

# A.A.S. in Fashion Design

## DESCRIPTION OF THE FASHION DESIGN PROGRAM

The associate of applied science (A.A.S.) in fashion design is a 60-credit program that prepares students for a career as a designer or an assistant designer. Students work on their professional portfolio to demonstrate their abilities to prospective employers. Aesthetics and style trends are studied to provide students with artistic and commercial perspectives about the fashion industry. Students will learn basic garment construction, textiles, creating a collection, and retailing of the work. During their senior year, students will present their designs in a senior fashion show. At Kingsborough, fashion design students are also required to complete an internship in this field.

## SKILLS

**Artistic ability.** Fashion designers sketch their initial design ideas that are used to create prototypes. Designers must be able to express their vision for the design through illustration.

**Creativity.** Fashion designers work with a variety of fabrics, shapes, and colors. Their ideas must be unique, functional, and stylish.

**Decision-making skills.** When working on teams, fashion designers gain exposure to many different ideas. They must be able to decide which ideas to incorporate into their designs.

## CAREER INFORMATION

Many fashion designers have a bachelor's degree in fashion design or fashion merchandising. In these programs, students learn about textiles and fabrics and how to use computer-aided design (CAD) technology. They also work on projects they can add to their portfolio, which displays their designs. Fashion designers often gain experience in the fashion industry through internships or by working as an assistant designer. Internships introduce aspiring fashion designers to the design process, building their knowledge of textiles and colors and of how the industry works. Applicants who have formal education in fashion design, are proficient in technologies such as CAD, have excellent portfolios, and have industry experience will have the best job prospects. However, strong competition for jobs is expected because of the large number of people who seek employment as fashion designers and the relatively few positions available.

## **EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK**

Employment of fashion designers is projected to grow 3 percent from 2021 to 2031, slower than the average for all occupations. Despite limited employment growth, about 2,300 openings for fashion designers are projected each year, on average, over the decade. Most of those openings are expected to result from the need to replace workers who transfer to different occupations or exit the labor force, such as to retire.

## **CAREER PATH**

Fashion designers work in wholesale or manufacturing establishments, apparel companies, retailers, theater or dance companies, and design firms. Most fashion designers work in New York and California. The median annual wage for fashion designers was \$77,450 in May 2021.

## **CAREER COACH – SEARCH CAREER INFORMATION & CURRENT LOCAL WAGE DATA**

<https://kingsborough.emsicc.com/search/careers?q=Fashion%20Design>

**INFORMATION ON HOW TO APPLY: [www.cuny.edu/apply](http://www.cuny.edu/apply) or 718-368-4600**

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