MFA Program Facts Sheet

How many students are in the MFA program? On average, about 35.

How many students does the program admit every year? Typically, about 10 or 12.

How many students does the program graduate every year? Typically, about 10 or 12.

How many students are in each of the five disciplines? From most to least, it’s fiction, poetry, screenwriting, creative nonfiction, and playwriting.

How long does it take to finish the MFA program? On average, six semesters.

What kind of funding is available? There are several types of funding available, including Durwood Fellowships, Graduate Teaching Assistantships, and scholarships. Students may apply for Graduate Teaching Assistantships and scholarships (additional information is available on the English department website and on the MFA webpage: http://cas.umkc.edu/english/grad-program/mfa.asp). There is no separate application for Durwood Fellowships, which are decided by the Creative Writing Committee when funds are available.

When is the application deadline: January 15. A complete application packet is available on the MFA program webpage. A complete application includes both a UMKC Application (sent to the Office of Admissions in room 120 of the Administrative Center) AND an MFA Application sent to the English Department (106 Cockefair Hall). Additional information about the applications is available here: http://cas.umkc.edu/english/grad-program/mfa.asp.

When will I know if I’ve been admitted to the MFA program? Typically, by April 15.

When will I know if I’ve been offered a GTA? Typically, by April 15. We cannot provide information regarding where students are on the GTA waitlist until all final decisions have been made.

Why was I not admitted to the MFA program? Admission to the MFA program is competitive and is strongly based on the writing sample. We recommend that applicants who wish to reapply submit a different writing sample.