**BFA in Dance Policies & Procedures**

**General Admission and Continuation Requirements – BFA Programs**

The BFA degree programs offer a concentration in dance study to a limited number of highly motivated and skilled students. Admission to all BFA programs is highly competitive and selective in terms of student enrollment to insure more individual attention necessary for effective professional preparation and training. Auditions are required as part of the application process.

**Admission Criteria for All BFA Candidates**

The following are the criteria on which incoming BFA candidates are evaluated:

1) technical proficiency;
2) artistry;
3) solo performance;
4) goals;
5) writing ability;
6) and, academic standing.

Admission is based on talent, academic record, motivation and auditions/interviews. Auditions are held each spring and in late summer, the week prior to fall semester.

**Specific admission criteria for INCOMING freshmen:**

In addition to the University application, interested students must submit the BFA application prior to beginning their freshman year. Students must also attend an audition either in the spring prior to admission, or in early fall, the week before classes begin. Two letters of recommendation are required from teachers, one for dance and the other from a high school teacher that represents an academic area. Students are required to submit a 150-word essay prior to the audition along with their application. It should focus on why the student wants to pursue a BFA in Dance at Minnesota State University, Mankato. Include a copy of an unofficial transcript attached to your application. For the audition, students should prepare a solo work (1 minute in length), participate in an interview with the Dance Faculty, and submit a writing sample (at the time of the audition) on a topic that will be determined by the Dance Faculty.

Applicants are expected to have a minimum GPA of 2.5 and/or rank in the top 40 percent of their high school class. Students who do not meet these academic standards may be admitted, but must meet the BFA continuation requirements by the end of the freshman year or will be subject to dismissal from the program.

**Specific admission criteria for PREVIOUSLY ENROLLED MSU students and TRANSFER students:**

The semester prior to beginning the BFA program, students already enrolled in the BA/BS Dance Program at MSU/another major in the University, or students transferring from another academic institution, are required to submit a BFA application and attend the scheduled BFA audition either in the spring or in late August. Transfer students must also include an unofficial transcript with their application. Students are required to submit a 150-word essay prior to the audition along with their application. It should focus on why the student wants to pursue a BFA in Dance at Minnesota State University, Mankato. For the audition, students should prepare a solo work (1 minute in length), participate in an interview with the Dance Faculty, and submit a writing sample (at the time of the audition) on a topic that will be determined by the Dance Faculty.
Applicants are expected to have a minimum GPA of 3.0 in all dance and dance-related coursework, a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5, and demonstrate adequate progress towards completion of the University General Education course requirements. Students who do not meet these academic standards may be admitted provisionally and are expected to meet the BFA continuation requirements by the end of the second term after admission or will be subject to dismissal from the program. Students may apply to the BFA program twice; however, a student who has applied and been denied may be reconsidered for BFA admission and invited by the faculty if the student’s academic record, class work, and production work show substantive improvement. It is not possible for students to complete this degree program if they are beyond the fall of their junior year, unless they plan on additional semesters.

Continuation in BFA Programs

All students admitted to BFA programs are considered on provisional status in their first year in the program. At the end of the first year, each student will meet with the Dance Faculty to review progress and evaluate the student's status. All students will complete an end-of-term evaluation each fall and spring. BFA students are required to:

1. maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA in all dance major required courses;
2. maintain a minimum cumulative 2.5 GPA in all courses;
3. enroll in a minimum of 12 credits per semester;
4. demonstrate appropriate progress in studio work, performance, choreographic and academic work at end-of-semester evaluations;
5. audition for all faculty and guest artist work;
6. demonstrate appropriate professional behavior in class and production work;
7. demonstrate satisfactory progress towards the completion of University General Education course requirements;
8. demonstrate active participation in the Department of Theatre & Dance productions;
9. provide service to department through a variety of activities;
10. demonstrate commitment to the profession beyond the university.

Students who are making satisfactory progress in all of the above requirements will be granted continuing status. Students that have difficulties completing one or more of these requirements may either be granted probationary status or be dismissed from the BFA program. A student dismissed from the BFA program may still complete the BA/BS degree. Students may remain on probationary status for no more than one semester. Probationary status may be granted only once during the student’s program. No major coursework with a grade below a C will count towards the major degree completion requirements.

**Important Note:** If a student decides to voluntarily withdraw from the BFA program, she or he will not be readmitted at a later date.