ADMISSIONS GUIDELINES
for entering the Undergraduate Architecture Programs

Application Process

1. Apply to Mississippi State University.
2. Submit all required materials including high school transcripts and ACT or SAT scores.
3. Indicate your choice of major as “Architecture.”
4. You will need to submit a Supplemental Application Package for the School of Architecture.
5. Complete and return the Supplemental Application Package (forms available on web site).
6. Applications are reviewed by the School of Architecture Admissions Committee.

Dates

December 15      Deadline for consideration for “Early Acceptance” applications.
January 15       Supplemental Application Packages due at the School of Architecture for Fall admissions. (Incoming freshmen). The School of Architecture may consider late applications if room is available.
February 15      Supplemental Application Packages and portfolios due for Summer Studio admission (transfers, Pre-Architecture students).
March 1          Notification of acceptance status for applications made prior to the January 15 deadline.

$100 Deposits for fall due 30 days after receipt of acceptance letter.

Visit Mississippi State

Students interested in studying architecture at Mississippi State are encouraged to make an appointment to visit. Meeting times are by appointment on Fridays at 12:00 p.m. You may call Pandora Prater at 662.325.2202 to make an appointment, or e-mail arc_admissions@caad.msstate.edu. The purpose of the meeting is to:
--tour the School of Architecture facilities;
--discuss architecture and architectural education at Mississippi State University;
--ask questions about admissions;
--review the School of Architecture curriculum and help determine a course of study.
Prospective students should also contact the Office of Admissions at Mississippi State to schedule a tour of the campus as well: 662-325-0539 or admit@msstate.edu.

If you are an Entering Freshman, read this:

--Admission to the Bachelor of Architecture program is limited and competitive. On-time application and fulfillment of academic qualifications are the key elements to acceptance.
--The admissions process for the School of Architecture requires the completion of the MSU on-line application form, and the submittal of a separate Supplementary Application Package.

There are two potential tracks to entering the School of Architecture:
        Architecture program and the Pre-Architecture program.
The School of Architecture Admissions Committee accepts well-qualified applicants into the five-year (ten semesters) professional degree program. At least 45 students will be formally accepted and enter into the Architecture program and register for the Fall Design Studios; an additional +/-20 students will be classified and placed in the Pre-Architecture program. They will have the opportunity of entering the Summer design-studio sequence the following summer.

--Students admitted into the Architecture program take the Architecture Curriculum (B.ARCH). These are Architecture students that are admitted to the Fall Design Studios, ARC 1536, Design I-A.
-- Students classified and placed in the Pre-Architecture program take the Pre-Architecture Curriculum (B.ARCH). If they successfully complete their required Fall and Spring courses they may apply for the Summer Design Studio.

Admission to the Fall Design Studios is based on evaluation of all admissions materials:

--The School of Architecture Supplemental Application Package (resume, letters of recommendation, essay, drawings and optional portfolio).
--ACT or SAT scores* 
--high school grade point average*
--class rank
* Supplementary Architecture applications with an ACT score of 24 (or greater) and a High School GPA of 3.5 (or greater) who submit their complete application before December 15 will be considered for “Early Acceptance” into our program.

Students NOT accepted into the Fall Design Studios are classified and placed in the: Pre-Architecture Program. Pre-Architecture students follow a similar course of study, but do not take Design Studios (ARC 1536 Design I-A and ARC 1546 Design I-B). There are many reasons why students are not admitted to the fall design studios: late application, lower ranking in the applicant pool, and lack of pre-requisites are the main reasons. The School of Architecture attracts highly talented students, and the admissions committee often faces difficult decisions on whom to admit. The study of architecture is highly rigorous: we want to ensure that students that enter the program succeed. The Pre-Architecture program allows students to find their bearings, take necessary Math pre-requisites, and generally get ‘better prepared’ for the Architecture curriculum.

