

# Table of Contents

---

Foreword .....	2	www.bccmusic.ca .....	2
----------------	---	-----------------------	---

## General Information

---

Application Forms and Procedure .....	3	Examination Results .....	6
Examination Schedule .....	3	Certificates and Diplomas .....	6
Confirmation Timetable .....	4	Diploma and Theory co-requisites or pre-requisites .....	7
Secondary School Music Credit .....	4	L.B.C.M Performance Diploma. and Associate Teacher Diploma – B.C.M.A .....	8
Accreditation .....	5	Applying for Diploma Examinations .....	8
College of Examiners .....	5	Comprehensive Theory Examination .....	9
Examination System .....	5	Associate Teacher Diploma B.C.M.A. ....	9
Diploma Programs .....	5	Licentiate Honours L.B.C.M. Hon. and Fellowship F.B.C.M. ....	9
Religious Holidays .....	5		
Fee Extensions .....	5		

## Examination Requirements

---

Books for Examiners' Reference .....	10	Fingering .....	10
Editions .....	10	Substitution Pieces .....	11
Repeats .....	10	Supplemental Examinations .....	11
Memory .....	10	Classification of Marks for Piano examinations .....	11
Studies .....	10	Classification of Marks for Theory examinations .....	12
Technique .....	10	Exemption Summary .....	13
Small Hands .....	10		

## Practical Examinations

---

Preliminary .....	14	Advanced Performance Certificate .....	77
Grade 1 .....	17	Piano Teacher Program .....	78
Grade 2 .....	21	Associate Teacher, B.C.M.A. ....	78
Grade 3 .....	25	Part 1 - Musicianship .....	79
Grade 4 .....	30	Part 2 - Viva Voce. ....	79
Grade 5 .....	36	Part 3 - Teachers Written .....	80
Grade 6 .....	41	Overall Requirements .....	81
Grade 7 .....	48	Technique Requirements .....	81
Grade 8 .....	55	Piano Pedagogy Certificate .....	85
Grade 9 .....	62	Licentiate Performance, L.B.C.M. ....	86
Grade 10 .....	69	Licentiate Honours , L.B.C.M. Hon ....	86
		Fellowship Diploma, F.B.C.M .....	92

## Appendices

---

Appendices .....	96	Arpeggios .....	104
Mark Distribution Table .....	96	Cadences .....	106
Technical Requirements		Melody Harmonization	
Scales .....	98	Sample Solutions .....	107
Chords .....	101		

# Foreword

---

The *British Columbia Conservatory of Music Piano Examination Program* recognizes student achievement through a well-planned course of study, from beginner to advanced levels.

Involvement in the arts is considered a fundamental component of human culture and behaviour. With the increased interest in music as a means of the development and expansion of the creative process, essential study skills, concentration and self-discipline, which virtually guarantees future success in any field, the *BCCM Piano Examination Program* provides a stimulating, comprehensive goal for all students.

The curriculum has been developed by knowledgeable professionals in the field of piano study. Both repertoire and technical requirements have been selected to represent a logical progression of skill development suitable for each level.

You are invited to join the growing number of teachers and students who are discovering the benefits of the *British Columbia Conservatory of Music Examination Program* as a rewarding experience based on personal development and setting goals of a high academic standard and service to the community.

[www.bccmusic.ca](http://www.bccmusic.ca)

---

- Online registration for piano and theory examinations
- Choose a printable examination form online to complete and mail
- Review fees and check dates for practical and theory examinations
- Secondary school credit available for Fine Arts
- Printable examination syllabus for each grade directly from the website

# General Information

---

## Application Forms and Procedure

The British Columbia Conservatory of Music Examination system is open to all piano students worldwide. Applications for examinations may be submitted online, faxed or mailed. Any mailed application that is postmarked on or before the closing date will be accepted. Late applications will be accepted at the discretion of BCCM Examinations.

Complete a separate application form for each practical and theory examination.

- For mailed applications, payment is accepted by credit card, cheque or money order.
- Do not mail cash.
- Application *closing dates* for piano and theory examinations are generally:

mid-April, for June examinations (spring session)

mid-July, for mid-August examinations (summer session)

mid-November, for January examinations (winter session)

- Written inquiries and application forms should be addressed to:

### **British Columbia**

#### **Conservatory of Music**

4549 E Hastings St.

Burnaby, B.C.

