

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 2026-2027

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		24
Music Education Program Requirements		28
Music Education Major Requirements		78
Total Hours		130

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		22
MUSC 191	First-Year Seminar	2
Total Hours		24

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 (GEF 8):		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 117	Hip Hop Nation: Musical and Conceptual Foundations of a Cultural Revolution	
MUSC 118	Music in Appalachia	
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 270	History of Western Musical Traditions 1 (GEF 6)	3

MUSC 271	History of Western Musical Traditions 2 (GEF 8)	3
Total Hours		28

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 180	Introduction to Music Education	1
MUSC 289	Classroom Instruments	1
MUSC 290	Music Teaching and Learning	2
MUSC 320	Technology in the Music Classroom	2
MUSC 282 & 282S	String Instrument Pedagogy and String Instrument Pedagogy	2
MUSC 283 & 283S	Percussion Instrument Pedagogy and Percussion Instrument Pedagogy	2
MUSC 284 & 284S	Vocal Pedagogy and Vocal Pedagogy Studio	3
Select one of the following sequences:		4-5
MUSC 280 & 280S	Woodwind Instrument Pedagogy and Woodwind Instrument Pedagogy	
MUSC 281 & 281S	Brass Instrument Pedagogy and Brass Instrument Pedagogy	
or		
MUSC 285 & MUSC 280S	Wind Pedagogy and Woodwind Instrument Pedagogy	
and		
MUSC 269A or MUSC 269B	Diction for Singers: English and Italian Diction for Singers: German and French	
MUSC 380 & 380S	Instrumental Methods and Technology Applications and Instrumental Methods and Technology Applications *	3
MUSC 381 & 381S	Choral Music Methods and Technology Applications and Choral Music Methods and Technology Applications *	3
MUSC 382 & 382S	General Music Methods and Technology Applications and 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	10
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
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:		4
MUSC 300	Band: Wind Symphony	
MUSC 300A	Band: Symphonic	

MUSC 303	Symphony 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 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	78

*

Prior to enrolling in MUSC 380, MUSC 381, and MUSC 382, students must be accepted into Candidacy by (a) satisfying the Pre-Professional Skills Requirement set by WVDE, (b) completing the candidacy application and interview, (c) passing MUSC 132 or its equivalent, (d) satisfying secondary instrument proficiency requirements, (e) passing MUSC 201S and 289 (with a C or better), and (f) meeting 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.

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 Proficiency Requirements

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

- MUSC 380 381, 382 Passing all proficiencies associated with MUSC 280, MUSC 281, and either MUSC 284 or MUSC 285.

Residency

Students must pass all secondary instrument proficiency examinations no later than the end of the semester prior to that in which they student teach.

Students must pass the Praxis Series subject area test in music (Music: Content Knowledge [0113]) prior to applying for Residency I (MUSC 484) 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 complete and pass the Educative Teacher Performance Assessment (edTPA) during Residency II.

Combined Performance/Music Education Curriculum

An option to double-major in music education and music performance or music composition can be arranged for outstanding students who desire to meet the requirements of majors in both areas. Admission to this rigorous program is by written consent of the coordinator of the appropriate 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 and composition with music education cannot be listed separately here. Advisors in cooperation with the student will determine when to take coursework. Students in this program typically add one or two semesters to their college experience.

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 161		2 MUSC 163	2
MUSC 162		3 MUSC 164	3
ENGL 101 (GEF 1)		3 MUSC 180	1
MUSC 191		2 Select one of the following (GEF 8):	3
MUSC 284 & 284S		3 MUSC 111	
		MUSC 113	
		MUSC 114	
		MUSC 115	
		MUSC 116	
		MUSC 117	
		MUSC 118	
		MUSC 189	0
		Select one of the following:	2
		MUSC 280 & 280S	
		MUSC 281 & 281S	
		SPED 404 (GEF 4)	3
		17	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 MUSC 189	0
MUSC 130S		MUSC 201S	2
MUSC 131S		MUSC 270 (GEF 6)	3
MUSC 132S		Select one of the following:	2
MUSC 189		0 MUSC 283 & 283S	
MUSC 200S		2 MUSC 282 & 282S	
MUSC 261		2 EDP 301	3
MUSC 262		3 MUSC 289	1
Select one of the following:		2	

MUSC 280 & 280S			
MUSC 281 & 281S			
ENGL 102 (GEF 1)	3		
MUSC 290	2		
	18		14

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:	3
MUSC 282 & 282S		MUSC 380 & 380S	
MUSC 283 & 283S		MUSC 381 & 381S	
Select one of the following:	3	MUSC 382 & 382S	
MUSC 380 & 380S		GEF 2	4
MUSC 381 & 381S		GEF 8	3
MUSC 382 & 382S		GEF 5	3
GEF 7		3 MUSC 320	2
RDNG 422	3		
MUSC 271 (GEF 8)	3		
	17		18

Fourth Year

Fall	Hours	Spring	Hours
Ensemble		1 MUSC 491	10
MUSC 421-427D Applied Music		2 MUSC 487	2
Select one of the following:		3	
MUSC 380 & 380S			
MUSC 381 & 381S			
MUSC 382 & 382S			
MUSC 484	4		
GEF 3	3		
SPED 460	3		
	16		12

Total credit hours: 130

Major Learning Outcomes

MUSIC EDUCATION

Students will:

- Demonstrate general musicianship (audiation and creativity) including:
 - Adaptability to various classroom instruments
 - Performance knowledge of a wide variety of musical genres and cultures
 - Adaptability to new/unfamiliar forms of music
 - Creativity: Experience in composing, arranging/mixing, and improvising in a variety of mediums
- Demonstrate independent and collaborative refined/advanced musicianship (in-depth study on a specific instrument regardless of genre of music)
- Possess a thorough understanding of child development (Pre-K-12) and musical learning and how they interact in the music education of early childhood, young children, adolescents, and teenagers.
- Develop pedagogical skills related to lesson planning, delivery, classroom management, and assessment in a variety of music teaching and learning contexts
- Understand, adapt to, and use music/pedagogical technology in teaching and learning
- Articulate values and beliefs regarding the musical education of K-12 children and actuate them through curricular planning.
- Be a reflective practitioner to guide student musical learning
 - Reflect on one's own teaching practice
 - Reflect on student achievement
- Adapt to changing landscape of public/private education