

# *Buffalo State and FIT*

## *The 3+1 Program*

### *Buffalo State*

To receive your bachelor's degree from Buffalo State as well as an Associate's degree from FIT, you **MUST** complete all Intellectual Foundations classes, required courses for the FTT major and your concentration prior to the fall semester of your fourth year at FIT. Your all-college electives will be taken at FIT – do not take additional courses while at Buffalo State. Plan carefully – you will not have enough credits to complete a minor at Buffalo State if you want to go to FIT. There are financial aid implications if you have too many credits!

### *Accelerated One-Year AAS Programs at FIT*

FIT currently offers the following one-year Associate degree programs: Accessory Design, Advertising and Marketing Communications, Communication Design Foundation, Fashion Business Management (not to be taken by students in the fashion merchandising concentration at Buffalo State), Fashion Design, Textile/Surface Design, Textile Development and Marketing. Please note that you do not have to take the same major at FIT that you are currently enrolled in at Buffalo State. It is wise to cross train and expand your skills.

### *Getting into FIT*

Admission to FIT is highly selective and Buffalo State has no control over who is accepted. All applicants – full-time, part-time or in the weekend / evening degree program – must meet the same admission standards. Candidates are evaluated based on class rank, grades in college coursework and a student essay. You must have at least a 3.0 overall GPA to be considered. Students applying to any of the design related programs are required to submit a portfolio. Letters of recommendation are not required. Again, admission is *not* guaranteed just because you are coming from Buffalo State.

### *What to do*

Make an appointment with your FTT academic advisor. You will need to fill out paperwork to go to FIT as a visiting student and ensure that your credits come back to Buffalo State and are accepted into the right category in the fall semester of your third year at Buffalo State. You will need to have your FTT advisor and FTT chairperson sign off on your paperwork. Even though you will be at FIT, you remain a Buffalo State student through our Visiting Student Program. Eligibility for financial aid is impacted when you take courses not directly related to obtaining your bachelor's degree – be careful taking any “all college electives”!

Go to the FIT website and note application due dates for the FIT one year Associate's degree program. Currently the application deadline is January 1 for entrance into the fall semester. The portfolio deadline for entering into a design program is February 1.

**Plan ahead so that you take all the required courses in three years!**

# Procedures

- After three years of undergraduate study at SUNY Buffalo State, students admitted to the 3-in-1 FIT program will enter FIT during their fourth year.
- Each semester will be registered for 12-18 credit hours at FIT to be able to complete a full Associate's degree.
- The undergraduate credits will return to SUNY Buffalo State as all college electives or to complete their major requirements at SUNY Buffalo State within their bachelor's degree from SUNY Buffalo State. Grades are not calculated into their home GPA.
- Upon successful completion of their year at FIT, students will be awarded their baccalaureate degree from Buffalo State and their Associate's degree from FIT.
- Tuition, fees and room and board will be billed by and paid to the host campus.
- Current costs can be found online at: [www.fitnyc.edu](http://www.fitnyc.edu).
- Students complete budget sheet with the costs and hand it into our financial aid office. Students put BSC only on their FAFSA.
- Aid gets disbursed through BSC to the student in its entirety. We suggest students have direct deposits set up. They receive full aid amount and it is their responsibility to pay FIT's entire bill with their aid monies.
- For each semester each student is given a CRN number that holds them as a full-time student for SPP 100. Ask the FTT department chair for this number.
- After each term students need to send an official transcript to FTT department and a cover letter needs to be attached indicating how credits return. Registrars then transfers their credits accordingly. This was completed prior on their applications.
- After their credits have been entered at BSC, students need to request an official transcript to be sent over to FIT admissions and they will send the students their Associates degree.

## Steps:

1. Complete the Visiting Student Program application available from the Fashion and Textile Technology Department.
2. Make an appointment with your academic advisor to go over the paperwork and turn it in to the chair of the FTT department. This is due by November 30 each year.
3. Apply directly to FIT for the one-year program of your choice. Note that Fashion Merchandising students should not apply for the Fashion Business Management program at FIT as these are very similar and courses will overlap. Design students should complete and submit a portfolio.
4. Wait for the acceptance decision from FIT.
5. If you have been accepted, make an appointment with the chair of FTT to go over a budget sheet for financial aid.
6. Take the budget sheet to financial aid for review.