

Course Overview

The Certificate III in Circus Arts offers young people the opportunity to gain a nationally-recognised qualification in Circus Arts. The course provides basic training in contemporary circus arts for students who wish to pursue a career as a circus performer. The Certificate III can be used for preparation for the Certificate IV in Circus Arts as an entry level qualification in circus arts. To be considered for the Certificate III in Circus Arts, students must plan to combine NICA training with Year 11 or 12 studies. The course is completed part-time over two years.

Course Structure

Student contact time is approximately 12 hours per week for up to 38 weeks per year. Classes are usually scheduled between 8.30am and 6.00pm, Monday to Friday. Students are expected to attend all classes and to undertake additional independent strength, conditioning and fitness training. When participating in a performance at NICA, students will be required to attend rehearsals and perform in the evenings and on the weekends. Students will also be required to attend occasional industry visits and performances. The training year commences in early February and ends in early December.

Areas of Study

- Circus basics such as tumbling, handstands, flexibility, manipulation, aerial and partner work.
- Fitness, strength and conditioning for circus performers
- Performance and movement skills for circus performers

Read about the current Certificate III in Circus Arts in the Swinburne University Course Search:

<http://www.swinburne.edu.au/study/courses/Certificate-III-in-Circus-Arts-10110NAT/local>

Who Should Apply?

NICA encourages applications from young people with backgrounds in areas such as circus, acrobatics, trampolining, diving, performing arts, dance, martial arts, gymnastics, competitive sport or physical theatre.

Entry Requirements

Applicants for the Certificate III in Circus Arts are expected to have completed Year 10, and undertake an audition that includes the demonstration of basic technical and/or artistic skills in some of the following areas: flexibility, handstands, tumbling, strength, manipulation, demonstration of body alignment, performance skills, and be physically able to undertake the qualification – provision of medical evidence of suitability for circus training may be required.

Application Process

In addition to the above requirements, entry into NICA is by audition, interview and medical assessment. Prospective students must apply to audition and should obtain an audition guide from <http://www.nica.com.au/certificate-iii-in-circus-arts-pm-14.html>. To apply, you must submit an Expression of Interest Form at <https://www.cognitofirms.com/NICA1/NICA2015ApplicantEnquiryForm>. Once an Expression of Interest form has been submitted and course eligibility confirmed, you will be provided with an application form.

Expressions of Interest close Monday 7 September 2015.

Applications close Monday 14 September 2015.

Assessment

To meet the requirements of the course, students will be required to complete a range of assessment tasks. Assessment methods will include practical skill demonstrations, performances and written assignments. Students must complete every unit to progress to the next level of the program.

Course Fees

The following fees apply for local students in 2015, but may change for 2016 tuition. Fees will be confirmed prior to enrolment:

Fees for 2015 were \$4,225 and are due at enrolment. This fee covers tuition, amenities and all materials.

Refunds may be applicable for students who withdraw from the course by the census date. If the course is cancelled by NICA, students will receive a full refund/credit of all fees paid or owing for the current year's enrolment. See the website for information <http://www.swinburne.edu.au/studentoperations/fees/tafe/>

Certificate III students are not eligible to apply for VET FEE-HELP.

Currently, NICA does not offer scholarships to enrolling students.



National Institute of Circus Arts
Certificate III in Circus Arts
Course code: 10110NAT
Course Information – Local Students

Centrelink

Students may contact Centrelink to discuss eligibility for financial assistance. The nearest Centrelink Customer Service Centre is a 5 minute walk from NICA at 255 High Street, Prahran 3181. For more information, telephone 13 24 90 or see <http://www.centrelink.gov.au/>

Where to live

NICA students live in a variety of housing arrangements across Melbourne. Many NICA students live close to NICA in a share-house or apartment in the suburbs of Prahran or Windsor. There is no student accommodation facility associated with the Prahran campus but Swinburne does have student housing at the Hawthorn campus. This is a short distance away from NICA and accessible by public transport.

The following link contains helpful information about housing for students:

<http://www.swinburne.edu.au/stuserv/housing/>

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

Recognition of Prior Learning or RPL is an assessment process that acknowledges the skills and knowledge obtained through learning achieved from work or life experiences that is outside the formal education and training system. See the Swinburne RPL website for information on applying <http://www.future.swinburne.edu.au/pathways/workforce/index.html>.

For more information, please contact NICA on 03 9214 6975 or info@nica.com.au