If you are interested in any of the music education options at UMass Boston (UMB), the first step is to contact:

Dr. Josef Hanson, Assistant Professor of Music  
Coordinator of Music Education  
Performing Arts Department  
University of Massachusetts Boston  
100 Morrissey Blvd. Boston, MA 02125-3393  
josef.hanson@umb.edu

General Information on Teacher Licensure  
Teachers in Massachusetts are licensed at three levels: Provisional (five years), Initial (five years), and Professional (renewed every five years). The music education program within the UMass Boston (UMB) Department of Performing Arts offers a course of study leading to the Initial License.

Requirements for receiving the Initial License in Music include the following:

1. Completion of a Bachelor’s Degree in Music  
2. Completion of a prescribed pre-practicum course of study (outlined below)  
3. Successful completion of a practicum component (student teaching) meeting the guidelines of the Massachusetts Department of Education  
4. Passing the Massachusetts Tests for Educational Licensure (MTEL). There are two required tests: Communication/Literacy Skills and Subject Matter (in this case, Music). For information about the MTEL-Music, see page 4 or visit https://www.mtel.nesinc.com/

Three Paths to Initial Licensure at UMB  
The B.A. in Music with Licensure is the Undergraduate Path for those who have not yet completed a Bachelor’s Degree in Music. We also offer a Certificate Path and Graduate Degree Path. The latter is a Master’s of Education degree program (with music education emphasis) offered through the UMB College of Education and Human Development (CEHD).

Path #1: Undergraduate B.A. with Licensure  
Admission requirements: (a) sophomore standing, (b) 3.0 GPA (generally and in music), (c) completion of ENG 102 (or equivalent), and (d) approval of the music education faculty. Approval may require students to submit transcripts, philosophical statements, and/or letters of recommendation to the faculty. All students will be interviewed by at least one faculty member.

MUSIC EDUCATION COURSE REQUIREMENTS  

MUSIC 440: Instrumental Methods and Literature (3)  
MUSIC 441: Choral Methods and Literature (3)  
MUSIC 383: Orchestration (3)  
MUSIC 442: Conducting (2)  
MUSIC 401: String Techniques (2)  
MUSIC 402: Woodwind Techniques (2)  
MUSIC 403: Brass Techniques (2)  
MUSIC 404: Percussion Techniques (2)  
MUSIC 480: Special Topics- Sociocultural Perspectives in Music Education (3) **see next page
EDUCATION COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Choose either EDCU 230: Inclusion K-12 (3) or EDCU 406: Sociocultural Perspectives (3)

**Or, in place of EDCU 406, music education students may take MUSIC 480**

EDC G 650: RETELL- Rethinking Equity in Teaching English Learners (3) – All students must take this

**This course satisfies the 75 hour pre-practicum observation requirement. Completion of this course leads to the Sheltered English Endorsement, which is granted along with the Initial License.**

PRACTICUM (STUDENT TEACHING)

CEHD has strict eligibility requirements that must be met before one can student teach:

1. Completion of all required coursework listed above
2. 3.0 cumulative grade point average in music coursework
3. 3.0 cumulative grade point average in education coursework
4. Satisfaction of UMB’s Writing Proficiency Requirement
5. Recommendations of the department, one pre-practicum instructor, and one pre-practicum cooperating teacher
6. Seventy-five hours of pre-practicum experience (observation). This consists of observation, assisting instructors, tutoring small classes, etc. You will accrue a minimum of 75 hours via your music education coursework (40 hours) and the RETELL course (35 hours).
7. Evidence of having passed the Communication/Literacy and Music parts of the Massachusetts Tests for Licensure (MTEL). Passing MTEL scores must be submitted no later than the last full week of classes in the semester prior to student teaching.

The Massachusetts Department of Education has strict guidelines for Student Teaching. The Initial License in Music requires a Practicum of 300 hours. This includes 150 hours in any two of the following three categories: PreK-4, 5-8, or 9-12. Accruing the 300 hours in a combination situation (such as a K-8 arrangement) is also acceptable. Practicum placement is arranged by staff members in the Office of Teacher Education Field Experience within the CEHD, in consultation with the music education faculty. The current staff member overseeing this process is Bwanda Gerome (Bwanda.Gerome@umb.edu).

Students wishing to student teach must apply for approval and placement in the semester prior to that in which their student teaching practicum is to take place. Applications are completed and processed online via the web-based platform Taskstream. In order to complete the application, students must provide either their passing MTEL scores or confirmation of their paid registration to take the test prior to student teaching with results expected no later than the last full week of classes in the semester prior to student teaching. Under no circumstances can students begin their practicum before passing the MTEL. For a spring semester practicum, the applications are due the previous October 1st; for a fall practicum, they are due the previous March 1st. The Practicum fulfills the university’s capstone requirement.

