



SHENANDOAH
UNIVERSITY

Shenandoah Conservatory



2023 Graduate
**Audition, Interview &
Admissions Guidelines**
Shenandoah Conservatory





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GRADUATE PROGRAMS 2022-23

AUDITION, INTERVIEW & ADMISSIONS **SCHEDULE**

SEPTEMBER 15, 2022

Audition registration opens. Prescreening materials will be accepted at su.edu/auditions beginning on this date.

JANUARY 15, 2023

Firm deadline for submission of application form for all conservatory graduate programs except Master of Music Education (summers-only program), Music Therapy (Master of Music Therapy & Professional Studies Program) and Performing Arts Leadership & Management (PALM).

JANUARY 15, 2023

Prescreening materials due for Composition, Piano and Voice.

JANUARY 31, 2023

Conducting prescreening materials due.

FEBRUARY 1, 2023

Deadline to register for graduate auditions. Priority scheduling will be given to applicants who have submitted all appropriate admission materials and documents.

FEBRUARY 10, 2023

Graduate auditions.

FEBRUARY 11, 2023

Graduate auditions (online).

FEBRUARY 20, 2023

Graduate auditions.

MARCH 1, 2023

Application deadline for graduate assistantships and DMA teaching assistantships.

APRIL 15, 2023

Recommended deadline for submission of application materials for the Master of Music Education (summers-only program) and Music Therapy programs (Master of Music Therapy & Professional Studies Program).

ROLLING ADMISSIONS

The Performing Arts Leadership & Management (PALM) program accepts applications on a rolling basis up to the program's start in late August.

CONSERVATORY MISSION STATEMENT

As a visionary and collaborative arts community, we educate motivated students in a supportive and inclusive environment and equip them for professional success.

2023 GRADUATE AUDITION, INTERVIEW & ADMISSIONS GUIDELINES

Admission to Shenandoah Conservatory graduate programs is highly competitive and the audition schedule fills rapidly. Early application and audition registration is recommended. All audition correspondence will be sent to the applicant via email.

POTENTIAL CHANGES DUE TO COVID-19

It may become necessary for Shenandoah Conservatory to modify the ways in which auditions and interviews are held. The most up-to-date information on audition dates and format will always be available at su.edu/auditions.

GRADUATE ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

1. **Completed online graduate application:** su.edu/gradadmit.
2. **Unofficial transcripts from all post-secondary institutions** where a degree or relevant credit has been earned. Applicants upload one copy of the scanned unofficial transcript from each institution attended. Admitted applicants will be asked to provide official transcripts from each institution from which they previously supplied unofficial transcripts. Transcripts from non-U.S. institutions must also be submitted for a course-by-course academic credential evaluation to obtain U.S. equivalency information regarding courses, grades and GPA. Applicants needing an I-20 visa from Shenandoah should plan to submit official evaluations and transcripts for initial admission.
3. **Program-specific materials** as outlined in the application and audition requirements are listed by program.
4. **English Language Proficiency: All applicants must meet English language proficiency requirements.** Please see our full policy for more details about meeting the requirements and/or submitting TOEFL, IELTS, Pearson Test of English or Duolingo English Test scores.
5. **International applicants** must comply with all federal regulations governing documentation of financial eligibility in order to obtain an I-20 and visa. International students are advised that these requirements require additional time and resources, and should plan accordingly when applying to Shenandoah. For further information regarding International Applications, please visit su.edu/admissions/international-students/graduate-application-information.



AUDITION REGISTRATION

All applicants in Composition, Conducting, Piano and Voice (Pedagogy; Performance) are required to pass a prescreening before they may register for auditions/interviews. Prescreening requirements are listed with each degree.

A prescreening is **NOT** required for Woodwinds (including Woodwind Doubling), Brass, Strings (including Guitar and Harp) and Percussion; Music Education; Music Therapy (Certificate; Master's) and Performing Arts Leadership & Management (PALM).

The graduate prescreening submission deadline for Composition, Piano and Voice is January 15, 2023.

Applicants will be notified of prescreening results within three weeks of submission.

The graduate prescreening submission deadline

for Conducting is January 31, 2023. Conducting applicants will be notified of prescreening results no later than February 15, 2023.

Recordings may be made using personal equipment; studio recordings are not necessary.

All prescreening materials (excepting physical scores for Composition) **MUST be submitted online at <https://app.getacceptd.com/shenandoahconservatory>.** Prescreening materials may be submitted at any time between the submission of the initial admissions application and the deadlines listed in this section.

