

Music Department Audition Requirements: Guitar

In-person Auditions:

Once Algoma University receives applications, a Music Department representative will contact applicants to arrange an audition/interview. Audition requirements include:

Pieces

Two contrasting selections demonstrating the full extent of the candidate's musical and technical ability. If desired, one of the two selections can be a study. Minimum level: intermediate (grades 4 to 7). ***Please note:** For candidates studying at a level below grades 4, an audition is still recommended and encouraged, as often, the Algoma University Music Department has been in the position to recommend admission to the program based on artistry, commitment and potential, regardless of level. In addition, though students may not have received training that is steeped in the classical tradition, all musical genres are most welcome in auditions, as Algoma Music Faculty can easily establish level regardless of genre performed.

Technique - the candidate should demonstrate fluency and technical facility in performance of:

- Diatonic scales, one major and one minor (harmonic and melodic form) keys of candidate's choice), played two octaves in eighth or triplet eighth notes at metronome speed quarter note = 69, using right-hand im or mi, ma or am fingering, and ending with an authentic (V – I) cadence.
- One major and one minor arpeggio (keys of candidate's choice), played in eighth note triplets at metronome speed quarter note = 90
- Tremolando scales for one major and one minor key (harmonic and melodic form), keys chosen by candidate, played two octaves in sixteenth notes at metronome speed quarter note = 60, using right hand im or mi, ma or ma fingering, ending with an authentic (V – I) cadence.

Sight Reading

Performance of a simple piece, six to eight measures long, 4/4 time, in the key of C, F, D or A major. Approximately difficulty: grade 2 (RCM). Rhythmic continuity will be expected in addition to observance of details such as accidentals, tempo markings and changes, musical elements such as dynamics, articulations and phrase markings. Each candidate will be given a few minutes to peruse sight reading examples in advance of playing.

Interview

Faculty will inquire regarding the candidate's musical experiences and goals. Candidates are encouraged to ask questions regarding Algoma's programs, financial aid packages, course offerings, faculty credentials, transfer options, campus structure and life, student accomplishments, residences and other living options in the beautiful city of Sault Ste. Marie. Here is a list of sample questions faculty members may ask a candidate:

- How long have you played your instrument (total years, not including breaks)?
- For how many of those years were you enrolled in private lessons?
- Do you play other instruments?
- With which ensembles (if any) have you been involved?
- How and where did you acquire your background in music theory (if any)?
- What are your musical interests and goals?
- Have you taken any practical or theory examinations through organizations such as Conservatory Canada, the Western Conservatory, ABSRM or the Royal Conservatory of Music?
- What were the results of those examinations?

Scores and Video Auditions

Candidates are asked to bring all music scores to their audition.

While in-person auditions are preferred and recommended, if a live audition is impractical, Algoma Music Department will accept DVD's or auditions performed via SKYPE. Audition DVD's and copies of music scores (if using the services of an on-site, Algoma University collaborative pianist) should be sent to Dr. Edward Turgeon, Director of Music, Algoma University, 1520 Queen Street East, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, P6A 2G4.

Scholarship Assistance

In addition to Algoma University's generous scholarship opportunities, the Music Department is often able to award substantial additional scholarship assistance based on the merit of an audition.