MUSIC EDUCATION

AT

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON

LICENSURE:

The Massachusetts Department of Education offers various types of educator licenses. Information is available by contacting them at

The Massachusetts Department of Education
Division of Education Personnel
Bureau of Teacher Licensure
350 Main Street
Maiden, MA 02148-S023
Tel.: 1-617-388-3300

or through their Web-site at http://www.doe.mass.edu/

Teachers are now licensed in this state at four levels: Temporary (valid for one year), Provisional (five years), Initial (five years), and Professional (renewed every five years). There is no more permanent certification; teachers must be re-certified every five years, usually through a program arrived at through consultation with their school district’s administration.

The Music Program in the Department of Performing Arts at the University of Massachusetts Boston offers a program leading toward the Initial License. There currently is no degree program in music offered beyond the Bachelor of Arts by the University of Massachusetts Boston Department of Performing Arts, although there are Master’s degree programs in Education offered through the Graduate College of Education.

Requirements for receiving the Initial License in Music through the University of Massachusetts Boston include the following:

1. A bachelors degree in music (Competency I)

2. Completion of a prescribed pre-practicum educational component directly related to the other Competencies of the document.

3. Successful completion of a practicum component meeting the guidelines of the Massachusetts Department of Education.

4. Passing the Massachusetts Tests for Educational Licensure (MTEL). These were added in 1998 and are offered every January, April, July, and October. There are two tests: Communication/Literacy (which includes writing) and Subject Matter (in this case, Music).
For information about these tests, contact by telephone 1-413-256-2892 or see their web site at:
http://www.doe.mass.edu/teachertest

ADMISSION:

The program leads to Initial Licensure. The Massachusetts Department of Education has established guidelines toward licensure. These are detailed in the document 603 CMR 7.05: Routes to Initial Teacher and Specialist Teacher Licenses, available on their website.

At University of Massachusetts Boston Track I (Undergraduate) is for persons who have not yet completed a Bachelor of Music (or Bachelor of Arts in Music) degree. Track II (Post B.A.) is for those who already hold such a degree and who are seeking licensure without receiving an additional degree. Track III is for those seeking music licensure through a Master of Education degree program. The initial contact person for all three programs is:

Dr. Jon C. Mitchell, Coordinator of Music Education
Department of Performing Arts
University of Massachusetts Boston
100 Morrissey Blvd.
Boston, MA 02125-3393
Tel.: 1-617-287-6981; e-mail: jon.mitchell@umb.edu

TRACK I: UNDERGRADUATE

Requirements for admission to the Music Education program at the University of Massachusetts Boston include the following:

1. Sophomore standing. Students must have completed Writing II (or the equivalent) and either Psychology 100 or Psychology 101. Completion or enrollment in Psychology 241 (Child Psychology) or Psychology 242 (Adolescent Psychology) is also a must.

2. An accumulative grade point average of at least a 3.0 in music classes and at least a 3.0 in classes taken in other areas.

3. Approval and endorsement of the Music Education faculty. An application supported by the applicant’s philosophical statement, transcripts, and interview are necessary. This endorsement, supported by a letter of recommendation will facilitate the applicant’s admission to the university’s Program for Initial Licensure.
Applicants should understand that admission to the program is in two parts: music and university-wide. It is the applicant’s responsibility to make sure that all requirements for both are met. Applications are available in the Teacher Education Program Office.

MUSIC EDUCATION COURSES:

The following are prescribed Music Education courses. All of these courses or their equivalents must be completed successfully by all individuals seeking licensure in music through the Department of Performing Arts at University of Massachusetts Boston:

Music 440: Instrumental Methods and Literature (3)
Music 441: Choral Methods and Literature + Music 399: Pre-practicum (4)
Music 442: Conducting (2)
Music 383: Orchestration (3)
Music 401: String Methods (2)
Music 402: Woodwind Methods (2)
Music 403: Brass Methods (2)
Music 404: Percussion Methods (2)
Music 405: Vocal Methods (2)

EDUCATION COURSES:

The following preferred courses are considered an intricate part of the Music Teacher Licensure Program. Course titles and numbers are subject to change.

Educ 441: Contemporary Issues in Education

and one of the following:

Educ 403: Creating Effective Learning Environments in Grades N-6
Educ 424: Cultures of the High School

PRACTICUM (STUDENT TEACHING):

The Massachusetts Department of Education has strict guidelines for Student Teaching. 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.

