
Video Audition Guidelines for Graduate Auditions

If you live more than 500 kms away from Edmonton, graduate audition recordings for the 2025-2026 year may be conducted via video recordings (instead of live auditions). After you have completed and submitted the [Audition Application Form](#) you will be emailed a separate form to submit your audition recordings (as YouTube links).

DEADLINE: January 9th Midnight MT

For audition requirements for your instrument, voice type or ensemble, please see the [Graduate Audition Repertoire Guide](#).

Technical Guidelines & Tips:

- Suggested video quality: 720p-1080p HD at 30fps
- Please film from a fixed camera position with no panning or zooming, from approximately 6-10 feet away.
- If you are in a reverberant space (a church, large room, etc.) the musician might consider moving the recorder closer to the sound source, to clarify the sound of their instrument and reduce interference of primary sound reflections.
- Generally, the recorder should be 1/3 as close to the instrument as it is to reflecting surfaces, such as walls, ceiling, floor. Obviously this isn't possible if recording in a small room, but find a balance.
- Always do test recordings. Listen through, especially segments with louder dynamics, to ensure that they are not distorted at peak levels. Check instrument balance - move the recorder accordingly. Listen/Watch on a variety of player devices, listen with headphones in a quiet space, send it to your TV.
- If you are having technical challenges, please contact our department's Production Coordinator/Technician, Russell Baker (rbaker@ualberta.ca) for advice.
- You may either submit all pieces in a single file or submit separate files for each piece.
- For conducting auditions, please ensure it is a front view of the conductor.
- After your completed [Audition Application Form](#) has been received (no later than December 1), you will be sent a separate form which will allow you to provide details and links (e.g. YouTube or Vimeo) to your video materials. If you have submitted your Audition Application Form and have not received the second form, please email musicgs@ualberta.ca

Frequently Asked Questions:

- **Q:** Can I submit older recordings (e.g. from a senior recital) or unaccompanied recordings?"

A: In general, audition videos should be recent performances (ideally not older than 6 months, if possible) and they should be unedited (i.e. performed in a single take).

Applicants are encouraged to submit whatever recordings they have that best represent their artistic abilities. Please note that this topic is ultimately at the discretion of the faculty members in the relevant area of study (i.e. instrument/voice/ensemble); additional, area-specific details may be found in the [Graduate Audition Guide](#). If further details are required, applicants are encouraged to contact a [Full-Time Faculty member in the relevant area](#). If you are unsure which faculty member to contact, please email musicgs@ualberta.ca

- **Q:** “Do recordings need to be in a single take for the entire program, or per piece?”

A: Recordings should be unedited performances of complete works (e.g. a single take for a multi-movement sonata or concerto). Applicants are encouraged to submit each complete work as a separate video link (as opposed to a single take of the entire audition/recital program).

- **Q:** “Is there required attire for the video audition?”

A: Applicants are encouraged to present themselves as they would for a live audition or public performance.