**Algoma University Music Department**

**Audition Requirements Jazz and Popular Guitar or Bass**

**In-person Auditions:**

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

1. Prepared Piece

The candidate will be asked to perform one prepared piece demonstrating their skill / proficiency and overall musicianship on the guitar. The chosen piece can be in any style or genre, on acoustic or electric guitar, as well as acoustic or electric bass.

Examples of pieces can include:

* A jazz standard, including improvisation
* A song by a favourite artist
* An original composition / song
* A piece from the classical guitar repertoire

1. Blues

The candidate will be expected to chord and improvise through a standard twelve-bar blues progression in the key of C, F, G or B flat major

1. Sight Reading

Students will be asked to play through a jazz standard lead sheet melody and chord progression (separately) in the key of C, G, D, F or B flat major.

1. Technique

The candidate should demonstrate fluency and technical facility in performance of major, minor, and blues scales (keys of candidate’s choice) using either straight or swung eighth notes, played in quarter notes at a minimum, rhythmically stable metronome speed of quarter note = 90.

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**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?

**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.