

College of Music University of Colorado at Boulder

Frequently Asked Questions

Prospective Students

What degrees do you offer?

We offer the Bachelor of Music degree, the Bachelor of Music Education degree, and the Bachelor of Arts degree. The BM degree prepares students for a professional career in music and often leads to continued work at the graduate level; BME students complete an integrated program of study that provides them with the musicianship, performance, and teaching skills needed to be licensed or certified for K-12 schools – currently 100% of our BME graduates are placed in jobs; the BA degree is designed for students who want a liberal arts degree with a strong music component.

Can you minor in music?

No, we do not offer a minor in music. Students majoring in a degree program outside of music may elect to pursue a double degree program in music and another field.

How do I apply as a double degree major in music?

Students interested in doing a second degree in music should apply to the University and NON-music college first, and then fill out a College of Music Admission Application. The Undergraduate Office will then contact you with an audition date and time..

What steps do I follow to apply as a music major?

- 1. You need to fill out a university application. This is available at www.colorado.edu/prospective.*
- 2. You also need to fill out a College of Music Admission Application which is available at <http://www.colorado.edu/music>. After receiving the applications, the College of Music will contact you with an audition date and time.*

When are your audition dates?

Our audition dates for Fall 2009 will be held on:

Saturday, January 31, 2009

Saturday, February 7, 2009

Saturday, February 14, 2009 (No strings on this date)

The prescreening deadline for piano and voice is December 1; prescreening deadline for flute is Dec. 15.

Can I audition on a day that is not a designated audition date?

Yes, you can arrange an early audition, or an audition on a different date than those listed above by checking with the applied faculty member or chair for the area in which you wish to audition (faculty names appear on the audition requirements sheets for the various areas. These sheets are available online at:

<http://www.colorado.edu/music/applying/ugradapply/auditionreq.html>

What scholarships do you offer?

Every student completing the application process for the College of Music is automatically considered for a music scholarship. Students admitted to the University by March 1 also are considered for university wide scholarship programs, including Norlin, Boettcher, Presidential, Chancellor's, and Chancellor's Citizen Scholarships. Music scholarship decisions typically are made by the middle of March, and letters of notification typically are mailed by the end of March.

What are the admissions requirements?

*All entering students must not only meet the audition requirements for their instrument, but must also take either the SAT I or the ACT, have good academic qualifications as reflected in high school course grades (GPA), and meet, or have very few deficiencies in meeting, the minimum academic preparation standards (MAPS). * The average qualifications of the Freshman class entering the College of Music in Fall 2008 include a high school GPA of 3.6, an SAT I score of 1240, and an ACT score of 27.*

What kind of high school courses would help me prepare for college?

Students seeking admission into music programs in higher education are encouraged to prepare themselves by spending time developing their theory, ear training, and basic keyboard skills. Our faculty recommends the following materials for students wishing to prepare for classes in theory and ear training: the self-study textbook Scalés, Intervals, Keys, Triads, Rhythm, and Meter by John Clough and Joyce Conley {Norton Publishing, ISBN 0-393-95189-8} is recommended as is Practical Theory Complete by Sandy Feldstein [published by Alfred Music] to prepare for entrance tests in theory. The College of Music uses the book Tonal Harmony; with and Introduction to Twentieth-Century Music by Stefan Kostka and Dorothy Payne [published by McGraw-Hill ISBN 0-07-035874-5] in its four semesters of theory classes. Prospective students are also encouraged to take Advanced Placement tests in music theory and ear training before entering the college.

How many majors do you have?

We have approximately 300 undergraduate music majors and about 250 graduate students in the College of Music. Students studying in the College of Music are distributed as follows by studio: bassoon-6, cello-13, clarinet-15, composition-10, double bass-10, euphonium-4, flute-8, guitar-15, harp-2, horn-9, oboe-7, percussion-16, piano-21, saxophone-17, trombone-13, trumpet-26, tuba-6, viola-10, violin-15, voice-49.

What percentage of students who audition do you accept?

The College of Music typically accepts slightly more than one-half of the number of students who audition.

Non-Music Majors

Can I take private lessons for credit as a non-music major?

Yes, students CAN TAKE PRIVATE LESSONS FOR 2 UNIVERSITY CREDITS – in guitar, piano, voice, and orchestral instruments through the Continuing Education Program (students receive 12 weeks of 45-minute lessons). You should contact this department at appmusic@colorado.edu for information about enrolling into this program. There is an extra tuition for these lessons.

If I am not a music major, can I audition for choirs, bands, jazz ensembles, etc.?

Yes, all university students are welcome and eligible to audition for any College of Music ensemble (EMUS). Auditions are held at the beginning of each semester. Choir audition dates are posted in Macky by room 107 – contact Professor Kaptein at (303) 492-8714; auditions for Orchestra and various bands are posted in the lobby of the building by room E172 – contact Diana Wilson at (303) 492-6584; and Jazz Ensemble audition lists are posted in Macky Auditorium-contact Professor Davis at (303) 492-8810.

What classes can I take as a non-music major?

Besides ensembles, university students may register for all courses labeled MUEL in the catalog (e.g. History of Jazz, World Musics, American Music topics, Music Fundamentals, Class Piano, Class Voice, etc.). University students may also register for classes that are designed for music majors with the permission of the instructor and on a space available basis.

Can I use the music building practice rooms if I am not a music major?

Unfortunately, the College does not have enough room to be able to offer non-music majors access to the practice facilities here. However, there are two rooms in the basement of Macky Auditorium that have pianos and are open to non-music majors for practice.

*MAPS include English (4 years high school), Math (3 years high school), Natural Science (3 years high school), Social Science (2 years high school), Foreign Language (2 years high school).