Audition/interview invitations for successful prescreen submissions will be sent via email by the Office of Admissions.

The graduate audition registration deadline is February 1, 2023.

Composition, Conducting, Piano and Voice **applicants may not register for an audition/interview until all required prescreening materials have been submitted and approved** (see individual degree requirements).

Woodwind, Brass, Strings, Percussion and Music Therapy applicants are **NOT** required to submit prescreening materials and may proceed directly to scheduling an audition after they have applied.

Music Education and Performing Arts Leadership & Management (PALM) applicants do **NOT** require an audition.

Audition dates can be reserved at <https://app.getacceptd.com/shenandoahconservatory>. Auditions are scheduled as registrations are received. Early registration is recommended as audition dates are limited and may fill in advance of deadlines. Students are encouraged to submit any required prescreening materials well ahead of the deadline if they wish to secure a specific audition date.

ACCOMPANISTS

For Vocalists

- **Invited applicants for Voice Performance as well as Pedagogy – Voice (Classical) must have live piano accompaniment. Applicants for Pedagogy – Voice (CCM) must have live piano accompaniment, backing tracks or a mix of both.** Applicants will be provided an accompanist upon request via auditions@su.edu. Vocalists wishing to work with a Shenandoah-affiliated accompanist will receive contact information for their assigned accompanist after confirmation of audition date and time.

- **Applicants auditioning on campus and using a conservatory provided accompanist must provide their audition repertoire** to their assigned accompanist at least two weeks prior to the scheduled audition date.
- Invited vocalists auditioning live online may use live or prerecorded accompaniment, though live accompaniment is greatly preferred.

For Instrumentalists

- **Instrumentalists are invited to bring their own accompanist**, but live accompaniment is not required.



AUDITION DAY

Once the online audition registration is processed, the applicant will be emailed an audition day schedule containing date, time and location information for the audition/interview.

Admission decisions are not made until both the admissions application and audition are complete.

DISTANCE AUDITIONS

On-campus auditions are strongly encouraged; however, most applicants unable to travel to Shenandoah University's main campus are eligible to attend a virtual audition day or submit a recorded audition in lieu of attending an in-person audition. Conducting applicants (MM and DMA) who pass their prescreenings should plan to audition on campus unless prior arrangements have been made with the appropriate conducting faculty member.

All graduate audition days include a general information session where information is provided on assistantships, curricula, residency requirements and opportunities for performance and collaboration.

Recorded auditions must show the applicant and their instrument in full view and must follow all audition guidelines.

Distance auditions must be submitted via <https://app.getacceptd.com/shenandoahconservatory>

FINANCIAL AID & ASSISTANTSHIPS

Applicants to master's, doctoral and artist diploma programs at Shenandoah Conservatory may apply for assistantship consideration any time after their Shenandoah University admission application has been submitted. However, an applicant will not be considered for an assistantship until they have successfully completed all admission procedures (including an audition) and have been admitted.

A limited number of graduate assistantships, both full and partial, are awarded to master's, artist diploma and doctoral students. A full or partial tuition waiver and a small stipend accompany these awards. The award is renewable for two (MM and AD) or three (DMA) years pending satisfactory academic progress and the recommendation of the immediate supervisor.

A limited number of post-master's teaching assistantships are awarded to artist diploma and doctoral students and consist of a full tuition waiver and a \$9,000 annual stipend. The award is renewable for two (AD) or three (DMA) years pending satisfactory academic progress and the recommendation of the immediate supervisor.

For more information on how to apply for assistantships, visit su.edu/admissions/graduate-students/conservatory-application-information.

Shenandoah Conservatory strongly recommends that all eligible applicants submit a FAFSA to the Shenandoah University Office of Financial Aid: www.su.edu/financial-aid.



