

**High School Grades/Test Scores** Standardized test scores do not significantly enter the decision-making process for the Schools of Art and Architecture, but are important components of the engineering admissions criteria. The middle 50 percent of architecture freshmen achieved a high school average between 85 and 93 and SAT scores of 1150–1330. The middle 50 percent of art freshmen achieved a high school average between 82 and 92 and SAT scores of 1040–1230. The middle 50 percent of engineering freshmen achieved a high school average between 92 and 98 and SAT scores of 1390–1500. Overall, the average ACT composite score is 30–34.

**Retention and Graduation Rate** Ninety-six percent of the fall 2013 School of Architecture first-year students returned for fall 2014 and 74 percent of first-year students entering the School of Architecture in fall 2008 graduated within six years. Architecture students may expand their professional options with outside experience (foreign or domestic) for up to one year during their course of study at The Cooper Union. (See page 24) for information about Leave of Absence/Interim Year.) Ninety-seven percent of the fall 2013 School of Art first-year students returned for fall 2014 and 75 percent of first-year students entering the School of Art in fall 2009 graduated within five years. Ninety-seven percent of the fall 2013 School of Engineering first-year students returned for fall 2014 and 84 percent of first-year students entering the School of Engineering in fall 2009 graduated within five years.

## ADMISSION PROCESS

The Cooper Union seeks students with a strong desire to study a professional curriculum and typically attracts applicants who are highly motivated and passionate about furthering their education in an intense, hands-on, mentored environment. The student body and faculty share an excitement and drive that advances the academic disciplines of architecture, fine arts and engineering.

The admissions process varies for each of the three schools and is outlined in more detail in the following sections of the catalog. Information about deadlines, campus tours and academic programs may also be found at [cooper.edu](http://cooper.edu).

The Cooper Union offers a half-tuition scholarship education to admitted undergraduates, regardless of their race, religion, sex, color, age, national and ethnic origin or disability. Admission requirements and procedures are not the same for all curricula taught at The Cooper Union. (See the application calendar and subsequent pages for details.)

Cooper Union is a member of The Common Application. The application may be accessed online at either [commonapp.org](http://commonapp.org) or at [cooper.edu](http://cooper.edu). A \$75 non-refundable application fee<sup>1</sup> is required when the application is filed. The admissions office is open for public service from 9 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday. Information is readily available at [cooper.edu](http://cooper.edu).

## GENERAL APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Each candidate must:

1. Complete and return or electronically file an acceptable application and the \$75 application fee (no cash).<sup>1</sup>
2. Submit official high school and college records before the specified deadlines.<sup>2</sup>
3. Take all the required tests and submit official scores before the specified deadlines.<sup>3</sup>
4. Some students may be asked to appear for an interview, though this is not a general requirement for admission.

To be enrolled, each admitted candidate must:

1. Accept offer of admission and pay the appropriate deposit.
2. Submit a final transcript before July 15.
3. File medical (including vaccination/immunization) records.
4. Document certification of citizenship status.
5. Register for courses.

The Cooper Union has agreed, with many other colleges, to use May 1 prior to the fall for which regular admission is sought as the deadline for students who are accepting our offer of admission. This is known as the candidate's reply date.

<sup>1</sup> A waiver of application fee may be granted if the student files a written request with the application and formal documentation of need (FAFSA or W2 form).

<sup>2</sup> See the appropriate section below to discover which high school subjects, which college records and which tests are required for the curriculum you wish to enter at Cooper Union.

<sup>3</sup> Applicants should visit [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org) for test dates and registration information.

APPLYING TO  
THE IRWIN S. CHANIN  
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE

FIRST-YEAR REQUIREMENTS—  
BACHELOR OF ARCHITECTURE DEGREE

Submit first-year application before:	January 11
Submit high school records before:	January 18
SAT I/ACT <sup>1</sup> test taken by:	January 25
Official test scores must be received by:	March 1

Applications for first-year admission must be submitted before January 11.

Applicants for first-year admission in architecture will be required to complete and submit a studio test. Details will be sent to applicants in late January or early February.

High school records must show graduation with a minimum of 19 units<sup>2</sup> before July 15 of the year for which admission is sought, with required and elective subjects as follows:

Subject for Architecture	Units Required
English	4
History and Social Studies	3
Mathematics (including Trigonometry, Algebra II and Pre-calculus)	3
Science	3
Other Electives	6
<b>Total Units Required</b>	<b>19</b>

Calculus is a required first-year course for all architecture students. Entering first-year students must have completed Mathematics (including Trigonometry, Algebra II and Pre-Calculus). Any student who has not completed Pre-Calculus in high school must do so during the summer before enrollment.

