

Music Education, B.M.

Degree Offered

- Bachelor of Music

Nature of the Program

Students who successfully complete the music education curriculum and all certification exams required by the West Virginia Department of Education will be qualified for a professional certificate, grades birth through adult. This certification allows teaching of instrumental, vocal, and general music in West Virginia public schools.

Admissions for 2025-2026

Acceptance into an undergraduate music degree program is contingent upon both admission to WVU as an undergraduate student and a successful performance audition. Auditions are held from late fall through the early spring semester. For maximum scholarship consideration, students are encouraged to complete the application (including audition) before March 1. Audition information can be found on the College's website or by contacting the CCAM Office of Recruitment at (304) 293-4339. Special accommodations may be made by contacting the School of Music at (304) 293-4532 or Music@mail.wvu.edu.

For admission consideration, all students must submit separate applications to the University and to the School of Music. The audition is a preliminary assessment of a student's potential for success. For the Bachelor of Science in Music and Health, students must audition at a minimum performance level four. If a student is admitted, their standing is confirmed or revised after the first semester of study.

Students should own their own instrument under normal circumstances (except for piano).

1. Apply to West Virginia University (How to Apply (<https://admissions.wvu.edu/how-to-apply/>))
2. Audition for the School of Music (Apply Now (<https://wvucca.wufoo.com/forms/w1qjwnk21fcr23v/>))

Acceptance into an undergraduate music degree program requires admission to WVU as an undergraduate student and a successful audition and/or interview. The audition and/or interview is a preliminary assessment of a student's potential for success in their intended major.

- BA Music - audition required
- BA Music Business and Industry: Applied Music Emphasis - audition required
- BA Music Business and Industry: Multi-instrumental Emphasis - interview required (no audition)
- BM Composition - audition and portfolio review required
- BM Music Education - audition and interview required
- BM Music Therapy - audition and interview required
- BM Performance - audition required
- BS Music and Health - audition required

Students who cannot attend one of our regularly scheduled audition days should contact the School of Music at: (304) 293-4532 or Music@mail.wvu.edu.

Music majors can change from one music curriculum to another with faculty approval, particularly during the freshman or sophomore year, without significant loss of course credit. Students are encouraged to explore and follow the curriculum for which they are best qualified and in which they can achieve the greatest success. Evaluation of students' work by the School of Music faculty informs these decisions. If students wish a broader, liberal arts-oriented program, they may pursue a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Music.

Major Code: 3715

General Education Foundations

Please use this link to view a list of courses that meet each GEF requirement. (<http://registrar.wvu.edu/gef/>)

NOTE: Some major requirements will fulfill specific GEF requirements. Please see the curriculum requirements listed below for details on which GEFs you will need to select.

Code	Title	Hours
General Education Foundations		
F1	Composition & Rhetoric	3-6

ENGL 101 & ENGL 102 or ENGL 103	Introduction to Composition and Rhetoric and Composition, Rhetoric, and Research Accelerated Academic Writing	
F2A/F2B - Science & Technology		4-6
F3 - Math & Quantitative Reasoning		3-4
F4 - Society & Connections		3
F5 - Human Inquiry & the Past		3
F6 - The Arts & Creativity		3
F7 - Global Studies & Diversity		3
F8 - Focus (may be satisfied by completion of a minor, double major, or dual degree)		9
Total Hours		31-37

Please note that not all of the GEF courses are offered at all campuses. Students should consult with their advisor or academic department regarding the GEF course offerings available at their campus.

Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
University Requirements		27
Music Education Program Requirements		32-33
Music Education Major Requirements		79
Total Hours		138-139

University Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
General Education Foundations (GEF) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 (31-37 Credits)		
Outstanding GEF Requirements 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, and 8		25
MUSC 191	First-Year Seminar	2
Total Hours		27

Music Education Program Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
A cumulative GPA of 2.75 is required.		
MUSC 189	Music Convocation (Five Semesters)	0
Music Core Courses		
Minimum GPA of 2.75		
Select one of the following:		3
MUSC 111	Introduction to Music	
MUSC 113	American Popular Music	
MUSC 114	Music and the Immigrant Experience	
MUSC 115	Introduction to History of Jazz	
MUSC 116	Music in World Cultures	
MUSC 118	Music in Appalachia	
MUSC 151	Hip Hop Nation: Musical and Conceptual Foundations of a Cultural Revolution	
MUSC 161	Aural Theory 1	2
MUSC 162	Written Theory 1	3
MUSC 163	Aural Theory 2	2
MUSC 164	Written Theory 2	3
MUSC 200S	Fundamentals of Conducting	2
MUSC 201S	Conducting and Score Interpretation	2
MUSC 261	Aural Theory 3	2
MUSC 262	Written Theory 3	3
MUSC 263	Aural Theory 4	2

