

# Application Procedures for the Master of Music in Music Education with Licensure at Colorado State University

**\*Note:** These application procedures are for the graduate degree program, which is separate from the undergraduate Licensure program. Graduate degree students must be accepted by the Graduate School at CSU. Once accepted, prerequisite coursework is taken in order to apply to the Teacher Licensure program within the School of Education at Colorado State University. In addition to Licensure coursework, students are also expected to complete thirty credits of Graduate-level coursework.

## **Program Description:**

This program is designed for students who hold a Bachelor of Arts in Music or a Bachelor of Music degree and who would like to earn Teaching Licensure in K-12 Music while studying music education at the graduate level. To be considered for admission, applicants must:

- hold an undergraduate music degree
- perform an Audition on their principal instrument

The degree can be completed in as few as three years if coursework is taken in the summer. However many students complete the degree in four years given the number of courses required for Licensure and the fact that one semester is devoted to full-time Student Teaching. The program ultimately leads to **Colorado Teacher Licensure in K-12 Music**. Students in this degree program are expected to be in residency year-round in Fort Collins, taking coursework on a full-time or part-time basis year-round.

Students take content coursework jointly within the School for Teacher Education and Principal Preparation (**STAPP**) within CSU's School of Education, and within the School of Music. Information about the STAPP program can be found at: <http://www.stapp.cahs.colostate.edu/> Students are asked to choose one of two tracks: **Elementary/Vocal**, or **Elementary/Instrumental** since they will have a split placement during the Student Teaching semester. To prepare for directing a secondary music ensemble, students are required to participate in a **University music ensemble** for a minimum of two semesters. All Licensure students, including Master's with Licensure students, participate in an **Upper-Division Review** conducted in the second year by the Music Education Faculty. All Licensure students are also required to demonstrate **Piano Proficiency** before being cleared to student teach. Thirty credits are required for the graduate portion of the degree. Each student's degree plan varies slightly according to the student's undergraduate background. Therefore, a unique plan is customized plan by the Academic Advisor for each student.

A limited number of **Graduate Teaching Assistantships** are available for students in this program. To be considered, students should hold a 3.6 GPA, be willing to dedicate ten hours/week to departmental responsibilities without other employment that will conflict with the position, and be a professional asset to the Music Education department; someone who is able to follow tasks through to completion. Graduate Teaching Assistantships are annual positions (August –May) which may be renewed for one year based on the individual's work and the compensation subsidizes half of the graduate tuition.

## **The Admissions Process:**

The Graduate School and Music Department base admission on the following criteria:

- Complete online Graduate School application and any additional background materials required by the M.M. in Music Education with Licensure program (*see section below*)
- A Bachelor's degree in Music or its equivalent, with a minimum average of **3.0** (A = 4.0). If your average is below 3.0, you may be considered for conditional admission if sufficient evidence indicates that you can perform well in a graduate program. Students with an undergraduate GPA of less than 3.0 seeking admission to any graduate degree program are required to submit additional information.
- A current resumé
- A Statement of Purpose and Career Goals for graduate study at Colorado State University
- A writing sample
- Three letters of recommendation
- A live on-campus Audition on your principal instrument and Personal Interview with the Music Education Faculty
- If you are a non-native speaker of English, a TOEFL score of 550 (paper based); 80 (internet based) or an IELTS score of 6.0 required for admission to any music program.

Note: Scores from the general exam of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) are not required for students seeking admission to this Music program.

Applicants are encouraged to review the Graduate School's Admissions Requirements and Procedures available at: <http://graduateschool.colostate.edu/prospective-students/>

## **Application Deadlines and Procedures:**

General deadlines for the receipt of complete applications are as follows:

Fall Semester	<b>March 1</b>
Spring Semester	<b>October 1</b>
Summer Term	<b>February 1</b>

### **STEP 1:**

To apply to the Graduate School, submit the online Graduate School application and all supporting documents (listed above) by the appropriate date. Applications completed later than these published deadlines may be considered depending on space and resources available. Late applications that cannot be considered will be updated by the Office of Admissions to a later semester.

Application to the M.M. in any music program is contingent upon admission to the Colorado State University Graduate School.

### **STEP 2:**

Next you must apply to the degree program. Please submit the following materials by the indicated deadline directly to: **Mr. Murray Oliver, Director of Graduate Studies, Colorado State University, Campus Delivery 1778, Fort Collins, CO 80523-1778.**

1. Official, sealed transcripts from each undergraduate college you have attended
2. Three letters of recommendation
3. A 5-10 page sample of your writing (could be a Philosophy of Music Teaching Statement or a paper you wrote during your undergraduate coursework)
4. A Statement of Purpose and Career Goals (1-2 pages in length)
5. A 30-40 minute Teaching DVD (this should be a videorecording of you teaching a class or lesson to students of any age). Please include a typed lesson or rehearsal plan and a description of the Grade Level or Ensemble being taught.

### **STEP 3:**

Contact the School of Music to schedule a live audition on your principal instrument. **AUDITIONS ARE HELD ON-CAMPUS AT THE SCHOOL OF MUSIC IN FEBRUARY AND EARLY MARCH.** Audition dates can be found on the School of Music webpage. Your audition must be heard by the Applied Faculty member in your instrument area. All applicants are asked to come to campus to perform a live audition during the scheduled Audition Dates. Only in exceptional cases may Applied Faculty hear a student audition that is not performed live. Special arrangements will need to be made for Spring applicants since your Audition will need to take place during the Fall semester.

For the audition, applicants should prepare two contrasting solo works on their principal instrument. Repertoire should represent the standard repertoire for the instrument and a level of playing that would be heard at an Undergraduate Senior Recital. *Audio recordings will not be accepted.*

Directly following the on-campus Audition, applicants are asked to **meet with the Music Education Faculty for a brief personal interview.** Like the Audition, this interview is an important part of the application process. At the conclusion of the interview, applicants will take a **Piano Diagnostic Exam.** This Exam is not used as part of the admissions criteria, however it helps the Faculty to determine whether piano coursework will be needed throughout the degree, and if so, how much.