

Foundation Course in Acting – 2023-24

- Please make sure you have read these notes prior to applying and retain for your reference.
- All eligible Applicants who apply before the closing date will receive an audition.
- All Applicants must be 18 by the start of the academic year for which they are auditioning.

Applications

Please apply via the RADA website using our online application form. Your application must be completed and submitted by 25 January 2023 at 11:59 pm to be considered.

Audition procedure - academic year 2023-24

We will acknowledge receipt of your application as soon as the application fee has been processed. We will then contact you with information on how to submit your video audition.

You will receive a two-week deadline for submitting your video to RADA so please do ensure that you feel prepared to record your video, prior to submitting your application.

Preliminary and recall auditions will take place digitally, via video submission. We hope that the group workshop day will take place in-person in London.

We take the government guidance on covid safety and social distancing very seriously and, if we are unable to hold the in-person workshop, an alternative schedule will take place via Zoom.

Do note that, due to the volume of Applicants we audition, we do not provide feedback – please refer to the RADA Admissions Policy for more information.

The three audition stages

- ① Preliminary audition - self-tape, November to February
- ② Recall audition - self-tape, November to March
- ③ Group Workshop* - January to June

* The workshop will give you a sense of the training that you would experience were you to be offered a place on the course and may include physical and close eye contact with other applicants. If you have difficulties with these working methods please alert the Admissions team prior to these audition rounds and suitable adjustments will be made, where possible.

① Preliminary audition

Preliminary auditions open in November 2022 and applicants are invited to submit a video application between November

and January.

Your video will be seen in the preliminary round by two members of the audition panel. The preliminary audition will consist of three audition speeches and a song. Each speech should last a maximum of two and half minutes. You are also required to sing an unaccompanied song (verse and chorus only), and give us some information about yourself and your work.

• Speech A - Classical

The classical piece should be from Shakespeare or an Elizabethan/Jacobean playwright (Jonson, Marlowe, Webster, etc.). It should be originally written in English - so do not choose a piece from a Greek tragedy or a Molière comedy, for example. You can perform a monologue in your native language (mother tongue) if you prefer, but it must be accompanied by the same piece performed in English.

• Speech B - Alternative Classical

You must have an alternative classical piece prepared (same rules as Speech A).

• Speech C - Contemporary

The contemporary piece should provide a clear contrast to the classical pieces and be written after 1960. Do not use Chekhov or Shaw for this piece.

• Song

The song should be unaccompanied and consist of a verse and chorus ONLY.

Choosing your speeches

Do:

- choose contemporary/classical PLAYS only, not from a film/television.
- choose at least one speech from a character close to your age
- choose contrasting pieces: dramatic/comic, serious/light, active/reflective
- imagine the person you are speaking to; be familiar with the rest of the play and the context in which the speech appears
- choose a speech about which you are excited as a performer and can imagine playing one day
- use your natural speaking voice for the classical speech

Don't:

- worry about how original your choice of speech is
- assemble a speech from lines of dialogue where another character's interjections are an important part of the scene
- use an accent you are not confident in
- choose speeches by characters who are mad, drunk or wildly out of control: these are very difficult
- mimic the performance of someone else you've seen act the speech: we want to see your original work.

RADA cannot provide advice on the suitability of your speech choices before you submit your video audition.

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② Recall audition

Video submissions of successful Applicants from the preliminary stage will be passed to a recall panel.

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③ Group workshop

The group workshop is designed to give you a sense of the training that you would experience were you to be offered a place on the course. It involves movement, group dynamic work, text analysis, monologue presentation, monologue work as well as an interview with the course director.

Our intention is that the day is relaxed and enjoyable for all applicants so that, regardless of the outcome, you will have had an enriching experience.

Further process

After a preliminary audition an Applicant will be sent an email:

- informing them that they have not been successful
- or notifying them that their video submission will be viewed by a recall panel

After a recall audition an Applicant will be sent an email:

- informing them that they have not been successful
- or inviting them to a group workshop

After the group workshop an Applicant will be sent an email:

- informing them that they have not been successful
- or asking them to wait whilst other Applicants are auditioned
- a successful Applicant will be contacted with the offer of a place; this will be followed by a letter, which will include our terms and conditions and other relevant information. We will require a written acceptance of the place offer (email is fine).

Additional Information

As indicated, there may be a wait time following each audition stage.