CONSERVATORY GRADUATE PROGRAMS

MASTER OF MUSIC EDUCATION *(Summers-Only MME Program)*

Applicant must hold a baccalaureate degree in music with a minimum GPA of 2.5. Most applicants present a baccalaureate degree in music education and are licensed teachers. However, applicants who do not hold licensure may be admitted under specific circumstances. *For more information, contact Director of Music Education Dr. Stephanie Standerfer at ssander@su.edu.*

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Use the Shenandoah University online application form to submit the following by April 15 (deadline extension available upon request):

- Unofficial Transcripts
- Curriculum Vitae/Résumé, including current and past teaching experience
- Essay of 500 words addressing your interest in the program and professional goals
- No audition required

CERTIFICATE IN CHURCH MUSIC

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Use the Shenandoah University online application form to submit the following by April 15 (deadline extension available upon request):

- Unofficial Transcripts
- No audition required

MASTER OF MUSIC IN COMPOSITION

Applicant must hold a baccalaureate degree in music with a minimum GPA of 2.5.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Use the Shenandoah University online application form to submit the following by January 15:

- Unofficial Transcripts
- Curriculum Vitae/Résumé
- 100-word artist statement
- Two letters of recommendation from professionals in the field familiar with the applicant's work

PRESCREENING *(Scores and Recordings)*

Use <https://app.getacceptd.com/shenandoahconservatory> to submit the following by January 15:

- **Scores and recordings for three recent compositions.** Scores should demonstrate skill in writing for instruments, voices and/or electronic media. At least one of these works should be for large forces: orchestra, wind ensemble or other large ensemble. All scores must be complete. Arrangements and in-progress works will not be accepted. All scores must be submitted both electronically (in PDF format via <https://app.getacceptd.com/shenandoahconservatory>) AND in hard copy (*mailing address below*).
- **Recordings of live performances or reading sessions are preferred**, though MIDI mockups are acceptable. Audio (mp3 or m4a) or video (mp4 or wmv) recordings or works should be uploaded to <https://app.getacceptd.com/shenandoahconservatory>.
- **Applicants who pass prescreening review will be invited to register for an on-campus interview.**

MAILING ADDRESS *(for Hard Copy Score Materials)*

- **Audition Scores**, bound in a manner consistent with professional practice, must be mailed to:

Office of Graduate Admissions
Shenandoah University
1460 University Drive
Winchester, VA 22601

MASTER OF MUSIC IN CONDUCTING – WIND ENSEMBLE, ORCHESTRA, CHORAL

Applicant must hold a baccalaureate degree in music with a minimum GPA of 2.5.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Use the Shenandoah University online application form to submit the following by January 15:

- Unofficial Transcripts
- Curriculum Vitae/Résumé that includes a list of works conducted
- Essay of 500–700 words addressing interest in the program and professional goals

PRESCREENING Use <https://app.getacceptd.com/shenandoahconservatory> to submit the following by January 31:

- **A face-to-the-camera video recording** (10 minutes minimum, 15 minutes maximum) of the applicant leading both a rehearsal and a performance. The applicant should be identified at the beginning of the recording via spoken introduction or title screen. For instrumental ensembles, it is acceptable to use a reduced instrumentation (e.g. string quartet and piano) version of a composition.
- **Applicants who pass the recorded prescreening will be invited to register for an on-campus audition.**

ON-CAMPUS AUDITION

- **Based on intended focus, the applicant will conduct an orchestral, wind or choral ensemble for 30 minutes.** For Band/Wind Ensemble and Orchestra Conducting, at least 10 minutes of the 30 will be dedicated to rehearsal. For Choral Conducting, the entire 30 minutes will be dedicated to rehearsal. Repertoire will be determined and chosen from a work that was recently performed by the ensemble.
- **On-campus auditions are scheduled via <https://app.getacceptd.com/shenandoahconservatory>** at a time mutually agreeable to the applicant and relevant conservatory conductor.



MASTER OF MUSIC IN CONDUCTING – MUSICAL THEATRE

Applicant must hold a baccalaureate degree in music with a minimum GPA of 2.5.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Use the Shenandoah University online application form to submit the following by January 15:

- Unofficial Transcripts
- Curriculum Vitae/Résumé that includes a repertoire list of actual works conducted
- Essay of 500–750 words addressing your interest in the program and professional goals

PRESCREENING Use <https://app.getacceptd.com/shenandoahconservatory> to submit the following by January 31:

- **A face-to-the-camera video recording** (10 minutes minimum, 15 minutes maximum) of the applicant leading both a rehearsal and a performance. The applicant should be identified at the beginning of the recording via spoken introduction or title screen. For instrumental ensembles, it is acceptable to use a reduced instrumentation (e.g. string quartet and piano) version of a composition.
- **Applicants who pass the recorded prescreening will be invited to an on-campus piano audition and interview** with the Musical Theatre faculty. Details on works to prepare will be given at that time.

