

# **Eligibility and Institutional Membership Rules for NASAD Accreditation of Single Professional Programs**

*(In addition to policies, standards, and procedures applicable to all institutions)*

**This text is consistent with the eligibility and membership rules referenced in the Rules of Practice and Procedure, Article I, Section 3.G., as set forth in the NASAD Handbook.**

## **1. Eligibility**

In a field of specialization where NASAD has a professional organization affiliate (currently, graphic design and industrial design), NASAD will review for accredited status single professional undergraduate degree programs (Bachelor of Fine Arts or equivalent structure) or graduate programs with majors in that specialization occurring in not-for-profit, multidisciplinary colleges and universities where all other NASAD eligibility conditions are met. Accredited status will be awarded only when all major programs in that specialization, undergraduate or graduate, meet NASAD standards and guidelines.

If the institution offers degree programs in other fields of art/design, it must provide a rationale for seeking only a review of programs eligible under these rules. This rationale is to be provided with the *Notice of Intention to Apply* form.

If a program eligible under these rules is the institution's only program in art/design, regular NASAD review procedures and protocols apply to that institution.

Programs in specializations where NASAD has a professional organization affiliate that are currently reviewed and listed by NASAD under comprehensive institutional reviews are not eligible. Those programs will continue to be reviewed as unique parts of the composite institutional application.

Programs in independent colleges of art and design or proprietary schools are not eligible. Such programs must be reviewed as part of a complete institutional application for all art/design programs.

Liberal arts programs, areas of emphasis, or minors in the specialization are not eligible.

## **2. Dues and Fees**

Dues and fees policies apply without change to institutions with single program accreditation under these rules. If more than one program in an institution is reviewed under these rules, dues and fees are charged only once. The dues rate would be based on the combined FTE of all programs so reviewed.

## **3. Accreditation Standards**

All NASAD accreditation standards are applicable, including but not limited to "Basic Criteria for Membership," "Operational Standards," "Curricular Standards," and all applicable Appendices.

## **4. Accreditation Procedures**

Program(s) reviewed under these rules shall follow the same accreditation procedures as all other applicants. The review (self-study, visit and Visitors' Report, Optional Response to Visitors' Report, and Commission action) proceeds as though the program(s) under consideration were the only offerings of the institution in the visual arts and design. The governing documents are the NASAD *Handbook*, including any current addenda, and the NASAD Membership Procedures documents—(1) *Procedures for Institutions*, (2) *Procedures for the Self-Study Document: Format A*, (3) *Instructions for Preparing Curricular Tables in the NASAD Format*, and (4) *Procedures for Visiting Evaluators*—supplemented by these rules. From time to time, the Association may publish specific additional information and guidance for these reviews.

## **5. Review Cycle**

Regular review cycles are applied without change to programs reviewed under these rules.

## **6. Membership Status**

If accreditation is granted following the review, the institution will hold membership in NASAD only for those programs and degrees so reviewed and accredited. With some exceptions (see Item 9 below), the institution will have the rights and responsibilities of all other members, including the ability to vote on business and accreditation standards issues that come before the Association.

## **7. Listing by NASAD**

Membership listings in NASAD publications will show a clear distinction between (a) institution-wide accreditation that includes reviews of single programs and (b) accreditation of single programs under this policy.

## **8. Printed Notice of Accreditation Status by the Institution**

If a statement regarding accredited status for programs appears in the institution's catalogue or other publications, the statement shall read: "The \_\_\_\_\_ program is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design" or "The \_\_\_\_\_ program of the (institution) is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design." Institutions shall not permit references to NASAD accreditation to infer accreditation status for other visual arts and design programs.

In any advertising, institutions shall be limited to making mention of NASAD by using the phrase, "The \_\_\_\_\_ program is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design" or "The \_\_\_\_\_ program of the (institution) is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design."

## **9. Responsibilities of Representatives from Accredited Programs**

Representatives from programs accredited under this policy may participate in the work of the Association as *ad hoc* committee members, visiting evaluators, presenters at annual meetings, and similar functions. Each institution with a program or programs accredited under this policy shall designate one individual as its official representative. Such representatives shall not be eligible for service on the NASAD Board of Directors, Commission on Accreditation, or the Committee on Nominations. In certain cases, eligibility for such service is possible if such institutional representatives are also the official representatives from a professional organization affiliate of NASAD.

## **10. Combined Programmatic Reviews**

If programs in more than one specialization eligible under this policy in the same institution apply for accredited status, reviews shall be conducted in the same process by a single team. If applications are not simultaneous, a common review cycle will be established at the earliest feasible time.

## **11. Conversion to Institutional Accredited Status**

Inclusion of other art and design programs in accredited status will necessitate implementation of NASAD Rules of Practice and Procedure requirements for institution-wide reviews for all visual arts and design programs. When such conversions are made, programs previously reviewed under this policy would continue to be reviewed discretely but in conjunction with all other art and design programs of the institution. An institution may hold accredited status in only one category, and no member institution in any category may have more than one vote in the affairs of the Association.

## **12. Application of Other NASAD Provisions and Requirements**

All other provisions and requirements of the Bylaws, Code of Ethics, Rules of Practice and Procedure, the Standards for Accreditation, and other applicable NASAD documents now in force or that may be developed from time to time, apply to programs applying for or achieving accredited status under this policy.