Kunsthochschule für Medien Köln
Academy of Media Arts Cologne

How to apply

Four-semester course ("Diplom 2"), starting in the Winter Term 2027/28

Around thirty students will be accepted on the Media and Fine Arts ("Mediale Künste") four-semester course that begins in October 2027. Details on how the course is structured and organised can be found at www.khm.de.

The application process consists of two stages. All applicants must prove their artistic/creative aptitude with regard to the *Media and Fine Arts* course based on work samples and a project outline produced especially for the application. Preselection is carried out based on this. In the second step, selected applicants will be invited to an interview.

Admission to all of the courses takes place at the start of each winter semester.

Deadlines for the application process 2027

January 11, 2027	Application deadline for the four-semester postgraduate course
Early February 2027	Preselection based on the submitted material
Week number 7	Invitations to interviews will be sent (by email) Rejection letters will be sent (by email)
Week number 8	Interviews
Week number 9	Notification letters will be sent (by email)

General information

Applications can only be submitted online. Combining and completing a convincing application can take some time. We therefore recommend to check early if you have all necessary documents, certificates, work samples, etc. at your disposal.

The online application portal will be open including **January 11, 2027**. After that an application is no longer possible. Incomplete applications cannot be considered.

No information on the state of the application procedure can be disclosed by telephone.
You will be informed of the results of the selection procedure by email. Should your email-address change during the application process, please inform the Student Office: studoffice@khm.de. There is no personalised confirmation of receipt. **Receipt of the application number serves as confirmation of receipt.** Please always quote the application number when enquiring.

Please consider the above mentioned time period for a possible invitation for an interview.

Requirements and documents

The educational requirement of an application is the general higher-education entrance qualification (= Abitur). If you do not have a general higher-education entrance qualification, you can apply for 'outstanding artistic talent' in the application portal, which will then be automatically activated in the online form. Applicants, who have no equivalent school leaving certificate, have to submit their last school report.

Proof of a completed degree from a higher education institution in a field relevant to the intended course of study (for example theatre, film and television theory, literature, art and cultural theory, communications design, visual communication, computer sciences, photo engineering) must also be provided. Applicants without a degree from a higher education institution may apply if they can provide proof of at least two years of professional artistic/creative practice.

Non-German-speaking applicants must provide proof of German language proficiency level B2. If you can't submit the B2 certificate yet, please hand in proof of your current level of German (not less than level A2). The B2 certificate must be submitted at the latest upon enrolment.

All certificates must be submitted in **certified forms, non-German-speaking applicants must also submit a translated copy**.

Following items must be uploaded to the online portal:

- University entrance qualification / A-levels (**certified translated copy,** German or English), **or** without A-Levels: the application to determine special artistic talent (last school report)
- Degree certificate **or** proof of professional practice (**certified translated copy**, German or English)
- Curriculum vitae
- Letter of motivation (1 page maximum)
- Current German language certificate
- project outline

- up to 5 work samples
- completed page 5 of this document

Any use of AI must be disclosed.

The following link (see below) will take you to our online application form. Please fill it in completely, taking into account the detailed information, and upload the requested documents.

Project Outline

Study at the Academy of Media Arts Cologne is divided into various forms of seminars and projects. Projects are jointly conceived by the students and lecturers and form the core of artistic work.
In order to give the committee a first impression of your expectations and aims with regard to studying at the Academy of Media Arts Cologne, your vocational aspirations as well as your ideas for possible projects, please outline an example for a piece of work you would like to realise at the Academy of Media Arts Cologne. It is up to you which form and medium you choose for your outline (written exposé, photos, video, film, TV programme, lyrics, fiction, multimedia spatial design, installation, software and net-based concepts, light sculpture, interactive projects, computer animation, drawing, painting, sound etc.). For non-written project proposals however, the meaning and aim of the project must also be briefly described and needs to be uploaded.

Your work should not exceed a manageable volume. The project outline serves as a starting point in the interview for a discussion about your personal expectations in terms of studying at the Academy of Media Arts Cologne. The committee also reserves the right to set applicants a practical exercise during the interview.

Application form

You will get to the online form here:

https://formulare.khm.de/lip/action/invoke.do?id=Bewerbung_Diplom2

Please complete the application form carefully and ensure that your documents are complete when uploading:

Please note the following information about the online procedure:
You can interrupt your online application at any point and **save** the intermediate status. After the **intermediate storage** you will receive a personalised link. This can be used to continue the application at a later date.

Please upload only one single file per document category, containing all pages of the document. Uploading a certificate with individual pages (one PDF file per page) is not permitted. Please upload text documents as pdf files only, not as individual jpeg files. Please pay particular attention to the quality and readability of your uploaded documents. If they cannot be read or evaluated, the application cannot be accepted. Please complete the last page (5) of this document and upload it to the application portal.

You will receive your application number only after submitting the complete form. Please also check the inbox of your spam folder.

Work samples

As the Academy of Media Arts Cologne review committee has a very large number of applications to view, we recommend to select examples that provide the best possible indication of the spectrum of your work within a limited amount of time. Also keep in mind that your artistic aptitude will not be judged in general, but rather with respect to the Media and Fine Arts course offered by the Academy of Media Arts Cologne. Please list all work samples in the corresponding list with title, format, length and your role/contribution/use of AI. Include two sentences about the content of each work sample. All work samples must be uploaded to the application portal.

Form and scope of the work samples and project outline

Work samples

For applications for a study focus of "Art", "Film and Television" or "exMedia":

- No more than **five** different work samples; one work sample may be made up of several individual components belonging to the work (for example drawings, photo series, images), **max. 3 GB**.

For applications for the study focus "Literary Composition":

- An independent literary publication, if available (e.g. in magazines and anthologies, on the radio or stage productions)
- **Up to 2** further texts (each with a maximum of 25 pages, font size 12pt, line spacing 1.5)

Project outline

For applications for a study focus of "Art", "Film and Television" or "exMedia":

- See "Project outline" above and the following "General information"

For applications for the study focus "Literary Composition":

- Outline of a literary project (up to 3 pages, font size 12pt, line spacing 1.5)
- A commented bibliography of the books that are of special importance to you in your literary work and those which you would like to work on during your studies

Text-based work

Please save your texts in PDF format and upload them.

Video material

We expect your video material to be submitted as MP4 files. Video should be encoded with the H.264 codec at a bit rate of around 12-15 MBit/sec. (for HD), audio with the AAC codec. There are a multitude of free programmes in the Internet for the creation of such files.

Audio material

Please submit audio material as MP3 or WAV files, preferably at the highest bit rate possible.

Photographic material

Photos should have a resolution of no more than 72dpi and if possible be in JPEG format.

Cologne, October 2026

Please fill in and upload as a single page

Kunsthochschule für Medien Köln
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Dear applicants,

In order to effectively shape the public relations of the Academy of Media Arts Cologne, we would like to know how you became aware of the KHM and its diploma programs. Therefore, we ask you to fill out this questionnaire. Please tick and / or fill in!
Thank you very much for your effort, with best regards

Dr. Juliane Kuhn
The Press and PR Management Department

- ☐ Hearsay (friends, family, students etc.)
- ☐ Internet, like:
  - ☐ KHM-Website
  - ☐ Study portal, which, where?
  - ☐ Facebook
  - ☐ Instagram
  - ☐ Social Media, other:
- ☐ Info Day in December
- ☐ Publications, which ones?
- ☐ Public activities
  - ☐ Open Days 'Rundgang'
  - ☐ Exhibitions & filmscreenings:
  - ☐ Festival:
  - ☐ Lecture:
- ☐ Other: