

All music majors must pass a piano proficiency exam in order to graduate. It is normally given at the end of the second year, but can be re-taken as needed. The requirements are given below.

PIANO PROFICIENCY EXAM

Music Education Vocal

1. Transpose a given melody into a given key. Thirty minutes preparation, together with items 2 and 3.
2. Harmonize a given melody, using I, IV, V, and one other chord (ii, iii, vi, or V/V). Block chord accompaniment. Thirty minutes preparation, together with items 1 and 3.
3. Harmonize a given melody with given chord names or numbers, including seventh chords, inversions, and applied dominants, with an appropriate accompaniment pattern. Thirty minute preparation, together with items 1 and 2.
4. Play a simple folk song or children's song (Amazing Grace, London Bridge, etc.) by ear, melody only. No preparation.
5. Play an accompaniment, with teacher playing the solo part on another keyboard. Long-term preparation.
6. Play two parts of a four-part open choral score. Long-term preparation.
7. Play Happy Birthday in F and Star-Spangled Banner in Bb, with block chords. Long-term preparation.
8. Play a vocal warm-up: five-note scale ascending and descending in the RH, and I, V, I chords in the LH, all keys. Long-term preparation.
9. Sight-read a piano piece, on the level of Alfred Masterworks Level 1-2.

Music Education Instrumental

Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, and 9 above.

10. Play two parts of an easy band score or string quartet score, including any necessary transpositions. Long-term preparation.

BM Vocal

Items 5, 6, 8, and 9 above.

BM Instrumental

Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 9 above.

10. Answer questions about instrument transpositions (such as, "What sort of transposing instrument is the French horn? How far up or down do you transpose French horn music when

playing it on the piano?”)

Music Minor

1. No items.