MASTER OF MUSIC IN PEDAGOGY – VOICE

Applicant must hold a baccalaureate degree in a related field with a minimum GPA of 2.5.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL TRACKS

Use the Shenandoah University online application form to submit the following by January 15:

- Unofficial Transcripts
- Curriculum Vitae/Résumé
- Essay of 500–750 words addressing your interest in this field/program, previous experiences that contributed to your preparation for further study in this field, area(s) of interest for possible research and how they relate to your future goals.

CLASSICAL VOICE TRACK

PRESCREENING Use <https://app.getacceptd.com/shenandoahconservatory> to submit the following by January 15:

- **Video recordings (mp4 or wmv) of two selections** in contrasting styles performed from memory with live accompaniment. Recordings must be video and must show the applicant performing. Audio-only recordings will not be accepted.
- **Applicants who pass the recorded prescreening will be invited to register for an audition.**

AUDITION

- **Invited applicants must present a 15-minute (minimum) recital** of stylistically and historically balanced content. At the audition, the applicant should provide a printed program of the works they will perform. The committee may then choose to hear complete works or ask for specific sections.
- **A minimum of three languages** must be represented.
- **Memorization is required.**
- **Invited singers auditioning on campus must audition with live accompaniment** and are encouraged to provide their own accompanist. Applicants will be provided an accompanist upon request via auditions@su.edu.

CONTEMPORARY COMMERCIAL MUSIC (CCM) TRACK

PRESCREENING Use <https://app.getaccedtd.com/shenandoahconservatory> to submit the following by January 15:

- **Video recordings (mp4 or wmv) of two contrasting pieces in the style or genre of your choice (jazz, musical theatre, folk, rock, pop, etc.).** Applicants should demonstrate head, chest and mix in their selections. Recordings must be video and must show the applicant performing. Audio-only recordings will not be accepted.
- **Applicants who pass the recorded prescreening will be invited to register for an audition.**

AUDITION

- **Invited applicants must present a 15-minute (minimum) recital** of genre- and style-appropriate selections. At the audition, the applicant should provide a printed program of the works they will perform. The committee may then choose to hear complete works or ask for specific sections.
- **At least one legit (head dominant) selection** must be included in the program.
- **Repertoire choices** should represent the style/genre of music (jazz, musical theatre, folk, pop, rock, etc.) that best reflects the applicant's interests and abilities.
- **Memorization is required.**
- **Invited singers auditioning on campus or during a virtual audition day must audition with live accompaniment, backing tracks or a mix of both.** Applicants will be provided an accompanist upon request via auditions@su.edu.

MASTER OF MUSIC IN PERFORMANCE

(ALL MEDIUMS)

Applicant must hold a baccalaureate degree in music with a minimum GPA of 2.5.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL MEDIUMS

Use the Shenandoah University online application form to submit the following by January 15:

- Unofficial Transcripts
- Curriculum Vitae/Résumé
- Essay of 500–750 words addressing your interest in the program & professional goals

AUDITION GUIDELINES PER MEDIUM

MASTER OF MUSIC IN PERFORMANCE – GUITAR

- **Applicants must present a 30-minute recital** of stylistically and historically balanced content. At the audition, the applicant should provide a printed program of the works they will perform. The committee may then choose to hear complete works or ask for specific sections.
- **Applicants may be asked to perform examples of their work** with technical exercises addressing scales, arpeggios and slurs.
- **Memorization is required.**

MASTER OF MUSIC IN PERFORMANCE – PERCUSSION

- **Applicants must present a 30-minute recital** of stylistically and historically balanced content. Standard orchestral excerpts on snare drum, xylophone, glockenspiel, timpani, cymbals and/or tambourine may also be included. At the audition, the applicant should provide a printed program of the works they will perform. The committee may then choose to hear complete works or ask for specific sections.
- **Applicants must perform on snare drum, keyboard percussion and timpani;** multiple percussion is optional.
- **A demonstration of technique and/or sight-reading may be requested** by the committee.