Canada V5C 2K3

**Attn: Examinations**

## Examination Schedule

Examinations are held three times throughout the year. The exact dates of examinations are indicated on a current application located at [www.BCCMusic.ca](http://www.BCCMusic.ca).

### • **Piano Examinations**

Spring: last two weeks of June

Summer: mid-August

Winter: last two weeks of January

### • **Theory Examinations**

Spring: second Friday of May

Summer: mid-August

Winter: second Friday of December

## Confirmation Timetable

Candidates will be sent a *confirmation timetable* indicating the time, date and location of the examination.

- List the titles and composers of pieces to be performed, including any concert studies directly on the *confirmation timetable*.
- Bring the *confirmation timetable* to your examination. The candidate must present it to the examiner.

## Accreditation

British Columbia Conservatory of Music is accredited by the B.C. Ministry of Education of the Province of British Columbia and certified as a post-secondary institution by the Canadian Federal Government, Ottawa, Canada. Accreditation by the B.C. Ministry of Education provides all students taking BCCM examinations the opportunity to claim credit towards secondary school graduation.

## Secondary School Music Credit

Achievement in BCCM Examinations has been recognized by the BC Ministry of Education for credit towards secondary school graduation. Upon presentation of a BCCM transcript, students will receive High School credit for piano and theory examinations.

**Fine Arts 10, Fine Arts 11 and Fine Arts 12 are each, 4 credit courses.**  
BCCM Examinations is accredited as follows:

BCCM Piano and Theory Course	High School Grade	Credits per Course	Total Credits
Grade 6 Piano	Fine Arts 10	2	4
Grade 6 Theory		2	
Grade 7 Piano	Fine Arts 11	2	4
Grade 7 Theory		2	
Grade 8 Piano	Fine Arts 12	2	4
Grade 8 Theory		2	

A link to the B.C. Ministry of Education can be found on the British Columbia Conservatory of Music website, [www.BCCMusic.ca](http://www.BCCMusic.ca).

## College of Examiners

The College of examiners of the British Columbia Conservatory of Music is comprised of highly trained and experienced pianists and teachers of piano. All have been selected on their experiential and academic credentials.

## Examination System

The examination system of the BCCM includes graded levels from Preliminary to Grade 10, Advanced Performance Certificate and, the diploma programs from Associate level to Fellowship.

## Diploma Programs

The following diploma programs are described in detail in this syllabus.

Associate Teacher Diploma	B.C.M.A.
Licentiate Performance Diploma	L.B.C.M.
Licentiate Honours Diploma	L.B.C.M. Hon.
Fellowship Diploma	F.B.C.M.

## Religious Holidays

Candidates may request in writing that their examination not be scheduled on a certain day for religious observances.

## Fee Extensions

Extensions will be granted for the following reasons:

- Due to illness
  - The candidate must submit a doctor's certificate that is dated no later than the day of the scheduled examination.
- Direct conflict with school examinations
  - The candidate must submit note from their school principal or counselor, indicating they are unable to attend due to examination timetable conflict.

The fee extension is valid for one year from the date of the missed examination and must be applied for during the same one year period. A candidate must re-apply for an ensuing examination session and, may choose to take the examination originally applied for OR, have the fee extension apply to an examination of another grade. The candidate must indicate, with a note attached to the examination entry form, there is a fee extension credit available to them. No refund of fees will be forthcoming.

## Examination Results

Decisions of the Examiner are normally final. Any extenuating circumstances or complaints must be made to the BCCM Examination Coordinator within seven (7) days of receiving examination results. The concern will be considered and a final response will be returned within two weeks.

## Certificates and Diplomas

*There are no theory co-requisites or pre-requisites for Preliminary to Grade 10 or Advanced Performance Certificate.* The following chart serves as a *guideline only* to indicate which theory subjects are *appropriate* for corresponding Piano Examinations. A separate certificate will be issued upon the completion of **each** examination of *Piano* or *Theory*.

