

Drake University Department of Music
Vocal Accompanist Policy
FALL 2024-SPRING 2025

ATTENDANCE

1. **Vocal Music Majors:** During the 14-week semester, the pianist will be present for half of the student's lesson time (30 minutes/week), rehearse with students outside of the lesson time (30 minutes/week), and accompany the student during studio classes and departmental recitals as scheduled.
2. **Vocal Minors and Non-major Participants:** Voice *minors* are not required to have an accompanist in the lesson nor a weekly rehearsal with their pianist outside of their studio lesson time. Instructors will assist minors in securing a pianist to play for their final jury. The singer must contact and schedule 2-3 rehearsals with the pianist prior to the jury.
3. Attendance is mandatory. Voice instructors will be notified of unsatisfactory attendance.
4. Prior to scheduling any events, you must consult with your instructor and accompanist. *Accompanists reserve the right to decline requests made later than 4 weeks prior to event including 'last minute' substitute requests.*
6. In the case of an instructor or pianist taking a sabbatical/leave of absence, scheduling and policies will be discussed prior to the absence.

Please note: Students should make every effort to attend their scheduled rehearsal and lesson time according to the policies below in order to respect the accompanists valuable time and be in accordance with Drake policies for the accompanists to be compensated for their time and important work.

STUDENT CANCELLATIONS

1. Students must provide advanced written notice to both the instructor and the accompanist regarding cancellations/illness. A make-up time will be provided if more than 24-hour notice of a cancellation is given (in writing via email or cell phone message/text), solely at the accompanist's availability. It must be made up within 2 weeks, or the time is forfeited.
2. Any rehearsal /lesson/etc. missed with less than 24-hour notice for any reason including illness, is forfeited.
3. If you are cancelling a lesson for which both your instructor and your accompanist are scheduled, the student must also notify the accompanist at least 24 hours in advance (in writing via email and/or phone text).
4. Students should consult both the *instructor* and accompanist's syllabi for details and policies regarding cancellations; a written notice does not equate to an excused absence. Not adhering to the cancellations policy may result in forfeiting your time.

INSTRUCTOR CANCELLATIONS

1. If Vocal Instructors cancel a lesson for which the accompanist is scheduled, the student must rehearse with your accompanist in their studio during your lesson time.

ACCOMPANIST CANCELLATIONS

1. If an accompanist cancels, the accompanist will provide makeup options. Students should consult individual pianists' policies.

CAMPUS CANCELLATIONS (weather, emergency)

1. Student must contact accompanist within 7 days to schedule a makeup time.

PROVIDING MUSIC

COVID-19 protocol:

All music should be sent to pianists electronically. You must own an original copy of the music.

Non-COVID-19 semesters:

1. Photocopied music, in the correct key, should be provided within a week of its assignment. All lesson music, with rare exception, must be photocopied and provided before the midterm break. You must own the original score and comply with any copyright guidelines.
2. The title and all parts of the score must be clearly visible.
3. Minimize page turns. For example, copy a 2-page piece on 2 pages and a 4-page piece on 2 pages.
4. Alterations in repertoire will be in consultation with the accompanist and the instructor.

RECITALS

1. Students should discuss recital preparations and timelines with their instructors at least one semester in advance.
2. Students must confirm accompanist availability before scheduling any recitals, hearings, and dress rehearsals.
3. Accompanists will provide the student with an invoice regarding recital payment. Unless other arrangements have been made (i.e. payment plan), full payment is due at the dress rehearsal or on the day of the recital. *An accompanist will not play a recital without pre-payment.*
4. Given an instructor's consent, should a student opt to miss the next scheduled lesson or rehearsal time after the recital, either A) it is the student's responsibility to reschedule the time as a pre-recital rehearsal *prior* to the recital date, or B) the time is forfeited.

Attendance is still mandatory at all other regularly scheduled times, and the student will be billed as usual. All cancellation policies apply.

5. <https://www.drake.edu/music/currentstudentresources/recitalpolicies/>

PAYMENT

1. Music 171 students prepay an Accompanist Fee through your student account for 14 hours (**\$650**) of weekly lesson/rehearsal accompaniment time each semester as explained above. This fee is not prorated or refunded. However, all other fees (additional rehearsal time, departmental recitals, studios, masterclasses, recitals, etc.) are extra and will be billed to you directly by the accompanist.
2. Accompanists will provide invoices for all other fees, including associated fees for music minors/others. Payment must be made within 7 days of invoice receipt.
3. Invoice frequency and acceptable payment methods vary among accompanists; discuss individual accompanist expectations upon first meeting.

4. Full payment is due at the final rehearsal with the accompanist, or prior to the final jury performance. *An accompanist will not play a jury until all outstanding fees are paid, including the jury fee.*
5. Failure to compensate in a timely manner will result in an “academic hold” on the student’s account until payment is made.

FALL 2023 VOCAL ACCOMPANIST FEES

Lesson/Rehearsal/Recording: \$41/hour

Jury for Vocal Music, Music Education, or Musical Theatre Major: \$15/student

Jury for Music Minor or Non-major Participant: \$20/student

Departmental recital: \$15/student

Studio class: \$15/student

Honors Recital Audition: \$25/student

Honors Recital: \$30/student Covered by the Department

Masterclass: \$25/student

Pre-Recital Hearing: \$20/student

Student half recital: \$90

Student full recital: \$150

Faculty recital: negotiable

Guest recital: negotiable

State/Regional NATS competition:

- First round: \$40
- Semifinals: \$25
- Finals: \$20

State MTNA competition: \$100/student

Mileage/Hotel/Per Diem: divided equally among participants

General Audition fees/student (Opera Companies): \$20/audition

Recordings: COVID 19: Weekly rehearsal/lesson times can be used for services rendered from the student’s accounts upon agreement with instructor and accompanist. If all the weekly time from tuition/accompanist accounts have been used (14 hours), an extra fee will apply. \$15-30 (depending on difficulty)

Note: Complete list of Tuition and Fees: <https://www.drake.edu/finaid/tuition/>

Updated: 9/13/24 AKC