



*Educator Preparation Program Guide for Students*  
**MUSIC EDUCATION**  
*University of Massachusetts Amherst*

### **Brief Program Description**

Administered through the Department of Music and Dance, the Music Education curricula prepare students to teach music at elementary and secondary levels leading to initial licensure for PreK-12 in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. For the complete list of course work, see the students handbook at:

[www.umass.edu/music/degrees/undergraduate.html](http://www.umass.edu/music/degrees/undergraduate.html)

### **Admission as a Music Major**

Students must complete an audition and the university admissions application by the appropriate deadlines. Students are accepted as music majors based on the quality of their audition and high school academic record.

### **Getting Started**

After students have been admitted to the university as music majors and have completed two semesters of university study, they may apply for admission to the music education curriculum. As part of the admissions process, students must submit verification of a passing score on the Communication and Literacy portion of the Massachusetts Test for Educator Licensure (MTEL).

### **Transfer Students**

All transfer students accepted as music majors must take exams in music theory and aural skills before registering for classes for their first semester of study in the department. Students do not automatically receive credit towards their degree programs for theory and aural skills courses taken at other institutions.

### **Financial Aid**

Merit-based tuition scholarships called Chancellor's Talent Awards are available as well as financial aid based on need such as scholarships, grants, loans, and the federal work-study program.

### **Program of Study**

The Department of Music offers programs leading to the Bachelor of Music Degree (B.M.) in Music Education. Degree work includes major courses in music history, theory and performance, professional courses that prepare students to teach music, and general education courses.

### **Academic Advising**

Generally, a student's academic advisor is the applied music teacher. Music education students also receive advising assistance from the coordinator of the music

education program to assure that all curricular prerequisites are being met.

### **Special Notes about this Program**

The Music Education Program at the University of Massachusetts is fully accredited by the Massachusetts State Department of Education, the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM), the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), and the New England Association of Universities and Colleges.

### **For more information, please contact:**

#### **Director of Admissions**

Department of Music and Dance  
Fine Arts Center  
151 President's Drive  
OFC1  
University of Massachusetts  
Amherst, MA 01003-2520  
Telephone: (413) 545-6048  
Website: [www.umass.edu/music-dance](http://www.umass.edu/music-dance).

## LICENSURE INFORMATION AND STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

**Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure (MTEL):** The MTEL is required for licensure by the Department of Education of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The test has two parts: the Communication and Literacy Skills (C&LS) test and the Subject area test(s). The University's policy is that:

- Undergraduates must achieve a passing score on the C&LS test as a pre-requisite for admission.
- Post-baccalaureate and graduate students must achieve a passing score on the C&LS test in their first semester of study.
- All students must pass the Subject test(s) (if one has been developed for that licensure field) before enrolling in the practicum.

**Licensure Application Process:** The Educator Licensure Office (ELO) in the School of Education coordinates the licensure application process for all University Educator Preparation program students who have completed all licensing requirements. The ELO provides information to guide students in using the Electronic Licensure and Recruitment system (ELAR), a system in which students apply for educator licenses online. The ELAR system requires a student to apply for his/her license online (including the payment of license fees) and send an official copy of his/her transcript to the ELO in Room 130 Furcolo Hall (being sure that the transcript includes the "Institutional Recommendation for Teacher Licensure"). After individuals have applied online, the ELO endorses/recommends candidates for licensure via ELAR. The University Licensure Officer also assists students in completing applications for licensure in other states, as necessary.

**Career and Job Search Assistance:** The School of Education, in collaboration with Career Services, sponsors a Job Fair for prospective educators. The Job Fair draws school districts from Massachusetts, Connecticut, Vermont and New Hampshire. In addition, Career Services provides information and registration for the Massachusetts Educational Recruiting Consortium (MERC), a recruitment fair attended by school districts from across the nation.

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