Select one of the following:		2-3
MUSC 362	Instrumentation and Orchestration	
MUSC 364	Popular Music Analysis Seminar	
MUSC 365	Songwriting: Composition and Analysis	
MUSC 461	Counterpoint, 16th Century	
MUSC 462	Counterpoint, 18th Century	
MUSC 463	Analysis of Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Music	
MUSC 464	Compositional Techniques in Contemporary Music	
MUSC 465S	Electronic Music	
MUSC 466	Techniques for Electronic Music Performance	
MUSC 468	Jazz and Commercial Music Harmony	
MUSC 469	Counterpoint, 20th Century	
MUSC 270	History of Western Musical Traditions 1 (GEF 8)	3
MUSC 271	History of Western Musical Traditions 2 (GEF 6)	3
Total Hours		32-33

Music Education Major Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
A cumulative GPA of 2.75 is required.		
A minimum GPA of 2.75 is required in all major requirements.		
Professional Education Courses		
Minimum Grade of C- required. Minimum GPA of 2.75.		
MUSC 138	Voice Class 1 (Taken if voice is not principal instrument)	2
MUSC 180	Introduction to Music Education	1
MUSC 280	Woodwind Instrument Pedagogy	2
MUSC 281	Brass Instrument Pedagogy	2
MUSC 282	String Instrument Pedagogy	2
MUSC 283	Percussion Instrument Pedagogy	2
MUSC 284	Vocal Pedagogy	2
MUSC 380	Instrumental Methods and Technology Applications *	3
MUSC 381	Choral Music Methods and Technology Applications *	3
MUSC 382	General Music Methods and Technology Applications *	3
EDP 301	Learning in PreK-Adult Educational Settings	3
SPED 404	Special Education in Contemporary Society (GEF 4)	3
SPED 460	Differentiation of Instruction	3
RDNG 422	Reading in the Content Areas	3
MUSC 484	Music Residency 1	4
MUSC 487	Residency 2 Seminar (Capstone)	2
MUSC 491	Professional Field Experience	14
Studies in Music		
Class Piano (if piano is not principal)		
MUSC 130S	Piano Class 1	1
MUSC 131S	Piano Class 2	1
MUSC 132S	Piano Class 3	1
MUSC 133S	Piano Class 4	1
Ensembles (7 semesters required) At least one semester/ensemble must be MUSC 353, MUSC 353A-I, MUSC 354-359, MUSC 361, or MUSC 363. At least one semester must be MUSC 302, MUSC 305, MUSC 305A, or MUSC 345.		
4 semesters/ensembles selected from the following: For students who are jazz emphasis, at least two semesters must be MUSC 300, MUSC 300A, MUSC 303, and/or MUSC 305.		
MUSC 300	Band: Wind Symphony	
MUSC 300A	Band: Symphonic	
MUSC 303	Orchestra	

MUSC 305	Chamber Singers
MUSC 306	University Mountaineer Chorus
MUSC 353	Jazz Ensemble 1
MUSC 350	Jazz Ensemble 2
MUSC 353C	Chamber Music: Jazz Small Group 2
3 semesters/ensembles selected from the following:	
MUSC 101	Band: Concert
MUSC 101A	Band: Pep Band
MUSC 150	Chamber Music: Freshman Percussion
MUSC 300B	Band: Marching
MUSC 302	University Community Choir
MUSC 304	Introduction To Opera Theatre
MUSC 340	Chamber Music: Brass
MUSC 341	Chamber Music: Guitar
MUSC 342	Chamber Music: Piano-4 Hand
MUSC 343	Chamber Music: Strings
MUSC 344	Chamber Music: Woodwind
MUSC 345	Chamber Music: Vocal
MUSC 346	Chamber Music: Mixed Ensemble
MUSC 347	Chamber Music: Mountaineer Singers
MUSC 348	Chamber Music: New Music
MUSC 349A	Chamber Music: Brass Choir
MUSC 349B	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349C	Chamber Music: Other-Vocal Accompaniment
MUSC 349D	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349E	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349F	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349G	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349H	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349I	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349J	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349K	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349L	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349M	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349N	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349O	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349P	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349Q	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349R	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349S	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349T	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349U	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349V	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349W	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349X	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349Y	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 349Z	Collegium Musicum
MUSC 353I	Chamber Music: Jazz Vocal Ensemble
MUSC 404	Lyric Theatre
MUSC 349	Chamber Music: Other
MUSC 351	Chamber Music: Percussion 1
MUSC 352	Chamber Music: Percussion 2

