

Admission to the Master's programme 'sur dossier'

In exceptional cases, ZHdK may admit particularly outstanding applicants without a Bachelor's degree to the Master's programme. The prerequisite is that they pass the subject-specific aptitude assessment with a very good result. In addition, they must demonstrate that their skills and knowledge are equivalent to those of a Bachelor's degree.

The ZHdK thus recognises knowledge and skills acquired outside of educational institutions.

Those who are eligible should apply for the Master's programme in the usual way via [online registration \(ONLA\)](#) and submit an additional document.

They are expected to submit a continuous text in which they reflect critically on their professional and educational background with regard to their admission to the Master's programme.

Describe your most important professional and personal achievements and explain how these are equivalent in terms of skills to a Bachelor's degree, which enables admission to the chosen Master's programme. Make sure to include and differentiate all the skills you have acquired through your bachelor's degree in your text:

Artistic or creative skills, specific and practical skills

Describe your achievements in terms of artistic or creative conception and/or production and explain specifically which skills you used in the process. Use specific examples to illustrate how you applied each skill in your projects and work. Put these practices into context and place them in the historical context of contemporary art or design.

Methodological skills

Describe the working, research and project development methods you used in your various professional achievements, as well as the skills you acquired in the process. Explain the extent to which you are familiar with scientific and analytical methods and procedures and illustrate this with specific examples.

Social and personal skills and knowledge of the cultural and professional environment

Describe your involvement in the artistic, creative, cultural and/or professional environment and how this is perceived in the relevant social contexts. Explain the personal and social skills you have used in this context, using specific examples.

Format for submission of reflection letter. Image formats are not permitted:

- 5,000-7,000 characters (including spaces)
- Digital submission as a PDF file when registering, in the form of a single document named 'Surname_First name_Written reflection'

Please also submit the 'Written reflection' document as a separate PDF file with your letter of motivation (it is possible to upload several individual PDF files)

- The maximum PDF file size is 10 MB.

The application is valid once all documents have been submitted and the registration fee has been paid. Registration deadlines are published online for each degree programme.

(Version 11.11.2025, translated by deepi)