POLICIES & REQUIREMENTS

Honors at Graduation

Students achieving a cumulative GPA of 3.70–3.79 graduate with honors, 3.80–3.89 with high honors and 3.90–4.00 with highest honors. These students are recognized at commencement.

Scholarships and Awards

A number of scholarships and awards are designed specifically for students in the College of Music. Undergraduate music majors are eligible for scholarships or renewal of their scholarships as long as they make satisfactory degree progress by:

1. demonstrating adequate performance in weekly applied lessons, ensemble and scholarship auditions, applied proficiencies/juries, and recitals/previews,
2. maintaining at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average in those classes that count toward the music degree and
3. successfully completing at least two-thirds of the credit hours attempted while a music major at CU-Boulder.

Graduate students must enroll as full-time students, maintaining a 3.00 GPA, and make adequate progress toward their degrees. The college offers approximately 100 graduate assistantships as well as graduate fellowships and a variety of endowed scholarships for graduate students.

Academic Ethics

Students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of honesty and integrity. Cheating, plagiarism, illegitimate possession and disposition of examinations, alteration, forgery, or falsification of official records and similar acts or the attempt to engage in such acts are grounds for suspension or expulsion from the university.

In particular, students are advised that plagiarism consists of any act involving the offering of the work of someone else as their own. It is recommended that students consult with their instructors as to the proper preparation of reports, papers, etc., in order to avoid this and similar offenses. Students are expected to be acquainted with and abide by provisions of the University of Colorado Boulder Honor Code.

Scholastic Requirements

To remain in good academic standing, a student must maintain at least a 2.00 cumulative grade point average (GPA) and make satisfactory progress toward the degree as defined by the College of Music and area faculty.

Academic probation is an official warning that a student’s grades are unsatisfactory. Any undergraduate student who has a cumulative or semester grade point average below 2.00 is automatically placed on probation for the following three semesters. (Cumulative grade point average is calculated on grades earned at this university.) If a probationary student’s grade point averages (semester and cumulative) at the end of any probationary semester and the cumulative probationary period are not 2.00 or above, automatic suspension results. Any undergraduate student who has a cumulative or semester grade point average below 1.00 also is automatically suspended without a probationary period.

While on suspension, students may not register for regular day classes during the fall or spring semester on any CU campus and are not considered eligible for graduation. To regain good academic standing, suspended students must earn a semester GPA of 2.00 or higher and raise their cumulative GPA to 2.00 or above during the following term by successfully completing at least 12 credit hours (with no withdrawals, no incomplete grades, and no courses taken pass/fail) through the Division of Continuing Education and Professional Studies or summer session.

Courses taken at other campuses or institutions will not be used for purposes of reinstatement, but credits earned may be transferred according to normal procedures and policies after reinstatement and readmission. Suspended students who raise their cumulative GPA to 2.00 or above may then petition for readmission and receive a personal hearing before the associate dean. Suspended students who do not raise their cumulative GPA to 2.00 or above are dismissed from the college and university. Students who have been dismissed must reapply for admission to the university after being reinstated by the college.

Undergraduate music majors are eligible for scholarships or renewal of their scholarships as long as they make satisfactory progress in their major (as determined by the faculty), demonstrate satisfactory proficiency in jury exams and auditions, enroll in ensemble and maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00. Students who have a cumulative GPA below 3.00 will be placed on scholarship probation for a maximum of two semesters (consecutive or cumulative), provided the GPA improves each semester. Students on scholarship probation who do not earn a cumulative GPA of 3.00 or higher by the end of the probationary period will have their scholarships revoked.

Appeals

Students have the right to appeal decisions of academic dishonesty and to petition for exceptions to the academic policies stated in this catalog. Appeals should be directed to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies. College of Music policies are in addition to the campus policies.

Admission Requirements

Admission requirements for specific degree programs that supplement the Graduate School requirements are discussed in the degree program descriptions that follow. Students are urged to take the general (verbal, quantitative, analytical) portions of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). GRE scores are required as part of the application to the PhD programs and MM in music theory, and they are recommended for the DMA programs and Master of Music Education degree.

Preliminary Examinations

Just before the beginning of their first semester of work toward a master’s or doctoral degree, students are given preliminary exams covering the major field, several areas of music theory and music history. Specific requirements vary with the student’s degree and program. Students pursuing the master’s and doctoral degrees in voice also must pass proficiency requirements in piano and diction (English, French, German and Italian).

Results from the major-field examination serve as one basis for recommending specific course work in the program. The major-field examination in musicology includes essay questions, score analysis and identification of terms. Conducting majors should be knowledgeable in areas of repertoire, score analysis and conducting techniques. Performance majors are examined in the areas of technique, repertoire, stylistically informed performance and pedagogy. Students enrolled in the
master’s degree in Jazz Performance and Pedagogy must demonstrate knowledge of jazz theory and history and jazz keyboard proficiency.

**College Teaching and Professional Development**

Most graduate degrees in music require coursework in music pedagogy. Students who plan to teach at the college level are urged to be involved in the many offerings of CU Boulder’s renowned Graduate Teacher Program. Workshops, observations, consultations, and other professional development opportunities are scheduled throughout the academic year. These include campus-level offerings as posted at the Graduate Teacher Program (http://www.colorado.edu/gtp) website, as well as music-specific events organized by the Lead TAs in the College of Music. The GTP offers three certificates that graduate students may pursue during their studies at CU Boulder: the Certificate in College Teaching (CCT), Professional Development Certificate for Preparing Future Faculty (PDC:PFF) (http://www.colorado.edu/gtp/certificates/professional-development-certificate-preparing-future-faculty), and Professional Development Certificate for Preparing Future Professionals in Business, Government, Industry and the Arts (PDC:BGIA). For details, see Graduate Teacher Program Certificates (http://www.colorado.edu/gtp/certificates).

**Financial Aid**

In addition to the opportunities for financial aid described in the Graduate School section, the College of Music grants merit aid in the form of teaching assistantships and graduate part-time instructorships (GPTI) to numerous graduate students each year. The assistantships and instructorships, which are usually one-quarter time (25 percent), include both a stipend and the waiver of 5 or 6 credit hours of tuition each semester. There are also scholarships offered by the individual departments and external fellowships awarded through the Graduate School. All prospective students who have completed their applications by December 1 will automatically be considered for available scholarships and assistantships.

**English Language Requirements**

A student who is noticeably deficient in the use of the English language may not obtain an advanced degree from the University of Colorado. Satisfaction of this requirement depends not so much upon ability to pass formal tests, although these may be required, as upon the consistent use of good English in all oral and written work.

Therefore, the TOEFL exam is required of ALL international graduate applicants whose native language is not English. *This includes applicants who have already completed a degree or studied in an English-speaking country for any length of time.* An acceptable score must be reported directly to the CU Boulder Office of Admissions by the December 1 deadline in order for the applicant to be considered.

The College of Music has an additional requirement that all admitted students whose language is not English are required to take an English placement exam with the English as a Second Language (ESL) department upon arrival on campus and to abide by the recommendations made.

**Graduate Auditions**

Auditions are required for all performance and performance/pedagogy programs. A personal audition is strongly preferred, but students may be accepted into most programs by submitting a recorded audition. Note that some studios require a preliminary, recorded audition before a student may be invited to schedule an audition on campus. For specific information and audition dates, refer to the Prospective Graduate Students Auditions (http://www.colorado.edu/music/admissions/prospective-graduate-students/auditions) website or contact the office of the associate dean for graduate studies at 303-492-2207 or gradmusc@colorado.edu.