

# MUSIC: JAZZ PERFORMANCE, DMA

for the degree of Doctor of Musical Arts in Music, Jazz Performance Concentration

## Admission

For all degree programs, consult the admission requirements stated on the School of Music's website: <https://music.illinois.edu/prospective-students> (<https://music.illinois.edu/prospective-students/>).

Requirements for admission to the **Master of Music (MM)** programs are a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign or an equivalent degree from another accredited institution. Students holding other degrees may be admitted but will be expected to make up for any deficiencies and fulfill all requirements for the graduate degree.

Applicants to choral music, instrumental conducting (wind band or orchestra), jazz performance, piano pedagogy, performance and literature, and vocal accompanying and coaching must pass a qualifying audition for their major area or submit satisfactory recordings. Applicants in musicology and composition must present writings or other evidence of their ability to pursue work at the graduate level. The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is not required.

The School of Music requires all-new MM students to complete entrance examinations in music theory and musicianship (excluding Musicology). These exams take place the week before the fall term begins. See the School of Music's Graduate Resources (<https://music.illinois.edu/graduate-academic-affairs/>) page for more information.

A prerequisite for admission to the **Artist Diploma** is a bachelor's degree.

**Applicants to the MM and the Artist Diploma (AD)** whose native language is not English must present an iBT score of 79 for admission to the Artist Diploma (AD), 90 for the Master of Music (MM), excluding Musicology; MM in Musicology requires an iBT score of 96. A TOEFL iBT of 103 or higher is required for Full Status Admission to the University of Illinois Graduate College and School of Music. For the complete English proficiency requirements, please see <https://music.illinois.edu/english-proficiency-requirement/> (<https://music.illinois.edu/english-proficiency-requirement/>). Fall admission only; other terms of entry by departmental petition approval only.

Requirements for admission to the **Master of Music in Education (MME)** are:

1. Undergraduate degree in music education from an accredited institution;
2. An overall grade average for the last 60 credit hours of undergraduate work of at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale). The grade average for Music Education and Education courses, when averaged separately, must also be at least 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale);
3. Recommendations from three individuals who can discuss the applicant's musicianship, ability to undertake graduate-level study, and teaching ability/potential.

4. The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is not required for application to the MME, nor do MME students take placement tests in music theory or music history.

For MME applicants with public school experience:

1. recommendation from a principal or supervisor who speaks primarily to the quality of the applicants teaching experience;
2. recommendation from an individual who speaks primarily to the quality of the applicant's musicianship;
3. recommendation from an individual who speaks primarily to the applicant's potential for completion of graduate-level study;
4. applicants who wish to be considered for a Teaching Assistantship should ensure that at least one of their references provides specific comments on their potential to engage in university-level teaching duties associated with such an appointment.

For MME applicants without public school experience:

1. recommendation from a music education professor;
2. recommendation from an applied or ensemble music professor;
3. recommendation from an individual who can speak to the applicant's potential for completion of graduate study.

Applicants seeking admission to the MME + Licensure program should review the online requirements at: <https://music.illinois.edu/prospective-students> (<https://music.illinois.edu/prospective-students/>).

**Applicants to the MME** whose native language is not English must present an iBT score of 96 for the Master of Music Education (MME). A TOEFL iBT of 103 or higher is required for Full Status Admission to the University of Illinois Graduate College and School of Music. For the complete English proficiency requirements, please see <https://music.illinois.edu/english-proficiency-requirement/> (<https://music.illinois.edu/english-proficiency-requirement/>).

The School of Music offers an academic year program and a Summers-only MME. For academic year applications, the School of Music offers Fall admission only; spring term of entry by departmental petition approval only.

Requirements for admission to the **Doctor of Musical Arts** and the **Doctor of Philosophy** in Musicology programs are the Master of Music degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign or an equivalent degree from another accredited institution.

Applicants to the **Doctor of Musical Arts** programs must have:

1. a high level of proficiency in composition, conducting, or performance - candidates in composition must submit original scores for review, and candidates in performance and literature must pass a qualifying audition or submit satisfactory recordings; and
2. appropriate experience in ensemble performance and/or score reading. Candidates in voice and vocal accompanying and coaching must have fulfilled all foreign language requirements considered prerequisites for the Master of Music degree, including one year of college-level study in Italian, French, and German.

