

INFORMATION ON APPLICATIONS FOR 2017/2018

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

The 2-year syllabus during the Foundation Studies course gives students a balanced education in filmmaking. 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.

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.

You are applying for one of the three courses: directing, cinematography or production. Please specify this choice at the beginning of your application. A more specific course formation will begin in the second year of study. Number 5 of the examination assignments will ask you to explain your choice.

3. Submissions / Entrance exam

The selection process consists of three phases: **a first and second round of selections** 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 are invited to submit work for a second round of selection which will in turn make them eligible to be invited to the examination week in Berlin.

The dffb admits up to 8 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 highlighting your experience in all fields of artistic practice.**
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. The section on artistic practice refers to all your activities in the field of the arts. We are interested not so much in theoretical endeavors, but in your artistic experience. This encompasses the entire spectrum of artistic creativity: from poetry to painting and film. Please don't exceed a maximum of 3000 characters (without blank spaces).

Please also submit two pieces of art that you deem representative of your development thus far. This might include poems, texts, or photographs, but also film ideas, excerpts of music or film. The submitted document must not exceed one page, film excerpts should have a max. length of 90 seconds and a max. size of 50 MB.
- II. Submit ONE photograph – that you have taken yourself – on the topic “People on Sunday”.**
- III. Assemble a max. of 7 photographs – that you have taken yourself – into a photo-story on the topic “Breakfast”.**
- IV. Write a short story on the topic “The Day After”.** (max. 3000 characters without blank spaces) Please NO first-person narration.
- V. Elaborate why you have selected the course of your choice.** (max. 3000 characters without blank spaces)
How did your choice come about? Was it a sudden discovery? A long-standing dream? A continuous effort to realise a lifelong passion? Is there a particular moment that had a crucial impact?
- VI. Which film has had a significant impact on your perspective on film-making?** (max. 2000 characters without blank spaces)

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

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4. Application procedure and deadlines

By **31st October 2016** information for all submissions can be downloaded at www.dffb.de

The online application may be submitted as early as **5th of December 2016**. Please do this via our homepage <http://general.application.dffb.de>

Deadline for applications: Friday, 6th of January, 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 wording "Bewerbung SPECIALIZATION (e.g. PRODUCING) 2017/2018 SURNAME" by **23rd December 2016** 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: BELADEBEXXX; 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.

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

31 st October 2016	Application tasks for the first round of selections for the academic year 2017/2018 will be made available online.
5 th December 2016	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.
6 th January 2017	All submission material and documents must be uploaded and online. Late registration will not be considered.
Early March 2017	The admissions committee reviews the applications and decides which candidates to invite for the second round of selection. We will inform all applicants via e-mail and send assignments for the second round.

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End of March 2017	The application forms for the second round of selection must be submitted. We will inform all applicants via e-mail about the results.
Mid May 2017	The committee decides about the admission for the entrance exam.
29 th of May - 9 th June 2017	Examination week

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 written application may be submitted in English; the oral/practical examination will be conducted in German. Foreign students who have been accepted to the academy must prove their German language skills in the form of the Goethe Certificate B2 (<http://www.goethe.de/lrn/prj/pba/bes/gb2/deindex.htm>) by the start of the term.

The second language for the seminars is English, so we request proficiency in spoken and written English. The written application as well as the oral/practical exam may be conducted either in German or English.

6. Costs

There is no tuition fee at the dffb. There is, however, a registration fee and a levy for the equipment insurance, currently 225,- € to be paid before the start of the term. Additionally, students will have to pay for their own public transport which currently costs 382,70 € per year.

7. Grants

Grants are available for students at the **dffb** pursuant to the Federal Education and Training Assistance Act (Bundesausbildungsförderungsgesetz/BAFöG). As soon as students receive notification of admission, applications for grants should be submitted to the Studentenwerk Berlin, Hardenbergstr. 34, 10623 Berlin. German as well as foreign students may apply. Foreign students are eligible under the provisions of §8 BAFöG.

Only students who satisfy the conditions of the Federal Education and Training Assistance Act (BAFöG) are eligible for funding under the provisions of the Act. Please note that BAFöG funding is not available for students taking a second undergraduate degree programme.

We would like to draw your attention to the fact that participation in the first two years of the course at the **dffb** is only possible if students have sufficient funding to cover their costs, as students may not work whilst taking this course.

Berlin, October 2016