Students who apply while attending high school will be expected to supply transcripts of subjects studied during the first three years of high school (Grades 9, 10 and 11). High school graduates must supply the full four-year record. High school transcripts should be sent during the fall and winter months, but no later than January 18 if supporting a freshman application. Each candidate should make certain that the high school subjects required for his or her major are completed prior to graduation since The Cooper Union will not be able to verify the candidates senior program until final transcripts arrive in June or July. This is too late to make up a missing required subject or to make plans for admission to another college. Students who have not fulfilled their application requirement may have their offer of admission recinded. All freshman candidates for degrees must submit acceptable scores on the College Board Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT I or ACT). Test scores should be sent to The Cooper Union (CEEB Code No. 2097). Testing later than January 25 of the year for which admission is sought is not acceptable; results must reach The Cooper Union before March 1. Applicants are required to have completed mathematics through Trigonometry, Algebra II and Pre-calculus. Students who have not demonstrated an appropriate level of mathematics achievement will be required to complete a pre-calculus course in the summer prior to their enrollment, in preparation for Calculus and Analytic Geometry, a first-year requirement.

Recognizing that communication skills (both verbal and written) are integral to all curricula of The Cooper Union, all incoming students will be required to participate in a writing workshop conducted by the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences during the new student orientation program. An assessment based on the outcome of this workshop may indicate that student(s) will benefit from use of the resources of the Center for Writing (see page 119 for more information) in order to meet the expectations of the program as well as to develop the critical, analytical and communication skills that provide the foundation for creative, academic and professional success.

Applicants whose first language is not English must submit documentation of their English language proficiency. The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) will be taken into consideration in all admission deliberations (most admitted students score at least 250 [CBT], 100 [IBT] or 600 [paper test] on the TOEFL exam).

Admission decisions will be made available in early April; candidates are expected to reply before May 1, the candidate's reply date.

<sup>1</sup> Applicants should visit collegeboard.org for test dates and registration information.  
<sup>2</sup> A unit represents a year's study in a subject, with classes meeting at least four times a week in a secondary school.

### TRANSFER REQUIREMENTS— BACHELOR OF ARCHITECTURE DEGREE

Submit transfer application before:	<b>January 11</b>
Submit college records before:	<b>January 18</b>
SAT I/ACT* test taken by:	<b>January 25</b>
Official test scores must be received by:	<b>March 1</b>

Transfer applicants for the architecture program are those who will have completed elsewhere at least one year of an accredited architecture program by June of the year for which admission is sought.

Other individuals may be eligible to apply through the transfer application process if they can submit a portfolio of their creative work. This includes individuals who have or will have by June a bachelor's degree or the equivalent in a discipline other than architecture or those who have begun studies in a discipline related to architecture. Transfer applicants must apply before January 11 for September classes. Transfer applicants will be required to complete and submit a home test. Details will be sent to applicants with the portfolio instructions. The admission decisions and the levels of entry for transfer students will be based upon a review of college record, the studio test and portfolio work. Special instructions concerning the content and form of transfer portfolios are sent to applicants in late January or early February, to be returned to us by the posted date. All transfer applicants must submit official transcripts of previous educational experiences (high school and college and prior SAT or ACT scores).

If admitted, transfer students are offered admission into a specific year of the five-year design sequence. Placement in the design sequence is a condition of the offer of admission and not subject to further review or appeal. By accepting the offer of admission, the transfer student agrees to this placement and acknowledges his/her anticipated graduation date. It will be necessary for the matriculating transfer student to successfully complete the design studio to which he/she is admitted, as well as all subsequent studios, as part of his or her degree requirements. There is no opportunity for transfer students to accelerate through the required design sequence. Transfer applicants from programs other than accredited architecture programs will likely be placed in the first-year design studio (Architectonics). The official academic transcript of a transfer student will be reviewed prior to the student's first registration. This review will determine what, if any, additional coursework may be eligible for transfer credit. (See page 37 for more information on transfer credit evaluation by the School of Architecture.)

### APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS— MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE II DEGREE

Submit application and all materials before:	<b>February 16</b>
Recommended GRE test date before:	<b>January 1</b>

The post-professional Master of Architecture II degree program is open to applicants who:

- hold the professional degree of Bachelor of Architecture (B.Arch.), the professional Master of Architecture I (M.Arch. I) or an equivalent accredited professional degree in architecture from a foreign institution.
- have completed a minimum of one year of work experience after obtaining their first professional degree and before beginning the application process.

All applicants must submit the following:

- A completed application form (available at [cooper.edu](http://cooper.edu)).
- Application fee of \$75.
- Official academic records (transcripts) from all colleges and universities from which they have received credit.
- Recent GRE scores.
- Recommendation letters (three are required).
- Resume/CV.
- Written essay: The essay should succinctly explain your interest in the Master of Architecture II program as well as the specified area of concentration.
- Portfolio: Applicants must submit a portfolio that includes their most important and representative design and written work. The portfolio should consist of professional, academic and/or scholarly work. It should be bound into a brochure no larger than 9 x 12" (overall size). Applicants should not submit DVDs, slides, loose sheets or original drawings. Simple packaging is preferred.
- Potential candidates will be required to be available and make necessary arrangements for a personal interview. Interview expenses will be the responsibility of the candidate.

**Deferral of an Offer of Admission—Architecture** Due to the small size of the programs, the deferral of an offer of admission to the B.Arch. (undergraduate) and/or Master of Architecture II (graduate) program is not permitted.

\*Applicants should visit [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org) for test dates and registration information.