Practical Examination	Theory Examination
Preliminary	
Grade 1 Piano	
Grade 2 Piano	
Grade 3 Piano	
Grade 4 Piano	
Grade 5 Piano	Grade 5 Theory
Grade 6 Piano	Grade 6 Theory
Grade 7 Piano	Grade 7 Theory
Grade 8 Piano	Grade 8 Theory
Grade 9 Piano	Grade 9 Harmony and Grade 9 History
Grade 10 Piano	Grade 10 Harmony and Grade 10 History
Advanced Performance Certificate	There are no theory co-requisites or pre-requisites for this certificate
Piano Pedagogy Certificate	Viva Voce and Teachers Written

## Piano Teacher Program

### Piano Pedagogy Certificate

The **Piano Teacher Program** is open to candidates who have completed Grade 10 Piano or who are currently studying at the Grade 10, Associate, Licentiate or Fellowship level OR, who have other comparable credentials. There are two examinations required for this certificate involving ONE *Viva Voce* examination and ONE *Teachers Written* examination. The **Piano Pedagogy Certificate** may be used as a co-requisite for the Associate Teachers Diploma (see page 78).

### L.B.C.M Diploma and the Associate Teacher Diploma – B.C.M.A.

L.B.C.M. Diploma may be used as Substitute for the Repertoire Portion of Part 1 of the Associate Teacher Diploma – B.C.M.A. Candidates who have passed the Licentiate Performance L.B.C.M., Licentiate Honours L.B.C.M. Hon. or equivalent (e.g. B.Mus.) may request exemption from the performance of repertoire portion of Part 1 of the Associate Teacher B.C.M.A. examination. The two remaining Parts of the Associate Teacher B.C.M.A. examination, Part 2 and Part 3, must be completed at one session and, within two years from the date of the Licentiate L.B.C.M. or equivalent examination.

The Licentiate L.B.C.M. and the Associate Teacher B.C.M.A. may not be attempted at the same examination session.

## Diplomas - Theory co-requisites

**Diplomas** for the Associate Teacher B.C.M.A., Licentiate Performance L.B.C.M., Licentiate Honours L.B.C.M. Hon. and Fellowship F.B.C.M. are issued upon *completion* of all applicable theory co-requisites and respective piano examinations. The following chart indicates specific theory co-requisites for corresponding Piano Examinations.

Diploma	Theory co-requisites
Associate Teacher Diploma B.C.M.A.	<p>Theory co-requisites:  Part 2-<i>Teachers Written</i> and  Part 3-<i>Viva Voce</i>  <i>plus</i>,  Grade 8 Theory, Grade 9 Harmony, Grade 9 History, Grade 10 Harmony  Grade 10 History, Diploma Harmony and Counterpoint, Analysis  OR  a comprehensive theory examination  OR  approved theory equivalency</p>
Licentiate Performance Diploma L.B.C.M	There are no theory co-requisites - performance only.
Licentiate Honours Diploma L.B.C.M. Hon.	<p>Theory co-requisites:  Grade 8 Theory, Grade 9 Harmony, Grade 9 History  Grade 10 Harmony/Counterpoint, Grade 10 History  Diploma Harmony/Counterpoint, Analysis  OR  a comprehensive theory examination  OR  approved theory equivalency</p> <p>Note: There is no diploma level History, all eras are explored in Grade 9 and Grade 10 History</p>
Fellowship Diploma F.B.C.M.	<p>Theory co-requisites:  Grade 8 Theory, Grade 9 Harmony, Grade 9 History  Grade 10 Harmony/Counterpoint, Grade 10 History  Diploma Harmony/Counterpoint, Analysis  OR  a comprehensive theory examination  OR  approved theory equivalency</p> <p>Note: There is no diploma level History, all eras are explored in Grade 9 and Grade 10 History</p>

# **Applying for Diploma Examinations**

---

Candidates may challenge the Associate Teacher B.C.M.A., Licentiate Performance, L.B.C.M., Licentiate Honours, L.B.C.M. Hon. Diploma as there are no practical pre-requisites for these examinations.

## **Associate Teacher, B.C.M.A.**

- There are no theory co-requisites for this examination. Candidates will be required to present documentation showing achievement in respective theory courses, see page 7.

## **Licentiate Performance, L.B.C.M.**

- There are no theory co-requisites for this examination.

## **Licentiate Honours, L.B.C.M. Hon.**

- There are no theory co-requisites for this examination. Candidates will be required to present documentation showing achievement in respective theory courses, see page 7.

## **Fellowship, F.B.C.M.**

- Candidates who have already achieved a Diploma in Piano performance from B.Mus., M.Mus., or a comparable standing from a Conservatory, College or University may apply directly for the Fellowship examination.
- Documentation of any previous examination standing or credentials must accompany the application.
- There are co-requisites for this examination.



