

# Prairie View A&M University School of Architecture Admission Standards

At Prairie View A&M University School of Architecture (PVAMU SoA), we are committed to fostering a fairness, variety, and social justice academic environment where all students are empowered to succeed in the field of architecture. As a historically Black university, PVAMU SoA was founded with the mission of providing a transformative education that prepares students from all backgrounds to excel in the practice of architecture, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or socioeconomic status.

The School of Architecture's admissions process embodies the University's mission and core values by providing [access and quality](#) to a high-quality education. Designed to be fair and inclusive, the process ensures that every applicant is evaluated based on their academic potential, commitment to advancing social justice, and dedication to the principles and values of the architectural profession.

Our programs celebrate the richness of diverse student perspectives, recognizing their vital role in enhancing the learning environment and advancing the architectural field. By fostering a community of thinkers, creators, and innovators from a variety of backgrounds, we prepare students to approach design with empathy, creativity, and a deep understanding of societal needs.

The School of Architecture is unwavering in its commitment to promoting social justice and ensuring equal educational opportunities for all. Through a curriculum that integrates technical expertise with ethical and socially conscious design practices, we empower students to shape spaces that uplift communities, promote equity, and serve the public good.

As an HBCU and an institution of the first class, PVAMU SoA aims to cultivate a variety of community of aspiring architects, with an emphasis on empowering students to address contemporary challenges through innovative and socially responsible design practices. Our goal is to provide an education that equips students with the technical and creative skills needed for the profession and encourages them to think critically about architecture's role in advancing social justice and improving communities.

We are committed to enrolling students who demonstrate a passion for architecture and who aspire to contribute to the betterment of society. Our admissions process reflects our core values of fairness, variety, and social justice, ensuring that all students, regardless of their background, have an opportunity to succeed and make a meaningful impact in the field of architecture.

## Undergraduate Admissions Information

Admission is open to all qualified individuals in accordance with the policies of Prairie View A&M University. Application instructions and information for incoming students is completed through the State of Texas Common Application for Freshman Admission available at <http://www.pvamu.edu/admissions/freshman/>

For qualified entering freshmen and transfer students, the School of Architecture offers the Architectural Concepts Institute (ACI), a special summer program described in the catalog section, "Summer and International Enrichment Programs."

**Transfer Students** Transfer students from accredited architecture programs or with non-architectural education backgrounds should contact the School of Architecture for information regarding appropriate placement within the curriculum.

**Transfer Courses** Students wishing to transfer architecture and/or construction science courses taken at another institution must provide sufficient evidence of equivalency. No course with a grade less

than a C will be accepted.

**Admission to the Programs Overview** During the spring semester of the third year of study, students wishing to pursue the professional degree in architecture will make formal application to that program. Admission will be determined by grade point average (overall and in architecture), a review of the student portfolio of work and faculty recommendations. Students admitted to the professional program will complete the Program A: Professional Track, during their senior year and complete a formal application with the Office of Graduate Studies.

Students in the program are required to have their own computer for use in the classroom or studio not later than the start of their sophomore year. Computer equipment and software must meet with prescribed hardware and software standards. Computer equipment and software requirements can be found in the following .pdf.

A grade of C or better is required for all courses included in the architecture and construction science degree plan. In the program, a C is equivalent to a grade of 70-79. Students may repeat architecture and construction sciences courses only one time for grade replacement purposes.

Program Directors, staff and senior faculty members assist students in career counseling and guidance. Advisement for course registration is provided by the academic staff and the responsible program director. The School of Architecture reserves the right to prevent any student who is not eligible for registration from entering a course for reasons such as: unapproved overloads, unapproved repeated courses, lower division-upper division rule infractions, and lack of prerequisites.

The School of Architecture requires an internship with an architecture firm for the Masters of Architecture degree. Students may also enroll in an internship at the undergraduate level as an elective course. Students in Construction Science are required to complete two (2) internships. Architecture students are encouraged to participate in the professional practicum program, which offers the opportunity to receive academic credit for activities such as “study abroad,” completing a semester at another accredited architecture program, or studying in the offices of several leading architectural firms.

Minors are offered in Construction Science and Art. The students should consult with an architecture advisor and have a Minor Approval Form completed, approved and signed. A list of recommended courses is available from the advisor. A minor in construction science consists of 18 semester credit hours. A minor in Art consists of 18 semester credit hours. A listing of courses for both minors is provided in this catalog. At least 9 of the 18 hours must be taken in residence. Grades of C or better are required in each course.

## **Transfer Students**

The Prairie View A&M University School of Architecture has developed a program specifically targeted toward students who have completed a substantial number of credits at the community college level. By successfully completing the Intensive Summer Design sequence, a student will enter Junior level courses in the Fall and, with careful scheduling, be able to complete the five-year accredited professional degree in three additional years. So, if you have been thinking about studying architecture but didn't want to start all over again during the Freshman Year, call the School of Architecture ([architecture@pvamu.edu](mailto:architecture@pvamu.edu)) at 936.261.9800.

Transferred courses accepted by the University will be given credit in the School of Architecture.

## **Graduate Admissions Information**

To be considered for admission, a completed application must be submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies by the published deadlines. Applicants whose materials are received after the deadline should contact the Office of Graduate Studies to inquire about evaluation for admission in the next enrollment period.

While meeting the general admission requirements for Graduate Studies is necessary, applicants must also satisfy the specific requirements of their chosen program. Admission to the Master of Architecture program is not guaranteed until official notification is issued by the Office of Graduate Studies. Students are not permitted to enroll in graduate courses until this notification has been received. Any graduate-level coursework undertaken without prior approval will be deemed invalid and will not count toward the program requirements.

All students admitted to the Master of Architecture program must fulfill the admission criteria established by Graduate Studies at Prairie View A&M University. Applicants from a four-year pre-professional program or those entering with a bachelor's degree in a field other than architecture will have their transcripts evaluated and be placed into Track I, II, or III accordingly. Additionally, the School of Architecture requires the submission of a design portfolio for review.

For Domestic and International Admissions Requirements:

[Domestic Admissions - Graduate Studies \(pvamu.edu\)](http://pvamu.edu)

[International Admissions - Graduate Studies \(pvamu.edu\)](http://pvamu.edu)

A complete list of undergraduate and graduate courses can be found in the [University Catalog](#); additional student information can be found in the [Student Handbook](#).

