

Application Process

In addition to the academic entry requirements, entry into NICA's accredited courses is by audition, interview and medical assessment. Prospective students must apply to audition and can read more about the course of their choosing at <http://www.nica.com.au/courses-pm-3.html>.

Applications close Friday 2 September 2016.

Pre-Audition Workshop

The Pre-Audition Workshop is a one-day intensive workshop designed to assist applicants to prepare for the NICA auditions. The program includes performance and dance classes, circus training (including handstands, flexibility, tumbling, strength, manipulation and basic partner work) and information about auditions, facilities, and student life at NICA. NICA's highly experienced international trainers reflect the world's major traditional and contemporary circus styles and will provide feedback on your skills and advice on how to prepare further for the audition. For further information see <http://www.nica.com.au/preaudition-intensive-circus-workshop-pm-41.html>

Audition Dates

Auditions for 2017 entry into NICA's accredited courses will be held in September and October at the locations shown below. ***If your application is successful, you will be informed of your progression to the audition phase at least one week prior to the audition.***

State	Venue	Location	Audition Date
VIC	National Institute of Circus Arts (NICA)	41 Green Street Prahran VIC 3181	Thursday September 15 th (Black Flip)
VIC	National Institute of Circus Arts (NICA)	41 Green Street Prahran VIC 3181	Monday September 19 th Tuesday September 20 th
NSW (Sydney)	Aerialise	7-9 Close St Canterbury NSW 2193	Saturday September 24 th
TAS	Slipstream Circus	Flora Street Ulverstone TAS 7316	Monday September 26 th
QLD (Brisbane)	Flipside Circus	117 Mina Parade Alderley QLD 4051	Tuesday September 27 th
NSW	Spaghetti Circus	Mullumbimby Show Ground, Main Arm Rd, Mullumbimby NSW 2482	Thursday September 29 th
WA	WA Circus School	8 Philimore Street Fremantle WA 6160	Sunday October 2 nd
SA	Cirkidz	27 Fifth Street Bowden SA 5007	Tuesday October 4 th
NT	Corrugated Iron Youth Arts	8/18 Bauhinia Street Nightcliff NT 0814	Thursday October 6 th
ACT	Warehouse Circus	4/70 Maclaurin Crescent Chifley ACT 2606	Sunday October 9 th

Auditions may be held in other locations subject to demand or cancelled pending numbers.

It is recommended that you attend an audition in person. However, if you are unable to attend an audition or are an international applicant, you may submit a video application. Please see DVD application Guide.

Flexibility	<p>Three-way splits (left, right & centre) Sit and reach (sit on floor with legs straight, stretch arms out past flexed toes as far as possible) Back arch – from standing or from lying (aiming for hands and heels to be as close as possible)</p>
Handstand balancing	<p>Free handstand (aiming to achieve minimum of 25 sec) Tuck jump to handstand Straddle jump to handstand Straddle press up to handstand L-hold (between two benches/chairs – Arms straight, legs straight, heels above hips) Handstand (stomach against the wall)</p>
Tumbling	<p>Handstand roll (if possible x3 – from tuck, straddle and pike) Cartwheels x3 continuously Handspring Standing back flip Standing back sault</p> <p>Other skills you may wish to demonstrate could include: Backwards roll to handstand, standing dive roll, running dive roll, headspring, round-off flip, round-off sault, round-off flip sault, walkover, aerial cartwheel, side sault, full twist, cartwheel front sault.</p>
Body strength and conditioning	<p>Rope climb (aiming to just use arms to climb, legs in straddle position up and down) Wall Bar Leg Lift (From hanging position, lift straight legs as high as possible – aiming for toes to bar) Pistols (One leg squat from standing, other leg held out straight) Chin ups Push ups</p>
Co-ordination	<p>Juggling Demonstrate juggling of 3 or more balls or clubs with a minimum of 15 catches. Also incorporate a variety of patterns and tricks, if able.</p> <p>Stick Balance Demonstrate balancing of a stick on various parts of your body (e.g. hand, forehead, foot) for a minimum of 10 seconds. <i>The stick should be a maximum of 50cm in length.</i></p> <p>Fit Ball Balance Demonstrate ability to balance on a fit ball for up to 30 seconds. Aim to be standing up straight. Alternatives include kneeling or sitting.</p>
Circus Act	<p>The performance component of the audition will take the form of a workshop. Use this as an opportunity to show us some of your personality, imagination and performing potential.</p> <p>In addition to the performance workshop, Bachelor of Circus Arts applicants will also be required to present a prepared performance piece. Certificate III and IV in Circus Arts applicants will not be required to present a performance piece.</p> <p>Create/devise on your own, a short performance piece (no longer than 3-4 minutes) that utilises any circus or physical skills that you have. If you possess other skills, for example in dance, drama or martial arts, you may centre your piece on those and it may include things like existing text (comic or dramatic), singing and music. If you can play a portable musical instrument, you may choose to utilise that skill as well during your audition piece.</p> <p>Use these short presentations as an opportunity to demonstrate your performance potential. Try to incorporate as many different skills as possible. Applicants are encouraged to devise new material for presentation at audition rather than, for example, a previously devised gym routine.</p> <p>You will also be required to provide a written description of your act prior to the performance, which will be assessed. The Performance Pro Forma for this will be provided to you once you have submitted an application.</p>

Movement Improvisation	During this part of the assessment, you will be asked to creatively explore various ways of moving through space using changes of rhythm, speed, direction and levels. Show how you can transfer weight through jumping, turning and changing body shape. We will be particularly interested in how you respond to the music (3-4 minutes duration). You may draw on any dance training you have had or you can just improvise.
Posture requirements	Applicants may be required to have their posture assessed at the audition by the NICA physio team. Spine, shoulder, hip and limb alignment will be looked at as part of this assessment.
Individual Interviews	Interviews will <i>determine</i> aptitude for the academic program. It will also offer an opportunity for applicants to communicate their career goals.

If your application is successful, you will be informed one week prior to the audition.

For further information, please contact NICA on 613 9214 6975 or info@nica.com.au