# Comprehensive Theory Examinations

---

Students will be considered for exemption from writing the Comprehensive Theory examination for the Associate Teacher Diploma B.C.M.A., Licentiate Honours Diploma, L.B.C.M. Hon. and Fellowship Diploma, F.B.C.M. provided they have earned a degree or diploma from another recognized music institution. Such documentation must accompany their examination application.

Please note that candidates wishing to use the Comprehensive Theory Examination to satisfy the prerequisite and/or co-requisite theory requirements for a practical L.B.C.M. Hon. or F.B.C.M. examination must complete the Comprehensive Theory Examination before applying for the any of these examinations. Candidates wishing to use the Comprehensive Theory Examination to satisfy the co-requisite theory requirements for the Associate Teacher B.C.M.A. examination must complete the Comprehensive Theory Examination within two years following the date of the final practical examination.

The examination tests the candidate's knowledge of the following subject areas:

## **Rudiments**

Based on material required for Grade 8 Theory.

## **Harmony/Counterpoint**

Based on material required for Grade 9 to Diploma subject areas:

- chords and Non-chord notes
- harmonization and modulation
- tri-tone
- harmonic analysis
- structural analysis of a sonata movement
- augmented 6<sup>th</sup>, and Neapolitan 6<sup>th</sup>
- two-part free counterpoint in 18<sup>th</sup> century style

## **History**

A general knowledge of music history of the Baroque period to the present. Candidates may be asked to answer multiple choice or matching questions, define terms or write short essays.

Refer to the current edition of the British Columbia Conservatory of Music Theory Syllabus for all course details. A sample comprehensive examination is available at [www.bccmusic.ca](http://www.bccmusic.ca)

# Examination Requirements

---

## Books for Examiners' Reference

Published books of all works performed must be brought to the examination for the use by the examiner(s). No photocopies will be allowed, with the following exception: Photocopies authorized in writing by the publisher.

## Editions

Although specific editions may be mentioned in the syllabus for the sake of identifying and simplifying access to specific works, the use of any good edition of a composition is permitted.

## Repeats

Generally speaking, only *Da Capo* and *Dal Segno* signs should be observed. Short repeats that may be necessary for balance in a composition (e.g. Some Sonata, Scherzi or Minuets) may be played.

## Memory

Memorization requirements differ at various grade levels and are explained as follows:

- For Grades 1 to 9, two marks are awarded for each selection played from memory. At the discretion of the examiner partial marks will be deducted for reference to the score.
- For Grade 10, Advanced Performance Certificate, Licentiate Performance, L.B.C.M. and Licentiate Honours, L.B.C.M. Hon., performance from memory expected. There are no marks awarded for memory. At the discretion of the examiner partial marks will be deducted for reference to the score.
- For the Fellowship Diploma F.B.C.M., memorization is compulsory. There are no marks awarded for memory. Candidates not playing from memory will receive comments only. No marks will be awarded for the entire examination.
- For the Associate Teacher B.C.M.A. examination memorization, though not compulsory, is encouraged. There are no marks awarded for memory, nor marks deducted for reference to the score.

## Studies

In all grades studies need not be memorized and no extra marks will be awarded for those that are played from memory. Memorization, though not compulsory, is encouraged.

## Technique

Technical tests in all grades must be memorized. Reference to printed material disallowed.

## Small Hands

Request for exemption from playing solid four-note chords tonic chords and octave scales must be indicated in writing and included with the application form.

## Substitution Pieces (or own choice)

The candidate is allowed one *substitution piece* at any grade level without prior approval.

- The *substitution piece* may replace a *study* or selection from the *repertoire* list.
- The *substitution piece* may be chosen from the BCCM Piano Syllabus, or any current or past syllabus available in the province.
- A *substitution piece* chosen from outside the BCCM syllabus must reflect grade equivalence and era similar to BCCM requirements and may be up to TWO grades higher than the examination level for which the candidate has applied.
- Only one *substitution piece* is permitted per candidate per session.
- A *substitution piece* chosen from any Popular Selection List may replace only a study for grades three (3) to nine (9). The selection must reflect grade equivalency.

## Supplemental Examinations

Supplemental examinations are available for any portion of Grade 10 or Associate Teachers B.C.M.A. examination.

