Music Education Requirements

Please note the following financial obligations that all Music Education majors are required to undertake:

- Music Education students must pay yearly for a National Association for Music Education (NAFME) membership. Illinois collegiate dues for 2015-2016 are $35. For more information, visit the NAFME website [http://www.nafme.org/](http://www.nafme.org/).

- The annual Illinois Music Educators Association (IMEA) Conference in Peoria, Illinois is a required event for all Music Education majors. Students should be prepared to pay $40 to attend, plus meals for two days of the event. The dates of the 2016 Illinois Music Education Conference are January 27 – 30. [http://www.ilmea.org/](http://www.ilmea.org/)

- Illinois law requires Illinois school boards to conduct a criminal background investigation on all applicants for employment. First year Music Education majors are responsible for the expense of the criminal background check. Criminal background checks expire after three years. Requirements for the background check and costs connected with this will be discussed in ME 149 and ME 200 classes at the first meetings. More information, including fees, can be found at the Illinois State Board of Education website: [http://www.isbe.state.il.us/](http://www.isbe.state.il.us/).

- Music Education students who need to prepare for the TAP skill tests or Content Skills test will have expenses for preparation as well as for the test itself. The TAP skill tests are required of all students who have scored under a 22 composite score on the ACT exam. The composite score must include the writing section of the ACT. If the written section was not taken, the student will need to arrange to take that portion of the test through ACT and once the composite score is in and is 22 or above, the student will be exempt from the TAP test. Students with an ACT composite score lower than 22 will be required to take the TAP exam. The Content Skill exam takes place during year three of the four-year major or year four of the five-year double major. The Assessment of Professional Teaching (APT) exam is taken just before or during student teaching. All three exams must be passed before students can be licensed to teach. If any portion of these exams needs to be retaken, there are additional costs. More information may be found at the Illinois Licensure Testing System (ILTS) website: [http://www.il.nesinc.com/](http://www.il.nesinc.com/).

In Fall 2015, the State of Illinois plans to replace the APT exam with a portfolio assessment called edTPA, which each student will complete during the first part of their student teaching internship. This is required for licensure in Illinois and other states. The portfolio is submitted to the Pearson Corporation for external scoring; the cost of submission and scoring is $300.

- Upper Division Music Education students (third year for four-year majors, fourth year for five-year double majors and student teachers) must purchase a Taskstream account and create a digital portfolio. This account must be renewed every year from the time it is first required. Subscription rates vary; find more information at [www.taskstream.com](http://www.taskstream.com).

- Students are responsible for transportation costs to public school visits required of them in coursework or gathering of observation hours.

- Students are responsible for instrument rental deposit fees when taking instrument methods classes.