MUSC 353B	Chamber Music: Jazz Small Group
MUSC 353E	Chamber Music: Jazz and Ethnic
MUSC 353G	Chamber Music: Jazz Vocal Ensemble
MUSC 353H	Chamber Music: Jazz Other
MUSC 354	Gamelan
MUSC 355	Steel Band
MUSC 356	African Music Ensemble
MUSC 357	Brazilian Music Ensemble
MUSC 358	Experiential Music Ensemble
MUSC 359	Taiko Ensemble
MUSC 361	Fife and Drum Ensemble
MUSC 363	Appalachian Music Ensemble

Select 14 hours from the following:

Applied Music 100 level (MUSC 121-127D) - 2 semesters	4
Applied Music 200 level (MUSC 221-227D) - 2 semesters	4
Applied Music 300 level (MUSC 321-327D) - 2 semesters	4
Applied Music 400 level (MUSC 421-427D) - 1 semester	2
Proficiency Level Piano (min. level 2 required)	
Proficiency Level (min. level 7 required)	
Recital	
Total Hours	79

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Prior to enrolling in MUSC 380, MUSC 381, and MUSC 382, students must pass the Praxis I Core Academic Skills for Educators, pass MUSC 133 or its equivalent (level 2 on piano), satisfy secondary instrument proficiency requirements (below), and meet the following GPA requirements:

1. An overall GPA of 2.75 in all courses taken at WVU and at any other institution (this includes courses taken at other institutions that are not accepted by WVU)
2. A GPA of 2.75 in all music core courses
3. A GPA of 2.75 in professional education courses and meeting the minimum grade requirements noted above.
4. A cumulative GPA of 2.75 is required

Proficiency Level

Music education students should begin as freshmen at proficiency level three on their principal performance medium (instrument or voice) and must complete proficiency level seven on the medium to be eligible for student teaching. Students must present two solo performances on the major instrument or voice in upper-level recitals before the semester in which they student teach.

Secondary Instrument Requirements

In addition to the general pre-professional requirements indicated above, secondary instrument requirements for specific music education methods courses are:

- MUSC 380: MUSC 280 (passing a minimum of two woodwind instrument proficiencies) and recorder proficiency, and MUSC 281 (passing a minimum of two brass instrument proficiencies) and guitar proficiency, and MUSC 284 and voice proficiency.
- MUSC 381: MUSC 284 and voice proficiency, and at least one of the following: MUSC 280 (passing a minimum of two woodwind instrument proficiencies) and recorder proficiency; or MUSC 281 (passing a minimum of two brass instrument proficiencies) and guitar proficiency
- MUSC 382: MUSC 280 (passing a minimum of two woodwind instrument proficiencies) and recorder proficiency, and MUSC 281 (passing a minimum of two brass instrument proficiencies) and guitar proficiency, and MUSC 284 and voice proficiency.

Student Teaching

Students must pass all secondary instrument proficiency examinations no later than mid-term in the semester prior to that in which they student teach. In addition to the piano, recorder, world music, and guitar proficiencies listed above, students must pass proficiencies on voice and selected woodwind, brass, string, and percussion instruments. For the piano proficiency, all undergraduate music education majors (non-piano principals) are required to successfully complete MUSC 133S or its equivalent (level two) as a minimum proficiency in piano. All music education students, including piano principals, must pass a proficiency examination in keyboard harmony and sight-reading.

To be eligible to student teach, students must pass the Praxis Series subject area test in music (Music: Content Knowledge [0113]) and meet the following GPA requirements

- An overall GPA of 2.75 in all courses taken at WVU and at any other institution (this includes courses taken at other institutions that are not accepted by WVU);
- A GPA of 2.75 in all music (content area) courses
- A GPA of 2.75 in professional education courses and music education methods courses with no D's or F's in these courses:

Certification

To be recommended for certification, students must take and pass one of the three following professional education tests prior to graduation: Principles of Learning and Teaching K–6 or Principles of Learning and Teaching 7–12.