MASTER OF MUSIC IN PERFORMANCE – PIANO (COLLABORATIVE)

PRESCREENING Use <https://app.getacceptd.com/shenandoahconservatory> to submit the following by January 15:

- **Video recordings (mp4 or wmv)** of the following:
 - a) Two contrasting art songs *and*
 - b) One movement from the standard instrumental chamber repertoire
- **Recordings must be video and must show the applicant performing.** Audio-only recordings will not be accepted.
- **Applicants who pass the recorded prescreening will be invited to register for an on-campus audition.**

AUDITION

- **Invited applicants must present a 30-minute recital.** 10 to 15 minutes of this time should be solo repertoire (memorization preferred). The remainder of the recital should be chamber and art song repertoire. If a chamber work has multiple movements, all movements are required. The applicant is responsible for obtaining supporting performers and is responsible for the overall quality of the performance.
- **At the audition,** the applicant should provide a printed program of the works they will perform. The committee may then choose to hear complete works or ask for specific sections.
- **A demonstration of sight-reading will be required.**

MASTER OF MUSIC IN PERFORMANCE – PIANO (SOLO)

PRESCREENING Use <https://app.getacceptd.com/shenandoahconservatory> to submit the following by January 15:

- **Video recordings (mp4 or wmv) of one piece from each of the following groups:**
 - a) a Prelude and Fugue by Bach
 - b) a movement from a Classical sonata by Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven or Schubert
 - c) a piece from the Romantic era
 - d) a work composed in the 20th or 21st centuries,
 - e) an Etude by Chopin, Liszt or Rachmaninoff
- **Recordings must be video. Audio-only recordings will not be accepted.** Videos should not be longer than 30 minutes and must be recorded from a steady camera showing the complete body. No piece may be edited.
- **Applicants who pass the recorded prescreening will be invited to register for an audition.**

AUDITION

- **Applicants must present a 30-minute recital** of stylistically and historically balanced content. At the audition, the applicant should provide a printed program of the works they will perform. The committee may then choose to hear complete works or ask for specific sections.
- **A demonstration of technique or sight-reading may be requested** by the committee.
- **Memorization is required.**

MASTER OF MUSIC IN PERFORMANCE – STRINGS, WOODWINDS, BRASS

(for Guitar, see section on pg. 10; for Woodwind Doubling, see section below)

- **Invited applicants must present a 30-minute recital** of stylistically and historically balanced content. At the audition, the applicant should provide a printed program of the works they will perform. The committee may then choose to hear complete works or ask for specific sections.
- **A demonstration of scales, technique exercises and/or sight-reading may be requested** by the committee.
- **Instrumentalists are invited to bring their own accompanist,** but live accompaniment is not required.

MASTER OF MUSIC IN PERFORMANCE – WOODWIND DOUBLING

- **Applicants must present two major works for their primary instrument and one major work for each of their two secondary instruments.** At the audition, the applicant should provide a printed program of the works they will perform. The committee may then choose to hear complete works or ask for specific sections.
- **Applicants must demonstrate an artist performance level** on the major instrument and an undergraduate performance level on each of the secondary instruments to be included in their degree.
- **A demonstration of scales, technique exercises and/or sight-reading may be requested** by the committee.
- **Instrumentalists are invited to bring their own accompanist**, but live accompaniment is not required.

MASTER OF MUSIC IN PERFORMANCE – VOICE

PRESCREENING Use <https://app.getaccepted.com/shenandoahconservatory> to submit the following by January 15:

- **Video recordings (mp4 or wmv) of two selections in contrasting styles** performed from memory with live accompaniment (preferred) or backing track. One selection must be in English, and the other must be in a second language of the applicant's choosing. Recordings must be video and must show the applicant performing. Audio-only recordings will not be accepted.
- **Applicants who pass the recorded prescreening will be invited to register for an audition.**

AUDITION

- **Invited applicants must present a 15-minute recital** of stylistically and historically balanced content. At the audition, the applicant should provide a printed program of the works they will perform. The committee may then choose to hear complete works or ask for specific sections.
- **A minimum of three languages** must be represented.
- Both operatic and art song repertoire may be presented.
- **Memorization is required.**
- **Invited singers auditioning on campus or during a virtual audition day must audition with live accompaniment and are encouraged to provide their own accompanist.** Applicants will be provided an accompanist upon request via auditions@su.edu.



