

A.S. in Graphic Design & Illustration

DESCRIPTION OF THE GRAPHIC DESIGN & ILLUSTRATION PROGRAM

Kingsborough Community College's Associate of Science (A.S.) in Graphic Design and Illustration is a 60-credit program where students will gain knowledge and tangible skills in the areas of graphic design and illustration. Students will create and maintain a professionally presented body of work (portfolio); be able to conceive a visual solution to a communications problem; discern between a resolved, well-designed, illustrated, etc., piece from a poorly designed one; and be able to employ a skill set to transition from an idea into print or digital media.

SKILLS

Technology. Graphic designers must master various forms of technology. This includes design software like Adobe InDesign and Photoshop, along with fluency in multiple programming web design languages including HTML and CSS.

Creativity. Graphic designers must be creative designers and creative thinkers. They must convey ideas through both text and image. They might have to convey a client's idea through special and specific designs to sell a product. All of this involves creativity.

Communication. Graphic designers also have to articulate their ideas to clients, companies or employers, for which they must have excellent and convincing communication skills. Listening to the clients' needs when creating the design is crucial in the field.

CAREER INFORMATION

Graphic designers can begin their career with an associate degree, however, a bachelor's degree and several years' experience is strongly preferred for this position.

High school students interested in graphic design should take basic art and design courses, if available. Many bachelor's degree programs require students to complete a year of basic art and design courses before being admitted to a formal degree program. Some schools require applicants to submit sketches and other examples of their artistic ability.

Graphic designers must keep up with new and updated computer graphics and design software, either on their own or through formal software training programs. Professional associations that specialize in graphic design, such as AIGA, offer courses intended to keep the skills of their members up to date.

EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

Many of these workers are employed in specialized design services, publishing, or advertising, public relations, and related services industries. Employment of graphic designers is projected to grow 3 percent from 2021 to 2031, slower than the average for all occupations. Graphic designers are expected to face strong competition for available positions.

CAREER PATH

Graphic designers usually need a bachelor's degree in graphic design or a related field. Candidates for graphic design positions should have a portfolio that demonstrates their creativity and originality. The median annual wage for graphic designers was \$50,710 in May 2021.

CAREER COACH – SEARCH CAREER INFORMATION & CURRENT LOCAL WAGE DATA

<https://kingsborough.emsicc.com/programs/graphic-design-and-illustration-as/190619>

INFORMATION ON HOW TO APPLY: www.cuny.edu/apply or 718-368-4600

01-2023

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