Admission to the Summer Design Studios for Pre-Architecture* Students:

--Submit or Update Supplemental Application Package including a portfolio by February 15 (entering freshmen who did not submit must do so at this time; entering freshmen who did submit have the option of updating any of the original materials)
--Maintain a minimum of 2.5 GPA at Mississippi State
--Complete all courses which are pre-requisites for architectural studies:
   PH 1113 and 1123, General Physics I and II
   ART 1213 Freehand Drawing

* It is important to note, successful acceptance and completion of those summer studios will put the Pre-Architecture student ‘back on track’ with the original freshman class as they enter their second year of study in the Fall.
For additional information regarding prospective students, admissions, and on-line application forms, please contact either MSU Information for Prospective Students or MSU Office of Admissions and Scholarship.
If you are a **Transfer Student**, read this:

--Transfer students may choose to enter in either the summer or fall semester. A transfer student can be coming from another university, a community college, or another college at Mississippi State.
--Transfer students wishing to enter in the Summer Design Studio must comply with the requirements for admission to the Summer Design Studios (see above)
--University courses (physics, math, English, etc.) are transferable for courses with a grade of “C” or better.
--Technical and architectural courses are only transferable pending review of coursework and syllabus for equivalency with School of Architecture courses.
--Following the same procedure as Pre-Architecture students, transfer students must apply to the School of Architecture by February 15 preceding the summer they plan to begin the Summer Design Studio. Acceptance is limited by space available with emphasis placed on grade-point average in required freshman courses, and the same Supplementary Application Forms and portfolio (see “Portfolio Guidelines”) are required of Pre-Architecture students. No one with less than a 2.5 overall GPA will be considered and a higher GPA may be necessary for admission. Enrollment is limited to space available and is not automatic. NOTE: Admission is based on academic record (40%), portfolio (40%), and supplementary application materials (20%).
--Transfer students must submit official transcripts of previous college work and are required to complete all required freshman courses except Architectural Design I-A (1536) and I-B (1546).

If you are an **International Student**, read this:

International undergraduate students must submit an acceptable score on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). The Mississippi State University minimum is 525, and the School of Architecture minimum is 550. TOEFL scores must be no more than two years old and must be official and verifiable. Completion of intensive English training or English Composition courses at a U.S. college does not waive the TOEFL requirement. Only students who are citizens of Australia, Bahamas, Belize, Canada, England, Guyana, New Zealand, Trinidad and Tobago, and Ghana and The Gambia are automatically exempt from this requirement. Citizens of South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, and Swaziland are only exempt if English is listed as the first language on the Senior Certificate. For further information regarding both international admissions and TOEFL requirements, please contact the Mississippi State University Office of Admissions and Scholarships at 662.325.2224.
General information for all applicants (including MATH pre-requisites)

Incoming Freshmen and Transfer Students should be aware that demonstrated proficiency in algebra and trigonometry is required prior to enrolling in PH 1113, General Physics I. Since Physics I and Physics II must be completed in the freshman year, it is highly recommended that students satisfy these Math Requirements prior to starting their Freshman year at MSU.

(FALL 2013)

Prior to Entering as a Freshman in the Architecture Track:

--Complete MA 1313 College Algebra
   --Students with a 24 or higher on the math portion of the ACT may waive MA 1313 College Algebra.
   --Students may take MA 1313 at MSU or a community college the summer before entering the architecture program.
   --A College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) test for MA 1313 is available through the Computer-Based Testing Services office on the MSU campus [http://www.ats.msstate.edu/](http://www.ats.msstate.edu/) (or other locations)
--Complete MA 1323 Trigonometry
   --MA 1313 College Algebra is a pre-requisite for MA 1323 (at MSU)
   --Students with a 26 or higher on the math portion of the ACT and one semester of a Trigonometry course in high school and received a “B” or higher, may waive MA 1323 College Trigonometry.
   -Students may take MA 1323 at MSU or a community college the summer before entering the architecture program.

Students intending to complete Pre-Architecture requirements at other institutions are cautioned to follow the School of Architecture program explicitly. No exceptions or substitutions are allowed. The Admissions Coordinator will be glad to discuss the pros and cons of completing the Pre-Architecture curriculum on campus and will also advise students who, for financial or logistical reasons, must complete the first-year of the architecture program elsewhere.

-Once accepted into the Design Studio, students are required to maintain a minimum 2.0 grade-point average (GPA) at Mississippi State to remain in the design studio.
-At the end of the first-year, a student must have completed all required courses in order to enter the second-year.
-At the end of the fourth-year, a student must have completed all required courses in order to advance to the fifth-year.
-Any student who receives a grade of “D” or lower for two sequential design studios must repeat both of these courses and receive a grade of “C” or higher in both courses in order to advance in the program or receive the Bachelor of Architecture degree.

The School of Architecture wants to provide assistance to all prospective students; therefore, please feel free to ask questions and seek advice.