MASTER OF MUSIC THERAPY

Applicant must hold a baccalaureate degree in music therapy (or equivalent) with a minimum GPA of 3.0.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Use the Shenandoah University online application form to submit the following by April 15 (deadline extension available upon request):

- Unofficial Transcripts
- Curriculum Vitae/Résumé
- Proof of board certification (MT-BC) and at least one year of full-time (or equivalent) experience.
- Essay of 500–700 words addressing your interest in the program and professional goals
- One letter of recommendation addressing the applicant's academic abilities, professional experiences and readiness for the program.
- *Applicants who need to provide test scores as proof of English Language Proficiency should be aware that a TOEFL score of at least 83 is required for this program.*

AUDITION & INTERVIEW

- **An audition and interview** with the director of graduate music therapy will be scheduled after all other application materials are submitted. Lasting 45 minutes, the audition and interview includes the following:
 - **Performance of two pieces on guitar and piano** showing a range of popular music styles (rock, folk, pop, children's, etc.) that reflect the applicant's clinical practice.
 - **An interview**, covering a range of topics related to the MMT program.
- *Students unable to travel to campus may elect to complete the audition and interview via Zoom, after discussion with the program director.*

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PERFORMING ARTS LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

Applicant must hold a baccalaureate degree in the performing arts (or equivalent) with a minimum GPA of 2.5. Applicants with baccalaureate degrees in disciplines other than the performing arts may be considered on an individual basis if they have had extensive non-curricular experiences in the arts.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Use the Shenandoah University online application form to submit the following:

- Unofficial Transcripts
- A personal essay (500-word minimum) that addresses the applicant's intent for joining the program and explains the applicant's professional goals.
- A sample of applicant's academic or professional writing of no less than 500 words.

INTERVIEW

- **An in-person or video call interview** with the program director will be scheduled after all other application materials are submitted. No audition required.
- *Shenandoah Conservatory undergraduates who have completed the accelerated PALM program may apply with no application fee required.*

PROFESSIONAL STUDIES PROGRAM FOR MUSIC THERAPY CERTIFICATION ELIGIBILITY

Applicant must hold a baccalaureate degree with a minimum GPA of 3.0. The baccalaureate degree may be in a wide variety of fields, though a degree in music is most common. Students who have a degree in a field other than music are encouraged to consult with *Director of Music Therapy Dr. Anthony Meadows (ameadows2@su.edu)* for further guidance regarding core music requirements.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Use the Shenandoah University online application form to submit the following by January 15:

- Unofficial Transcripts.
- Curriculum Vitae/Résumé.
- Essay of 500–700 words addressing your interest in the program and professional goals.
- One letter of recommendation addressing the applicant’s academic abilities, professional experiences and readiness for the program.
- *Applicants who need to provide test scores as proof of English Language Proficiency should be aware that a TOEFL score of at least 83 is required for this program.*

AUDITION & INTERVIEW

- **An audition and interview** with the director of graduate music therapy will be scheduled after all other application materials are submitted. Lasting 45 minutes, the audition and interview includes the following:
 - **Performance of one piece on the applicant’s primary instrument** (does not need to be from memory).
 - **Performance of two pieces on guitar and piano** showing a range of popular music styles (rock, folk, pop, children’s, etc.).
- *Students unable to travel to campus may elect to complete the audition and interview via Zoom, after discussion with the program director.*
- *Applicants who are unable to complete the guitar or piano requirement will be required to complete at least two semesters of lessons until these competencies are met.*



DOCTORAL PROGRAMS

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN PEDAGOGY – VOICE

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Use the Shenandoah University online application form to submit the following by January 15:

- Transcripts from all baccalaureate and master's degree studies, documenting successful (or pending successful) degree completions and a minimum master's GPA of 3.25.
- Curriculum Vitae/Résumé.
- Essay of 500–750 words addressing your interest in the program, the experiences that have contributed to your preparation for further study in your intended field, your research interests (if any) and professional goals.
- Scholarly writing sample that includes citations and a bibliography. All academic style formats (MLA, Chicago, etc.) are accepted.
- Two letters of recommendation from professionals familiar with the applicant's strengths in the desired area of study.

PRESCREENING (for both the Leadership and Voice Research tracks)

Use <https://app.getaccedpt.com/shenandoahconservatory> to submit the following by January 15:

- **Video recordings (mp4 or wmv) of two contrasting selections** from the genre(s) that best represents the applicant's strengths. This may include music from one genre (i.e. singer-songwriter) or a mix of genres (i.e. classical and musical theatre). Recordings must be video and must show the applicant performing. Audio-only recordings will not be accepted.
- *Based on successful completion of the prescreening, the applicant will be invited to register for an audition. A DMA Pedagogy audition will not be scheduled until the Pedagogy faculty have received and approved the applicant's writing sample.*

AUDITION & INTERVIEW (for both the Leadership and Voice Research tracks)

