



# Jewelry/Metals Studio Access Program FAQs

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**Besides offering classes, Pratt Fine Arts Center is also a hub where independent artists, makers, hobbyists and professionals practice their craft in a community environment. Through its Studio Access Program, Pratt offers qualified Studio Artists shared access to fully-equipped studios.**

The basic steps for becoming a Studio Artist:

1. Check that you are qualified and that the Access Program meets your needs
2. Make an Access Appointment (\$25)
3. Study the Studio User Guide
4. Pass an Access Test
5. Become a Member (\$80 per year)
6. Sign Acknowledgement Form & Waiver
7. Start using the studio! First day is FREE!

## How much does it cost?

Studio Access is \$160/ month or \$30/day.  
There are currently no hourly rates available.

## Who is qualified to participate in the Studio Access Program?

For Pratt students, we ask that you have recently taken at least two 6- or 8-week core classes, for example Beginning J/M and/or Intermediate J/M. For hollowware or enameling access, at least one of your 6- or 8-week classes must have been specifically on that technique and taken at Pratt. We want you to be safe in the studio and able to take full advantage of the program; requiring this level of experience is one way that we can meet these goals.

For prospective Studio Artists coming from outside of Pratt, we ask that you have an equivalent level of recent experience.

## What is considered equivalent?

Recent completion of two 6- or 8-week courses at a different school. A recent BA, BFA, or MFA in Jewelry or Metals, or a recent apprenticeship or bench jeweler certificate, are well beyond what we ask.

## What if I think I have enough experience to be a Studio Artist?

In most cases, a quick conversation with Studio Access Coordinator at the beginning of your orientation appointment will clear up any questions; if qualified, you will continue the orientation and progress to the skills test. If your situation is more unusual, contact the Studio Manager.

## Who do I talk to about becoming a Studio Artist?

To schedule an orientation appointment, call the Front Desk (206-328-2200). If you have general questions, contact Barbara Magana Perez, Jewelry/Metals Studio Access Program Coordinator ([bmaganaperez@pratt.org](mailto:bmaganaperez@pratt.org)). If you have any special concerns, contact [Monica Street, Jewelry/Metals and Sculpture Studios Manager at 206.390.4013 or email \[mstreet@pratt.org\]\(mailto:mstreet@pratt.org\).](#)

Appointments for the Studio Access Program orientation and test take place on Monday evenings only.

## What does the appointment consist of before I can begin using the studio?

At the first meeting, you learn about the Studio Access Program and its policies and procedures. You also receive a thorough overview of safe usage of the tools and equipment you hope to gain access to.

The following week, you return to take a skills test. This is your opportunity to show us that you understand correct and safe usage of common tools and equipment. You may be

asked to describe a tool's use or, in some cases, physically demonstrate your understanding of a piece of equipment. All Studio Artists must be comfortable with turning on and off the acetylene torches.

### **Why does it take two appointments before I can begin using the studio?**

There is a lot of information to go over. Since you'll be working on your own as a Studio Artist, you need to know where things located in the studio and kept in the cabinets—particularly if your experience is from outside Pratt. We need to feel confident that you can work independently, safely, and within Pratt's policies and procedures for studio tools and equipment (which may differ from your own practices or those you've learned elsewhere).

### **What will I have access to, the entire studio or a small portion of it?**

You are accessing work space and/or the equipment, according to your needs. Some people come in to use a bench for fabrication, others come in just to cut metal or tumble finished work. It is not possible to reserve any space or equipment.

### **What are the days and hours that the studio is available for access?**

Mondays, 9 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., are set aside for Pratt Studio Artists, with the exception of holidays and the occasional weekend workshop that continues through Monday. Due to the configuration of Pratt's offices, holloware access is currently only available on Monday evenings. Studio Artists are also welcome to work during Studio Fridays, space permitting. Throughout the week availability will vary, but the generally "back" studio is open for Studio Artists unless a class requires both studios. Please note that availability is subject to change without notice and check with the Front Desk or see our website for current availability:  
[www.pratt.org/studio-rentals/jewelrymetalworking-studios](http://www.pratt.org/studio-rentals/jewelrymetalworking-studios)

### **What tools and equipment are available for me to use in the studio?**

Contingent upon the Access Test, Studio Artists may use equipment including:

Step shear	Magnetic tumbler
Beverly shear	Buffing unit
Pepe tabletop shear	Belt sanders
Three rolling mills	Anvils and vises
Acetylene/air torches	Natural gas/forced air torches
Enameling kilns	Small hand tools
Disc cutters	Ultrasonic cleaner
Swage blocks	Basic hand tools
Dapping blocks	Sandblaster
Drawpates and tongs	Anvils, vises, and hollowware stakes

We supply primarily student-grade hand tools for people who are just learning, so you may prefer to bring your own hand tools.

Access is not available for lost wax casting.

### **What consumables are available for me to use?**

We provide tank gas, flux, pickle, pumice, and soap. Given the risk of contamination, you may wish to bring your own flux, solder picks, and soldering surface. You need to bring all other consumables, including metal, solder, sandpaper, flexshaft accessories, drill bits, liver of sulphur, buffing wheels and compounds, and enamel.

### **Any tips on sharing studio space with other users?**

Be considerate of those around you. Always clean up after yourself. Leave the room if you must talk on the phone. Music is ok as long as no one objects. Don't be afraid to communicate with the other people in the studio, they can be your best asset, as well as the studio manager and technician. We strive to maintain a friendly community in the studios so it never hurts to reach out to each other—but being respectful of personal space and deadlines is always key. We value your involvement with our community here and look forward to nourishing your creativity!