The School of Music requires all new **DMA** students to complete entrance examinations in music theory, musicianship, and score reading. These exams take place the week before the fall term begins. See the School of Music's Graduate Resources (<https://music.illinois.edu/resources/>) page for more information.

**Applicants to the DMA or PhD** whose native language is not English must submit an iBT score of 96. A TOEFL iBT of 103 or higher is required for Full Status Admission to the University of Illinois Graduate College and School of Music. For the complete English proficiency requirements, please see <https://music.illinois.edu/english-proficiency-requirement> (<https://music.illinois.edu/english-proficiency-requirement/>).

For information about admission to the MME and PhD in Music Education, please visit [www.music.illinois.edu](http://www.music.illinois.edu) (<https://music.illinois.edu/>).

### Language Requirements

For the Master of Music program, applicants in voice and vocal accompanying and coaching must have had at least one year each of college-level French, German, and Italian or the equivalent. Applicants in other applied music areas, composition, conducting, and musicology must have had one year of any language at the college level or the equivalent.

All Doctor of Musical Arts candidates must demonstrate proficiency in at least one language other than English. Each area may specify which language is required or may require proficiency in more than one language. Please review the current Graduate Music Handbook (<https://music.illinois.edu/graduate-handbooks/>) for more details.

Proficiency is required in two languages, depending on the proposed field of specialization, for candidates in the Doctor of Philosophy in Musicology program. This may be demonstrated through two years of undergraduate study in each language.

For all Graduate Degrees:

Students who do not meet the language requirement at the time of entrance may be satisfied by evidence of two years of undergraduate study or the equivalent, or by completion of a two-semester or satisfactory test scores. For up-to-date information regarding the language requirements of the School of Music, please see the Graduate Music Handbook (<https://music.illinois.edu/graduate-handbooks/>).

### Graduate Teaching Experience

Although teaching is not a general Graduate College requirement, experience in teaching is considered an essential part of the graduate experience.

### Financial Aid

Fellowships, teaching, graduate, and research assistantships are awarded on a one-year basis, with continuation dependent upon success in the program. Specific information on application procedures is available from the Music Admissions Office, (217) 244-7899; [musicadmissions@illinois.edu](mailto:musicadmissions@illinois.edu).

*for the degree of Doctor of Musical Arts in Music, Jazz Performance Concentration*

For additional details and requirements refer to the department's Graduate Handbook <https://music.illinois.edu/graduate-handbooks> (<https://music.illinois.edu/graduate-handbooks/>) and the Graduate College Handbook (<http://www.grad.illinois.edu/gradhandbook/>).

Code	Title	Hours
500 level major applied music		12-16
Jazz Core Curriculum		10-12
MUS 499	Proseminar in Music (multiple sections)	
MUS 435	Jazz Aural Skills I	
MUS 436	Jazz Aural Skills II	
MUS 462	Jazz Listening Seminar I	
MUS 463	Jazz Listening Seminar II	
MUS 464	Jazz History I	
MUS 465	Jazz History II	
MUS 504 & MUS 508	Grad. Jazz Improv. I and Grad. Jazz Improv. II	
MUS 548	Advanced Jazz Harmony I	
MUS 549	Advanced Jazz Harmony II	
MUS 574	Jazz Arranging III	
MUS 575	Jazz Arranging IV	
Ensembles (MUSC)		
Advanced Music Theory - Select one from the following options:		3
MUS 408	Analysis of Musical Form (D-E) or MUS 400 Counterpoint and Fugue	
Cognate field or minor area		8-16
Electives selected in consultation with the student's advisor:		7
Ensembles		0-4
<b>Language Requirements:</b>		
Courses taken to meet language requirements do not count toward the degree. See the departmental handbook for details.		
Thesis Hours or Doctoral Project Hours Required – MUS 576/MUS 599 (min/max applied toward degree):		16
Graduate Recital		
Code	Title	Hours
Concentration-specific requirements as listed above		
MUS 528	Res & Bibliography in Music (sections A1-A3)	2
MUS 528	Res & Bibliography in Music (sections B1-B2)	2
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>64</b>