- **Invited applicants should prepare 20 minutes of music** from the genre(s) that best represents the applicant's strengths. This may include music from one genre (i.e. singer-songwriter) or a mix of genres (i.e. classical and musical theatre). Selections should include a wide variety of tempi, textures and qualities that display artistry of the highest level for each genre presented. All students will be exposed to multiple genres, including classical, during their degree coursework.
- **At the audition, the applicant should provide a printed repertoire list of the works they will perform.** The committee may then choose to hear complete works or ask for specific sections.
- **Memorization is required.**
- **Invited singers auditioning on campus or during a virtual audition day must audition with live accompaniment and are encouraged to provide their own accompanist.** Applicants will be provided an accompanist upon request via auditions@su.edu. Backing tracks are acceptable for CCM-style selections.
- **The audition day will also include an interview** with the Voice Pedagogy faculty.

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN PERFORMANCE

(All mediums)

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL MEDIUMS

Use the Shenandoah University online application form to submit the following by January 15:

- Transcripts from all baccalaureate and master's degree studies, documenting successful (or pending successful) degree completions and a minimum master's GPA of 3.25.
- Curriculum Vitae/Résumé.
- Essay of 500–750 words addressing your interest in the program, the experiences that have contributed to your preparation for further study in your intended field, your research interests (if any) and professional goals.
- Scholarly writing sample that includes citations and a bibliography. All academic style formats (MLA, Chicago, etc.) are accepted.
- Two letters of recommendation from professionals familiar with the applicant's strengths in the desired area of study.

AUDITION GUIDELINES PER MEDIUM

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN PERFORMANCE – CHAMBER MUSIC

- **Ensembles must present a 30-minute (minimum) recital of stylistically and historically balanced content.** All multi-movement works must be complete (no single movements) At the audition, the applicants should provide a printed program of the works they will perform. The committee may then choose to hear complete works or ask for specific sections.

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN PERFORMANCE – CONDUCTING (WIND ENSEMBLE & ORCHESTRA ONLY)

PRESCREENING Use <https://app.getacceptd.com/shenandoahconservatory> to submit the following by January 31:

- **A face-to-the-camera video recording** of the applicant leading at least 20 minutes of performance and 10 minutes of rehearsal. The applicant should be identified at the beginning of the recording via spoken introduction or title screen. The recording should represent the applicant's abilities before a full orchestra, wind ensemble or opera/oratorio ensemble. Choice of repertoire is left to the applicant.
- **The applicant should communicate** with the relevant professor of conducting before including a recording of work with a chamber ensemble.
- *Applicants who pass the recorded prescreening will be invited to register for an on-campus audition.*

ON-CAMPUS AUDITION

- **The applicant will conduct** the Shenandoah University Symphony Orchestra or Wind Ensemble for 30 minutes (which includes 10 minutes of rehearsal).
- **Repertoire will be chosen** from works that have been recently performed by the ensemble.



DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN PERFORMANCE – GUITAR

- **Applicants must present a 30-minute recital** of stylistically and historically balanced content. At the audition, the applicant should provide a printed program of the works they will perform. The committee may then choose to hear complete works or ask for specific sections.
- **Applicant may be asked to perform examples of their work** with technical exercises addressing scales, arpeggios and slurs.
- **Memorization is required.**

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN PERFORMANCE – PERCUSSION

- **Applicants must present a 30-minute recital** of stylistically and historically balanced content. Standard orchestral excerpts on snare drum, xylophone, glockenspiel, timpani, cymbals and/or tambourine may also be included.
- **At the audition, the applicant should provide a printed program** of the works they will perform. The committee may then choose to hear complete works or ask for specific sections.
- **Applicants must perform on snare drum, keyboard percussion and timpani;** multiple percussion is optional.
- **A demonstration of scales, technique and/or sight-reading may be requested** by the committee.