Combined Performance/Music Education Curriculum

An optional program can be arranged for outstanding students who desire to meet the requirements of majors in both performance and music education. Admission to this rigorous program is by written consent of the coordinator of the appropriate performance area and the coordinator of music education after the student has completed two semesters. This curriculum satisfies the course requirements of the professional certificate for birth through adult. The numerous possible combinations of performance with music education cannot be listed separately here. When students become a candidate for this degree, their advisors designate the specific courses that must be taken to satisfy the requirements for both a bachelor's in performance and a bachelor's in music education. By attending summer sessions, if appropriate courses are available, it may be possible to complete the combined curriculum in four calendar years, although it usually takes longer.

SUGGESTED PLAN OF STUDY

First Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Ensemble		1 Ensemble	1
MUSC 121-127D Applied Music		2 MUSC 121-127D Applied Music	2
Select one of the following:		1 Select one of the following:	1
MUSC 130S		MUSC 130S	
MUSC 131S		MUSC 131S	
MUSC 132S		MUSC 132S	
MUSC 133S		MUSC 133S	
MUSC 138		2 MUSC 163	2
MUSC 161		2 MUSC 164	3
MUSC 162		3 MUSC 180	1
ENGL 101 (GEF 1)		3 Select one of the following	3
MUSC 191		2 MUSC 111	
GEF		3 MUSC 113	
		MUSC 114	
		MUSC 115	
		MUSC 116	
		MUSC 118	
		MUSC 151	
		MUSC 189	0
		Select one of the following:	2
		MUSC 280	
		MUSC 281	
		MUSC 284	
		GEF	3
	19		18

Second Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Ensemble		1 Ensemble	1
MUSC 221-227D Applied Music		2 MUSC 221-227D Applied Music	2
Select one of the following:		1 Select one of the following:	1

MUSC 130S	MUSC 130S	
MUSC 131S	MUSC 131S	
MUSC 132S	MUSC 132S	
MUSC 133S	MUSC 133S	
MUSC 189	0 MUSC 189	0
MUSC 200S	2 MUSC 201S	2
MUSC 261	2 MUSC 263	2
MUSC 262	3 MUSC 271 (GEF 6)	3
MUSC 270 (GEF 8)	3 Select one of the following:	2-3
Select one of the following:	2 MUSC 362	
MUSC 280	MUSC 364	
MUSC 281	MUSC 365	
MUSC 284	MUSC 461	
ENGL 102 (GEF 1)	3 MUSC 462	
	MUSC 463	
	MUSC 465S	
	MUSC 466	
	MUSC 468	
	MUSC 469	
	Select one of the following:	2
	MUSC 280	
	MUSC 281	
	MUSC 284	
	SPED 404 (GEF 4)	3

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Third Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Ensemble		1 Ensemble	1
MUSC 321-327D Applied Music		2 MUSC 321-327D Applied Music	2
MUSC 189		0 MUSC 189	0
Select one of the following:		2 Select one of the following:	2
MUSC 282		MUSC 282	
MUSC 283		MUSC 283	
Select one of the following:		3 Select one of the following:	3
MUSC 380		MUSC 380	
MUSC 381		MUSC 381	
MUSC 382		MUSC 382	
EDP 301		3 GEF	3
GEF 2		4 SPED 460	3

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Fourth Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Ensemble		1 MUSC 491	14
MUSC 421-427D Applied Music		2 MUSC 487	2
Select one of the following:		3	
MUSC 380			
MUSC 381			
MUSC 382			
GEF		3	
MUSC 484		4	
GEF		3	

Total credit hours: 138-139

Major Learning Outcomes

MUSIC EDUCATION

In addition to the common core of musicianship and general studies, the musician electing a career in school-based teaching will develop competencies in professional education and in specific areas of musicianship. Professional education components will be learned in a practical context, relating the learning of educational principles to the student's day-to-day work in music. Students are provided opportunities for various types of observation and teaching.

Within the curricular guidelines, attention is given to breadth in general studies, attitudes relating to human, personal considerations, and social, economic, and cultural components that give individual communities their identity.

Students who earn the Bachelor of Music in Music Education will develop musical abilities in:

- Conducting and Musical Leadership,
- Arranging,
- Functional Performance, and
- Analysis/History/Literature.

Students who earn the Bachelor of Music in Music Education will be able to

- teach beginning students on instruments and/or in voice as appropriate to the chosen areas of specialization,
- synthesize and apply content, methodologies, philosophies, materials, technologies, and curriculum development in order to develop instructional plans music education,
- perform as a soloist (vocal or instrumental)
- perform as a member of a variety of ensemble, both traditional band, orchestra, choir as well as chamber, world music, and non-traditional ensembles that vary both in size and nature,
- lead performance-based instruction in a variety of settings, and
- teach in a variety of specializations