The decision of the panel is final. If you are unhappy with the process, you may make a complaint under RADA's Admissions, Appeals & Complaints process (details are on the [Regulations and Policies page](#) of the website).

You may apply only once per academic year.

An Applicant who is 'on hold' may accept a place at another drama school and hand that place back at any time. An Applicant may not hold more than one place at any one time.

Please note that this course does not meet the requirements for a Standard Visitor Visa or a Student Visa.

Guidance for Disabled Applicants

RADA welcomes applications from Applicants with disabilities, including dyslexia, dyspraxia, and other Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLDs).

A high proportion of RADA students come with some form of disability, mostly specific learning disabilities (SpLDs) such as dyslexia or dyspraxia or with mental health conditions. We have fewer students with physical or sensory disabilities (although they are welcomed on our courses, and we support students from all backgrounds) and an increasing number of students who we describe as 'neurodiverse' who are on the autistic spectrum or have ADHD.

Accessibility

RADA's main training buildings in Gower/Malet Street and Chenies Street are fully accessible to those with limited mobility.

Tell us about your disability

Applicants are encouraged to declare a disability so that appropriate support can be put into place as soon as possible. The term 'disabled' includes people with a physical or sensory impairment such as limited mobility or hearing loss; a learning difficulty such as dyslexia or dyspraxia; or a mental health condition such as depression.

Please note that if you do disclose a disability on your application form, this may be shared with the panel.

You are not required to include this information at application stage but we strongly recommend that you do in order to give us time to prepare and arrange suitable support. It will also mean that we can provide appropriate arrangements during the admissions process, where possible.

During an audition/interview

- Do not worry and remember the audition/interview panel wants you to do your best in your audition/interview. The panel will be made aware of your access requirements if you have made them clear on your application.
- A member of the admissions team will be on hand in case you need any kind of additional support or adjustment during your audition or interview.
- Please tell us if you would like to be seen first and we will try to accommodate this.
- It's fine to ask the panel to repeat any question.
- Take your time.
- Remember that many applicants and students with disabilities and SpLDs have been to RADA before.

Do note that all of our programmes are very physical. Most auditions will involve games or warmup exercises which are likely to include eye contact and/or physical contact. Adjustments to this may not always be possible.

How do RADA support disabled students?

RADA will make reasonable adjustments for all students who declare a disability and require reasonable adjustments to enable them to participate in the training.

RADA's support is currently jointly managed by the team in Student and Academic Services working with your Course Leader. We will usually encourage students who disclose a disability to speak with their Course Leader as they will be able to advise on adjustments and what would be most helpful in their learning. Students can also talk to RADA's Counselling & Wellbeing Manager if they are concerned about sharing this information in the first instance.

We encourage students to tell us about any condition that might affect their training, and that they should do so knowing that we will handle that sensitive information in accordance with data protection legislation.

Once we know about a particular condition, we will produce a 'Learning Agreement', where necessary. This outlines the adjustments that will be made, who needs to know about this and when it should be reviewed. This will be done with the student, and the agreement will only be shared with the people whom the student has agreed will have access to it.

Disabled Students' Allowance (DSA)

UK students are advised to make an application for [Disabled Students' Allowance \(DSA\)](#) through the Student Loans Company. This can provide valuable financial assistance to help with the adjustments required for learning for example, particular software for learning support, or a one-to-one session with an experienced learning support practitioner. It can take several months from the point of application before full support is implemented, therefore, we strongly advise that you apply for DSA at the same time you send your application to RADA. Student Loans Company will require evidence of the disability to make an assessment for DSA. There is more information [here](#).

Students who are not eligible for a UK Disabled Students' Allowance should, in the first instance, seek funding from their own country, funding body, sponsor or other source. However, RADA can offer some Study Skills support sessions and you should contact Student and Academic Services for more information.

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Support for students with specific learning difficulties (SpLDs)

For students with specific learning difficulties, we have relationships with external specialists who can undertake a diagnostic assessment, should there not already be one in place. RADA will pay for the initial assessment, and the Disabled Students' Allowance will cover the cost of other support. The Student Loans Company may ask the student to make a contribution to costs (for example, if you prefer an Apple Mac to a PC), but 1:1 Study Skills or mentoring support will be covered. Students may also receive additional funding for printer supplies and photocopying, for which receipts should be submitted to SLC at the end of the year for reimbursement.