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN PERFORMANCE – PIANO (COLLABORATIVE)

PRESCREENING Use <https://app.getaccepted.com/shenandoahconservatory> to submit the following by January 15:

- **Video recordings (mp4 or wmv)** of the following:
 - a) Two contrasting art songs and
 - b) One movement from the standard instrumental chamber repertoireRecordings must be video and must show the applicant performing. Audio-only recordings will not be accepted.
- **A complete repertoire list** (PDF) of solo, vocal and instrumental repertoire prepared and performed.
- *Applicants who pass the recorded prescreening will be invited to register for an audition.*

AUDITION

- **Invited applicants must present a 30-minute recital.** 10 to 15 minutes of this time should be solo repertoire (memorization preferred). The remainder of the recital should be chamber and art song repertoire. If a chamber work has multiple movements, all movements are required. The applicant is responsible for obtaining supporting performers and is responsible for the overall quality of the performance.
- **At the audition, the applicant should provide a printed program** of the works they will perform. The committee may then choose to hear complete works or ask for specific sections.
- **A demonstration of sight-reading will be required.**



DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN PERFORMANCE – PIANO (SOLO)

PRESCREENING Use <https://app.getacceptd.com/shenandoahconservatory> to submit the following by January 15:

- **Video recordings** (mp4 or wmv) of one piece from each of the following groups:
 - a) a Prelude and Fugue by Bach
 - b) a movement from a Classical sonata by Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven or Schubert
 - c) a piece from the Romantic era
 - d) a work composed in the 20th or 21st centuries
 - e) an Etude by Chopin, Liszt or Rachmaninoff
- **Recordings must be video. Audio-only recordings will not be accepted.** Videos should not be longer than 30 minutes and must be recorded from a steady camera showing the complete body. No piece may be edited.
- **Applicants who pass the recorded prescreening will be invited to register for an audition.**

AUDITION

- **Invited applicants must present a 30-minute recital** of stylistically and historically balanced content. At the audition, the applicant should provide a printed program of the works they will perform. The committee may then choose to hear complete works or ask for specific sections.
- **A demonstration of scales, technique exercises and/or sight-reading may be requested** by the committee.
- **Memorization is required.**

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN PERFORMANCE – STRINGS, WOODWIND, BRASS

- **Applicants must present a 30-minute (minimum) recital** of stylistically and historically balanced content. All multi-movement works must be complete (no single movements) At the audition, the applicant should provide a printed program of the works they will perform. The committee may then choose to hear complete works or ask for specific sections.
- **A demonstration of scales, technique exercises and/or sight-reading may be requested** by the committee.
- **Instrumentalists are invited to bring their own accompanist**, but live accompaniment is not required.



DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN PERFORMANCE – WOODWIND DOUBLING

- **Applicants must present** two major works for their primary instrument and one major work for each of their two secondary instruments. All multi-movement works must be complete (no single movements). At the audition, the applicant should provide a printed program of the works they will perform. The committee may then choose to hear complete works or ask for specific sections.
- **Applicants must demonstrate an artist performance level** on the major instrument and an undergraduate performance level on each of the secondary instruments to be included in their degree.
- **A demonstration of scales, technique exercises and/or sight-reading may be requested** by the committee.
- **Instrumentalists are invited to bring their own accompanist**, but live accompaniment is not required.

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS IN PERFORMANCE – VOICE

PRESCREENING Use <https://app.getacceptd.com/shenandoahconservatory> to submit the following by January 15:

- **Video recordings (mp4 or wmv)** of two selections in contrasting styles performed from memory with live accompaniment (preferred) or backing track. One selection must be in English, and the other must be in a second language of the applicant's choosing. Recordings must be video and must show the applicant performing. **Audio-only recordings will not be accepted.**
- **Applicants who pass the recorded prescreening will be invited to register for an audition.**

AUDITION

- **Invited applicants must present a 20-minute recital** of stylistically and historically balanced content. At the audition, the applicant should provide a printed program of the works they will perform. The committee may then choose to hear complete works or ask for specific sections.
- **A minimum of three languages** must be represented.
- Both operatic and art song repertoire may be presented.
- **Memorization is required.**
- **Invited singers auditioning on campus or during a virtual audition day must audition with live accompaniment** and are encouraged to provide their own accompanist. Applicants will be provided an accompanist upon request via auditions@su.edu.

ARTIST DIPLOMA

Applicants for the Artist Diploma must complete the same audition requirements stated for their instrument at the doctoral degree level. For any questions, please contact:

OFFICE OF GRADUATE ADMISSIONS

admit@su.edu | su.edu/auditions | Call: 540-665-4581 | Text: 540-592-4518



Shenandoah Conservatory Facts

- Established 1875
- Located in Winchester, Virginia
- Residential campus in the beautiful Northern Shenandoah Valley
- Located one hour from Dulles International Airport, offering nonstop service to five continents
- 170 graduate students
- 58 full-time faculty
- 47 part-time faculty
- 30+ performing groups
- 300+ performances annually

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