Am I required to do an internship after obtaining my Baccalaureate/high school diploma, in order to join a Bachelor programme? What terms (duration, chosen profession) apply?

A successful experience of 36 weeks full-time in the world of work, related to the chosen field of study, or proven successful completion of the ECAL Foundation Year or of an acknowledged bridge year preparing for colleges of higher education in art and design, is required to enrol in a Bachelor course in Visual Communication (Graphic Design / Photography / Media & Interaction Design / Film Studies) or in Industrial and Product Design.

Such an experience is recommended, but not compulsory for the Bachelor in Fine Arts. Thus ECAL offers a Foundation Year, but does not assist candidates in finding a vocational internship to register for a Bachelor programme.

Is it conceivable to join the Bachelor programme directly in 2nd or 3rd year?

In some cases, recognition of prior learning may be granted in the form of ECTS credits, depending on previous training undertaken by a candidate. A decision to this effect can only be made by the ECAL management further to the admission procedure and following submission of a portfolio detailing all previous education (type, field, skills, courses, credits, grades, etc.).

May I sit the entrance exam for admission to the Bachelor without one of the required titles?

For candidates demonstrating extraordinary artistic talent, ECAL may exceptionally waive any of the qualification requirements to access the entrance exam for the Bachelor.

This approach concerns candidates who have not completed any training and who do not hold a diploma. However, candidates must first send the ECAL Director a written application with a motivation letter, a CV and a portfolio. This application must be sent by April 8th 2020 the latest. If the waiver is granted, the admission procedure is similar to that followed by the other candidates.

Candidates under 25 at the time of the application submission must accomplish, in the aim of being admitted in a HES, a professional maturity if they are holders of a CFC, or a specialized maturity if they are holders of an ECG diploma.