---

1 These are detailed in the document 603 CMR 704: Types of Educator Licenses, Requirements for Licensure, Licenses Issued, and Requirements for Field Based Experience, available on their website.
Path #2: Graduate Certificate Leading to Licensure
Individuals interested in the Graduate Certificate need to complete an application through Graduate Admissions (https://admissions.umb.edu/graduate-students/apply). Students who pursue this path typically have a degree in music and need pedagogical coursework. They complete a 27-credit certificate program to obtain state licensure. Contact Aimee D’Avignon, Director of the CEHD’s Student Services Center, for more information: Aimee.Davignon@umb.edu

Path #3: Master’s of Education with initial licensure in music (all grade levels)
This is not a Master’s of Music program, this is a Master’s degree offered through the College of Education. After an initial interview with the Coordinator of Music Education, candidates seeking admission need to apply to CEHD through Graduate Admissions (https://admissions.umb.edu/graduate-students/apply). For more information about this program, contact Aimee D’Avignon: Aimee.Davignon@umb.edu

Candidates should note that the completion of additional coursework may be necessary in order to satisfy all of the standards set forth by the Massachusetts Department of Education.

Massachusetts Music Standards and the MTEL
The Massachusetts Department of Education guidelines for licensure are detailed in the document 603 CMR 7.05: Routes to Initial Teacher and Specialist Teacher Licenses, available at http://www.doe.mass.edu/licensure/
For more information, contact:
Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Office of Educator Licensure
75 Pleasant St.
Malden, MA 02148
(781)338-6600

The music standards listed in Massachusetts Department of Education document 603 CMR 7.06 fall into two categories: topics covered on the MTEL-Music, and topics included in an approved program but not covered on the MTEL-Music.

TOPICS COVERED ON THE MTEL-MUSIC

Competence in these eight areas is affirmed by passing the MTEL-Music:

1. Traditional Western music theory and harmony
2. Score reading and musical analysis
3. Music history and literature, including the following:
   a. Western (European) - early Gregorian chant to present
   b. American music - 1650 to present (including ethic, folk, jazz, Broadway, and classical)
   c. Introductory knowledge of at least two other musical traditions with contrasting compositional and performance characteristics and genres
4. Music criticism: analysis and critique of musical works and performances
5. Knowledge of at least one special approach to music education for students, such as Orff Schulwerk, Kodály, Dalcroze, Suzuki, or Gordon
6. Musical development in children and adolescents
7. Introductory knowledge of choral literature and conducting techniques
8. Introductory knowledge of instrumental literature and conducting techniques
TOPICS INCLUDED IN APPROVED BACHELOR’S DEGREE PROGRAMS IN MUSIC (not on MTEL)

1. Singing skills and basic vocal production
2. Sight singing and music reading, using standard notation
   - These are met through MUSIC 123-224 (Ear Training and Sight-Singing), MUSIC 341 (Choral and General Music Methods), and MUSIC 342 (Conducting).
3. Intermediate level of keyboard proficiency
   - This is met through MUSIC 131-132 (Keyboard) as well as accompaniment demonstration in music education courses.
4. Use of technologies in music
   - This is met through MUSIC 383 (Orchestration) as well as technology projects in other music education courses.
5. Advanced vocal proficiency
   - This is met through MUSIC 123-224 (Ear Training and Sight-Singing), MUSIC 341 (Choral and General Music Methods), and through lab performance in MUSIC 342 (Conducting).
6. Choral methods for treble, changing, and high school voices.
   - This is met through MUSIC 341 (Choral and General Music Methods).
7. Advanced instrumental proficiency on one instrument.
   - This is met through MUSIC 185 (Applied Music Lessons), successful jury performances, and by performing in the Module 2 ensemble in MUSIC 340 (Instrumental Methods and Literature).
8. Instrumental methods on strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion.
   - This is met through MUSIC 401 (String Techniques), 402 (Woodwind Techniques), 403 (Brass Techniques), and 404 (Percussion Techniques).

UMB Music Education Faculty Members

Josef Hanson, Ph.D.  Sommer Forrester, Ph.D.  David Giessow, M.M.
Assistant Professor of Music  Assistant Professor of Music  Senior Lecturer II
Coordinator of Music Education  Conductor, Chamber Orchestra  Conductor, University Chorus
and Chamber Singers
josef.hanson@umb.edu  sommer.forrester@umb.edu  david.giessow@umb.edu