

Here are the answers to frequently asked questions.

Admissions:

Students may apply to the program by following this link.

<http://www.qc.cuny.edu/admissions/graduate/applying/Pages/Matriculation.aspx>

(This page will give you an overview of the application process. To find the application form, click on “future students.”)

An application fee of \$125 is required when you apply to the program. After you have submitted your application, you must schedule an appointment for your audition at Queens College. Auditions are held once a month or so—To schedule an appointment for an audition, please contact the music office at 718-997-3800 and request the next available audition date.

While in- person auditions are highly preferred, if it is impossible for you to appear in person at Queens College, we also do auditions via Skype. For the audition, please prepare a medium up-tempo rhythm changes in Bb, a ballad and a third tune that shows your ability to improvise over chord changes (you may also be asked to play on a blues.) Pianists and guitarists should prepare the ballad as a demonstration of their ability to play solo (alone). Sight-reading, finding chord changes at the piano and a theory test may also be part of the audition. A student rhythm section will be provided for the audition, Skype auditioners should have a rhythm section at their audition. For bassists, be prepared to play a variety of styles including swing in 2/4, walking in 4/4, latin, funk, playing melodies and soloing (as well as sight-reading). For drummers, soloing, trading, sight-reading, and playing in a variety of styles and tempos will be required. For vocalists, improvising (scatting) is required (in addition to the above-mentioned sight-reading, theory and piano skills.) To audition as a jazz composer, you must submit scores and recordings. Large ensemble scores are recommended, but not absolutely required for applicants seeking admittance to the jazz composition program.

The Program Requirements

There are two tracks to the M.M. Program in Jazz, the performance track and the composer track. The requirements for these programs overlap, but there are differences. For the Performance track the requirements are:

Improv I (for everyone except vocalists and drummers)	3 credit hours
Improv for Singers (required for vocalists)	3 credit hours
Improv for Drummers (required for drummers)	2 credit hours
Jazz History I	3 credit hours
Harmony I	3 credit hours
Arranging and Composition I	3 credit hours
3 semesters of private lesson	4 credit hours each semester, total: 12 credit hrs
3 semesters of ensembles	1 credit hour each, total 3 hrs
Requirements:	27 credit hours

Elective credits:	9 credit hours
Total number of credit hours required for the M.M. degree, performance track	36 credit hours
The composition track requirements are:	
Arranging and Composition I and II	3 credit hours each
Jazz History I	3 credit hours
Harmony I	3 credit hours
Jazz Style and Analysis	3 credit hours
Counterpoint	3 credit hours
3 semesters of private comp lesson hrs	4 hours each, total of 12 credit hrs
Requirements:	30 credit hours
Elective credits:	6 credit hours
Total number of credit hours required for the M.M. degree, composition track	36 credit hours

Both composers and performers must do a Graduate recital (uncredited) to graduate from the program.

Elective credits

A wide variety of classes are offered for elective credits that students can take to complete their degrees. These include Harmony II, Improv II, Arranging and Composition II, Piano Workshop for Non-Pianists I and II, Transcription and Eartraining, as well as classes in the Recording Department (Digital Recording I and II, Sequencing, and various seminars). Performers can take Counterpoint and Jazz Styles and Analysis for elective credit. New elective classes are often added and vary, semester to semester.

Private Lessons

Composers must take 3 semesters of composition lessons from Professor Michael Mossman or adjunct faculty members in the composition department. Performers are required to take instrumental lessons on their instrument for the first 2 of the 3 semesters of private lessons. For each instrument, there are either line-faculty private teachers or adjunct faculty teachers available. If there is a line-faculty member on your instrument, you must study your first semester of lessons (on a space available basis) with that line faculty member. Students who receive an A- or above for private lessons in their first two semesters, may elect to study with a teacher who teaches an instrument other than their instrument in their third semester, although studying all 3 semesters on your instrument is strongly encouraged. All students will choose from faculty members in the jazz program and cannot go outside of the program to take private lessons with musicians not on staff at the Aaron Copland School of Music.

The following is a list of the faculty of the Queens College Jazz Program. This list is subject to change:

Trumpet and Composition/Arranging: Michael Mossman (full time faculty)

Saxophone: Antonio Hart (full time faculty) Tim Armacost, John Ellis

Piano: David Berkman (full time faculty, Jazz Program Director) Jeb Patton

Guitar: Paul Bollenback, Peter Bernstein

Bass: Lonnie Plaxico, Joe Martin, David Wong

Drums and Percussion: Dennis Mackrel, Donald Edwards, Vince Cherico,
Rogerio Boccato

Trombone: Luis Bonilla

Voice: Charenee Wade, J.D. Walter

Schedule and Academic Calendars

To learn about: the first and last days of classes in each semester, holidays and registration deadlines, please visit

<http://www.qc.cuny.edu/registrar/schedule/Pages/default.aspx>

Tuition Costs

Below are the costs per credit hour as of Fall 2014. Payment is required after the student registers.

NY Resident Out-of State

These costs are subject to change.

Scholarships

Even though these costs may seem high compared to the cost of college in your country, the tuition at C.U.N.Y. colleges is the lowest in the tri-state area because they are, to a degree, subsidized by the city of New York. There are no scholarships available through the school to incoming international students. NY state residents may pursue financial aid options here, but be forewarned, these are fairly limited.

Tuition Costs

The cost of one credit hour, as of Spring 2015:

New York State resident \$405

Out of state and international students \$745

<http://www.qc.cuny.edu/admissions/bursar/Pages/QCTuitionCosts.aspx>

English Level

A TOEFL Scores of 79 or better is required for entrance into the Jazz Program. Occasionally this requirement can be waived if fluency in English can be demonstrated. Students with substandard English skills need to pursue English as a Second Language classes prior to applying for admittance to the college.

Immunization

All students are required to have proof of immunization against Measles, Mumps and Rubella as well as Meningitis before they can register for classes. For more

information on how to obtain proof of immunization please visit
<http://www.qc.cuny.edu/StudentLife/services/health/Pages/Immunizations.aspx>

For all questions regarding the Jazz Program:

Queens.jazz.college@gmail.com

Important phone numbers:

Aaron Copland School of Music 718-997-3800

Office of Graduate Admissions 718-997-5200

International Students Office 718-997-4440