

## Notes for architectural technology students who plan to apply to the BEDS program in the School of Architecture

This memo is for students who are studying architectural technology at a college in Canada (BCIT, NAIT, SAIT, Humber, Fanshawe, Sheridan, George Brown, Algonquin, CEGEP, NSCC, Holland, etc.) and plan to apply to Dalhousie's School of Architecture.

Two years of your college program will count as one year of university equivalence when applying to the Bachelor of Environmental Design Studies program, the first half of the professional architecture program at Dalhousie. To be eligible for BEDS admission, you must also complete one full year of non-architectural courses (10 courses; 30 credit-hours) at a university.

After high school, Dalhousie's professional architecture program has a 2+2+2 sequence:

- 2 years university + 2 years BEDS + 2 years MArch

For a student who is studying architectural technology at a college, this is the sequence:

- 2 years college + 1 year university + 2 years BEDS + 2 years MArch

Professional architecture programs at other Canadian universities have a similar length:

- 4 years Bachelor of Architectural Studies (or similar degree) + 2 years MArch
- 3–4 years bachelor's degree + 4 years MArch

Master of Architecture programs in Canada are not the same length. Students who have not studied architecture before cannot apply directly to Dalhousie's two-year MArch program.

Every graduate of an accredited MArch program in Canada must complete 60% architecture courses and 40% general studies courses. The general studies courses provide academic breadth for an architect. At Dalhousie, we rely mainly on the first two years to satisfy this requirement, while other Canadian schools include electives throughout their whole program.

Some colleges in Canada (e.g., BCIT) now offer three- and four-year bachelor's degrees in architectural technology. This is appropriate if you are aiming to specialize in architectural technology, but if your aim is to apply to Dalhousie's School of Architecture, you would still need to complete one full year of 10 non-architectural courses at a university. This means that the third and fourth years in a degree program at a college would not count toward BEDS admission.

BEDS admission requires several university prerequisites:

- a) 2 courses, at 1000-level or higher, in a mathematics or science subject
- b) 2 courses, at 1000-level or higher, in a humanities or social science subject
- c) 1 course that emphasizes writing skills

The first prerequisite is satisfied by your architectural technology courses. The second and third prerequisites are more likely to be satisfied by university courses.

After entering the BEDS program, some of your architectural technology courses may qualify for transfer credits that will exempt you from one or more BEDS technology courses.

If you have questions about admission or eligible courses, please contact Susanna Morash-Kent in the Architecture office: [arch.office@dal.ca](mailto:arch.office@dal.ca).

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