

Music Education

The Music Education major is designed to prepare students to teach music in grades K-12 in private or public schools. Due to the number of credits required, the music education degree normally takes 4 1/2 years to complete. All students who plan to declare music as their major must submit a Music Audition Application and go through an audition process to be considered for acceptance into the music program. See unwsp.edu/music for more information.

What Type of Work are Related to this Degree?

- Teaching in your area of specialty
- Private tutoring
- Creating/directing educational programs
- Curriculum development
- Instructional design (technology training may be required)
- Textbook editing
- Online education
- Corporate or business training and development
- Private instructor
- Music librarian
- Administrative positions in music/fine arts
- Missions/ Ethnomusicology

Who Employs People with this Degree?

- Schools of all kinds-public, private, charter, international, government, residential
- Day care and nursery school
- Parks and recreation departments
- Educational testing companies
- Curriculum/educational publishers
- School district offices
- Educational research firms
- Industries related to your subject area
- Non-profit organizations
- Universities and colleges (may require graduate school)
- Private music studios

More information at ONETonline.org

General Strategies for Success:

- Requirements for certification/licensure vary by state. Multiple certifications will increase employability. A master's degree will increase earning potential.
- Be willing to work hard at finding a job and to go where the jobs are.
- Obtain part-time, summer, internship, or volunteer experience with the age group you intend to work with in various settings: pre-schools, daycares, camps, community agencies, adult centers, YMCA's, etc.
- Participate in co-curricular activities and related organizations to broaden skills, interests, and opportunities.
- Identify transferable skills learned in teaching applicable to other careers: written and verbal communication, teaching and instruction, program planning, organization and record keeping, working under pressure and meeting deadlines, motivational skills, creativity, working autonomously, decision-making, problem solving.

Professional Associations

American College Personnel Association
American Educational Research Association
American Federation of Teachers
Association for Experiential Education
National Education Association
US Department of Education (listing of associations)
Minnesota Music Educators Association
National Association for Music Education
American School Band Directors Association
Minnesota Band Directors Association
American Choral Directors Association
National Orchestral Association

This information represents possible occupations and strategies for careers with this major. As with any job or career, there may be additional qualifications or experience needed. For more information and options, make an appointment with Career & Leadership Development or check out our online resources on our website or on myUNW, Career & Leadership Development tab.