- Supplemental examinations are available for repertoire, technique (including studies), ear tests and sight reading.
- A minimum mark of 70 percent is required to pass any section of a supplemental examination.
- Supplemental examinations are available during regular examination sessions. A special examination may be arranged outside of regular examination sessions. A letter of request is required.
- Supplemental examinations must be completed within two years from date of the original examination.
- Candidates who are not successful on all supplemental examinations within the two year period must retake the entire examination.
- There are no supplemental examinations available for the Licentiate Performance, Licentiate Honours or Fellowship Diploma.

## Classification of Marks for Piano Examinations

---

- For graded examinations 1 to 9 candidates must achieve a minimum total mark of 60 percent to pass.
- For the Advanced Performance Certificate, Grade 10 and Associate Teacher Diploma – BCMA, candidates must achieve a minimum mark of 70 percent in all sections to pass. Licentiate Diploma and Licentiate Honours Diploma require 70 percent in performance of pieces to pass.
- There is no mark breakdown for the *repertoire section* in Part 1 of the Associate Teacher B.C.M.A. examination. The mark received reflects a standing of all pieces played.
- There is no mark breakdown for the Fellowship Diploma F.B.C.M.. The candidate will receive an overall mark classification indicated as either First Class Honours with Distinction, First Class Honours or Honours. The classification received reflects a standing of all pieces played.

### Grades 1 to 9

First Class Honours with Distinction	90 % and above
First Class Honours	80 – 89
Honours	70 – 79
Pass	60 – 69

### Advanced Performance Certificate, Grade 10 and Associate Teacher Diploma - B.C.M.A.

First Class Honours with Distinction	90 % and above
First Class Honours	80 – 89
Honours	70 – 79

### Licentiate Performance Diploma, L.B.C.M. and Licentiate Honours Diploma, L.B.C.M. Hon.

First Class Honours with Distinction	90 % and above
First Class Honours	80 – 89
Honours	70 – 79

### Fellowship Diploma

An indication of *First Class Honours with Distinction*, *First Class Honours*, or *Honours* is awarded representing the overall evaluation of their performance. Those not successful will be advised that they “*failed to meet all requirements*” and may retry the examination in a future session.

## Classification of Marks for Theory Examinations

First Class Honours with Distinction	90 % and above
First Class Honours	80 – 89
Honours	70 – 79
Pass	60 – 69

# Exemption Summary

Documentation presented to BCCM Examinations in consideration for exemption must be current. Theory courses or practical work must have been completed within the past five years. Once exemption for certain portions of the examination is granted, the remaining sections must be completed within two years from the date that the exemption was approved.

Diploma	Portion of Examination	Exemption
Associate Teacher B.C.M.A.	<b>Part 1</b> Performance	Exemptions or transfer credit available with documentation.
	<b>Part 2</b> <i>Teachers Written</i>	Exemptions or transfer credit unavailable
	<b>Part 3</b> <i>Viva Voce</i>	Exemptions or transfer credit unavailable
	<b>Theory co-requisites</b> Grade 8 Theory Grade 9 Harmony, Grade 9 History Grade 10 Harmony/Counterpoint, Grade 10 History Diploma Harmony/Counterpoint, Analysis OR a comprehensive theory examination or an approved theory equivalency  Note: There is no diploma level History, all eras are explored in Grade 9 and Grade 10 History	Transfer credit available with documentation.
Licentiate Performance L.B.C.M.	Performance	Exemptions unavailable
	<b>Theory co-requisites</b> None - this diploma is performance only	
Licentiate Honours L.B.C.M. Hon.	Performance	Exemptions or transfer credit unavailable
	<b>Theory co-requisites</b> Grade 8 Theory Grade 9 Harmony, Grade 9 History Grade 10 Harmony/Counterpoint, Grade 10 History Diploma Harmony/Counterpoint, Analysis OR a comprehensive theory examination or an approved theory equivalency  Note: There is no diploma level History, all eras are explored in Grade 9 and Grade 10 History	Transfer credit available with documentation.
Fellowship F.B.C.M..	Performance	Exemptions or transfer credit unavailable
	<b>Theory co-requisites</b> Grade 8 Theory Grade 9 Harmony, Grade 9 History Grade 10 Harmony/Counterpoint, Grade 10 History Diploma Harmony/Counterpoint, Analysis OR a comprehensive theory examination or an approved theory equivalency  Note: There is no diploma level History, all eras are explored in Grade 9 and Grade 10 History	Exemptions or transfer credit available with documentation.