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, and 9-12. 300 hours in a combination situation (such as the K-8 set-up that exists in Brookline) is also acceptable. Practicum placement is arranged with regard to the context of the licensure requirement. This is facilitated at University of Massachusetts Boston by Director of the Graduate College of Education Office of Field Experience and Professional Licensure in consultation with the Coordinator of Music education to ensure that each student meets the requirements. Records are kept at the aforementioned office.
The College of Education itself has very strict eligibility requirements that have to be met before one is permitted to student teach:

I. A 3.0 accumulative grade point average in Music.

2. A 3.0 accumulative grade point average in Education courses.

3. Satisfaction of the university’s Writing Proficiency Requirement.

4. Recommendations of the department, one pre-practicum instructor, and one pre-practicum cooperating teacher.

5. All Education courses completed and all but one Music course completed.

6. Seventy-five hours of pre-practicum experience (observation). This consists of observation, assisting instructing, tutoring small classes, etc. MUS399 is generally used to satisfy one-half the requirement.

7. Evidence of having passed the Communication/Literacy and subject area (Music) parts of the Massachusetts Tests for Licensure (MTEL).

Students wishing to do any form of supervised practicum must apply for approval and placement in the semester prior to that in which the practicum is to take place. Applications are available in the Education Program Office in Wheatley Hall. 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.

**TRACK II: POST-B.A.**

Individuals who have already completed their Bachelor of Music (or Bachelor of Arts in Music) degrees will be accepted into the program on the basis of the following:

1. Official transcripts of all previous academic work

2. Two letters of recommendation

3. A completed application form, including a philosophical statement.

Transcripts checks are provided by the Coordinator of Music Education and students are advised accordingly.

Applicants are reminded that admission to the program is in two parts: music and university-wide. It is the applicant’s responsibility to make sure that all requirements for both are met.
Individuals follow a prescribed program based upon the music education courses listed in Track I. Note that in the Post B.A. Track no 100 or 200 level courses from the major can apply. At first glance it may be seen that, since all Music Education courses taught at University of Massachusetts Boston carry a 300 or 400 level designation, we are unaffected, however, students transferring into the program from other universities will find that Music Education courses bearing a 100 or 200 level designation at their previous institution may not be counted in the Post B.A. Track.

The music standards listed in Massachusetts Department of Education Document 603 CMR 7.06 (20) fall into two categories:

(a) topics covered on the Music MTEL. The following eight topics covered here are met by passing the Music MTEL:

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 ethnic folk, jazz, Broadway, and classic streams).
   c. Introductory knowledge of at least two other musical traditions with contrasting compositional and performance characteristics and genres.
5. Knowledge of at least one special approach to music education for students, such as Orff Schulwerk, Kodály, Dalcroze, Suzuki, Gordon.
7. Introductory knowledge of choral literature and conducting techniques.
8. Introductory knowledge of instrumental literature and conducting techniques.

and

(b) The following topics shall be included in an approved program but will not be addressed on the test of subject matter knowledge:

1. Singing skills and basic vocal production.
2. Sight singing and music reading, using standard notation.

These first two are met through classroom activity in MUS 341 and the MUS 342 labs.

3. Intermediate level of keyboard proficiency.

   This is met through accompaniment demonstration in any of the listed Music Education courses.

4. Use of technologies in music.
This is met through assisting with anything involving technology in any of the listed Music Education courses and by taking MUS383.

5. Advanced vocal proficiency.
   This is met through demonstration in lesson presentations in MUS341 as well as performance in the MUS342 labs.

6. Choral methods for treble, changing, and high school voices.
   This is met through taking MUS341.

7. Advanced instrumental proficiency on one instrument.
   This is met through performing in the Module 2 ensemble in MUS340.

8. Instrumental methods on strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion.
   This is met through taking MUS401, 402, 403, and 404.

Candidates are warned, however, that the completion of additional coursework may be necessary in order to fully satisfy all of the standards set forth by the Massachusetts Department of Education.

For Initial Licensure in Music at this university, students in Track II take the Education courses described for Track I. Students are generally discouraged from taking the 600-level equivalencies of these courses instead, and are warned that any courses with graduate numbers cannot be applied toward both Initial Licensure and the Masters in Education degree.

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**TRACK III: MASTER OF EDUCATION PROGRAMS:**

Note: These are not Master of Music programs; these are Graduate College of Education programs. Understand that the Professional License in Music is not offered through University of Massachusetts Boston. After an initial interview with the Coordinator of Music Education, admission to the program is handled by the Graduate College of Education. Candidates follow all of the prescribed program for the Initial License. Listings of courses for these programs are provided by the Graduate College of Education.

Two upper division undergraduate Music Education courses (preferably Music 340 and Music 34l) representing 6 units of credit may be counted toward this degree. These replace the following:

- **Elementary:**
  - EDC 640: Reading in the Content Area
  - EDC G 626: Humanities in Elementary Education

- **Middle School:**
  - EDC 640: Reading in the Content Area
  - Teaching and Learning in the Discipline (EDC 497P, EDC G 665, or CCT 650)

- **Secondary:**
  - EDC 640: Reading in the Content Area
  - Teaching and Learning in the Discipline (EDC 497P, EDC G 665, or CCT 650)

Candidates are warned that the completion of additional coursework (i.e. Music 401-405) may be necessary in order to satisfy all of the standards set forth by the Massachusetts Department of Education.