4 years – the 2-year Foundation Studies programme (Grundstudium) and the 2-year Advanced Studies programme (Hauptstudium).

The Foundation Studies programme is compulsory; participation in these classes is mandatory and a prerequisite for use of the dffb's technical facilities during the subsequent Advanced Studies programme.

The Advanced Studies programme offers students a broad range of practical and theoretical courses and workshops; students select the classes best suited to foster their individual interests and aptitudes. In addition, each student will collaborate in the realization of two bigger film productions, one of which will constitute their graduate film.

For the field of study screenwriting:

The screenwriting course is a 3 year programme.

After completing the third year and before receiving the certificates, all screenwriting students have the opportunity to attend courses for directing, cinematography or production from the range of seminars offered in the curriculum of dffb's Hauptstudium. Collaborations between the screenwriting students and the other departments are embedded in the syllabus and are greatly encouraged.

Your application must be specifically for one of the four courses: directing, cinematography, producing or screenwriting. Please specify this choice at the beginning of your application. A more specific course formation will begin in the second year of study.

3. Submissions / Entrance exam

The selection process consists of two phases: **a first round of selection** and the **examination week**. Submission requirements for the selection phases are listed below. After reviewing and discussing all the works submitted, our committee selects candidates who will be invited to the examination week in Berlin.

The dffb admits up to 10 students for each field of study.

The following work and documentation must be submitted for the first round of selection:

I. Please submit a brief CV / personal data sheet.

In your resume, please focus on pertinent information highlighting your interest and involvement with film. This includes internships, your own film work, studies in related areas.
(1 page / max. 3000 characters without blank spaces)

II. What have you learned so far?

Please report on relevant experiences and activities that have shaped your life so far.
(max. 3000 characters without blank spaces)

III. What and how do you want to learn?

Describe your expectations and wishes.
How do you imagine the time of your studies both professionally and on a personal level?
(max. 3000 characters without blank spaces)

IV. Create a photo documentary of a situation with 5 photographs that you have taken yourself (e.g. on a racecourse: 1. The jockeys prepare for the race; 2. The horses wait in their stables etc.)

V. Choose ONE of your 5 photographs and write a short story based on this image. (max. 2 pages / 6000 characters without blank spaces)

VI. Shoot a 3-minute short film on the topic "You are lying!"

You are free to select the filmic form in which you address this topic, i.e. it may be a fiction film, documentary, essay or experimental film.

Producing and Screenwriting applicants: You must write the screenplay yourself and direct the film. A cinematographer may take charge of the cinematography.

Information on applications for 2018/2019

DIRECTING
CINEMATOGRAPHY
PRODUCTION
SCREENWRITING

Directing applicants: You must write the screenplay yourself and direct the film. A cinematographer may take charge of the cinematography.

Cinematography applicants: You must write the screenplay yourself and carry out the cinematography. A director/directress may direct the film.

We do not stipulate the material or equipment to be used for shooting the film. However, we will only accept films submitted with a maximum resolution of 1920x1080 (16:9 or 4:3) in the formats Quick-time (.mov), Mpeg2 (.mpg), MP4. We recommend the H.264 codec for video and mp3 for audio. The frame rate should be 25 fps. The files must not be larger than 150 MB.

Please submit only your own work; do not submit films, texts or photos produced with substantial input from other people.

4. Application procedure and deadlines

From **29th September 2017** information for all submissions can be downloaded at www.dffb.de
The application may be submitted online from **13th November 2017**. Please do this via our homepage <http://general.application.dffb.de>

Deadline for applications: Monday, 11th December, 6.00 pm.

Applications submitted after this deadline will not be considered.

An application fee of 30€ is payable for processing your application. Please transfer this sum, indicating the following reference "Bewerbung 2018 [SPECIALIZATION (e.g. PRODUCING)] [SURNAME]" by **14th December 2017** to our account: Berliner Sparkasse, BLZ 10050000, Konto-Nr. 06 300 276 68. For payments from abroad, please use the following information: Deutsche Film- und Fernsehakademie Berlin GmbH. IBAN-NR. (International Bank Account Number): DE86 1005 0000 0630 0276 68; BIC or SWIFT-Code: BELADEBEXX; Bank address: Berliner Sparkasse, Alexanderplatz 2, 10178 Berlin. This fee is non-refundable.

Your work will only be submitted to the examination committee if the payment is received by the deadline.

Due to the high number of applications, the committee is not able to provide individual feedback after the selection process indicating why specific applications have been rejected.

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The following schedule applies for the selection process and examination week:

29 th September 2017	Application tasks for the first round of selections for the academic year 2018/19 will be made available online.
13 th November 2017	The submissions website is online and all applicants can register and begin their application forms. Please note: You must be registered 7 days prior to the deadline for applications.
11 th December 2017	All submission material and documents must be uploaded and online. Late registration will not be considered.
26 th / 27 th April 2018	The admissions committee reviews the applications and decides which candidates to invite for the second round of selection, the entrance exam at dffb in Berlin. We will inform all applicants via e-mail.
22 nd May - 04 th June 2018	Examination week (exact date to be confirmed in April) All candidates will be informed in due time regarding dates and procedures of the examination week.

5. Language skills

Please note that good written and spoken German is required to study at the **dffb**.

The second language for all seminars is English, so we expect proficiency in spoken and written English from all applicants.

Foreign applicants must prove their German language skills in the form of the Goethe Certificate B1 (or equivalent), which has to be presented at the beginning of the second part of the application, the examination week at dffb in Berlin.

The written application may be submitted in English and the oral/practical examination may be conducted in English if German language skills are not sufficient.

Please refer to our homepage for information about fees and grants: www.dffb.de