### Other Requirements

Requirement	Description
Other requirements may overlap	
Concentration	Yes
Minimum 500-level Hours Required	12
Overall:	
Masters Degree Required for Admission to DMA?	Yes
Qualifying Exam Required:	Yes
Preliminary Exam Required:	Yes
Minimum GPA:	3.0

*for the degree of Doctor of Musical Arts in Music, Jazz Performance Concentration*

Students in the Doctor of Musical Arts program, with a concentration in Jazz Performance, will:

1. Develop performance skills in their major area at the highest professional level, using critical thinking and analysis to inform stylistic choices and individual artistic expression while demonstrating spontaneity and collaboration with others, and will communicate their creativity to diverse audiences.
  2. Develop a secondary area of expertise to demonstrate discipline-related breadth at an advanced level, and/or the acquisition of new professional skills.
  3. Demonstrate an ability to summarize, synthesize and critique disciplinary content (including pedagogical material) in relation to their major and secondary (cognate) areas of study.
  4. Demonstrate effective analytical and interpretative skills in music theory and musicology, as well as an ability to communicate an advanced understanding and evaluation of musical knowledge and ideas in written and/or oral form.
  5. Pursue specialized studies, to demonstrate expertise and an ability to synthesize knowledge in areas of interest that enhance their required curriculum and/or professional goals.
  6. Utilize and apply appropriate research methods to explore a focused research topic and to contribute original perspectives to discipline-related knowledge, communicating their research findings clearly and professionally in written, oral, and performative forms.
  7. In addition, many Illinois DMA students will develop experience and expertise in instruction, pedagogy, and student assessment in at least one area of musical study, gaining insights into studio and/or classroom teaching and appropriate methods of evaluation.
- Jazz Performance (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/jazz-performance/>)
  - Music Composition (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/music-composition/>)
  - Music Theory (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/music-theory/>)
  - Musicology (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/musicology/>)
  - Performance & Literature (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/performance-literature/>)
  - Piano Pedagogy (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/piano-pedagogy/>)
  - Vocal Coaching & Accompanying (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/vocal-coaching-accompanying/>)
  - Music Education, MME (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-education-mme/>)
  - Music Education, PhD (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-education-phd/>)
  - Musicology, PhD (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/musicology-phd/>)
    - Medieval Studies (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/las/concentration/medieval-studies/>)

*for the degree of Doctor of Musical Arts in Music, Jazz Performance Concentration*

#### Graduate Degree Programs in Music

- Artist Diploma in Music (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/artist-diploma-music/>)
- Music and Sound Studies Minor (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/minor/music-sound-studies/>)
- Music, DMA (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-dma/>)
  - Choral Music (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-dma/choral-music/>)
  - Instrumental Conducting - Orchestra (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-dma/instrumental-conducting-orchestra/>)
  - Instrumental Conducting – Wind Band (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-dma/instrumental-conducting-wind-band/>)
  - Jazz Performance (p. 1)
  - Music Composition (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-dma/music-composition/>)
  - Performance & Literature (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-dma/performance-literature/>)
  - Vocal Coaching & Accompanying (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-dma/vocal-coaching-accompanying/>)
- Music, MMUS (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/>)
  - Choral Music (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/choral-music/>)
  - Instrumental Conducting - Band (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/instrumental-conducting-band/>)
  - Instrumental Conducting - Orchestra (<http://catalog.illinois.edu/graduate/faa/music-mmus/instrumental-conducting-orchestra/>)

---

#### School of Music

Director of School: Dr. Jeffrey Sposato  
 Associate Director of Graduate Studies: Dr. Reynold Tharp  
 Program Contact: Jenny Phillips  
 School of Music Website (<https://music.illinois.edu>)  
 School of Music Faculty (<https://giesbusiness.illinois.edu/faculty-research/faculty-profiles/>)  
 2040 Music Building, 1114 West Nevada Street, Urbana, IL 61801  
 (217) 333-3459

#### College of Fine & Applied Arts

FAA College Website (<https://faa.illinois.edu/>)

#### Admissions

Overview of School of Music Admissions & Requirements (<https://music.illinois.edu/graduate-admissions/>)  
[musicadmissions@illinois.edu](mailto:musicadmissions@illinois.edu)  
 (217) 244-7899  
 Graduate College Admissions (<https://grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/>)