

BENNINGTON COLLEGE

Office of Admissions • One College Drive • Bennington, Vermont • 05201 • 800-833-6845 • admissions@bennington.edu • www.bennington.edu

The Bennington Master of Fine Arts in Music Application

Deadlines

February 1	Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Music applications due (priority deadline)
April 1	Financial aid applications due

Application Checklist

In addition to the biographical information requested on the application, please send us the following materials:

- Your résumé.
- The \$60 (U.S.\$) non-refundable application fee made payable to “Bennington College” or a fee waiver.
- A portfolio of your work. You may include links to websites or DVD’s, flash drives, and/or links.
- A brief list and description of performing and teaching experiences and/or any creative projects completed outside the academic arena.
- An essay that discusses how you propose to use the College’s resources to accomplish the work you plan to pursue.

Optional: If you would like to apply for a graduate assistantship, please submit a statement that discusses your experience in your field and how your skills might serve as an asset to the teachers and/or students at the College. Students receiving graduate assistantships are expected to work 15 hours per week during the fall and spring terms in exchange for a 50 percent reduction in the total cost of tuition.

Please have the following materials sent to us under separate cover:

- Two letters of recommendation (please use the forms provided).
- Official transcripts from all colleges and universities you have attended.

Send all application materials to the Office of Admissions by the priority **deadline February 1**. Applications will be accepted through summer as space is available. You will be notified of our decision by April 1. We recommend that you save copies of everything you send to us.

Interviews are offered by faculty invitation only. Selected applicants will be contacted after completed applications have been reviewed.

If you would like to set up a campus visit or if you have any questions about the admissions process, please contact us at 800-833-6845 or admissions@bennington.edu.

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The Bennington Master of Fine Arts in Music Application

Applying for financial aid: Yes No

Applying for entrance in: Spring term Fall term 20 _____ (year)

Please type or neatly print the information requested below. Send this completed form to the Office of Admissions, along with a check for \$60 (U.S.\$) made payable to "Bennington College" or a fee waiver.

Last name _____ First name _____ Middle initial _____

Name you prefer to be called _____ Male Female

E-mail address _____

Mailing address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Home address (if different) _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Date of birth _____ Country of birth _____ Social security number _____

Language(s) spoken at home _____ Country of citizenship _____

If you are not a United States citizen, are you a permanent resident of the United States? Yes No

If yes, what is your green card number? _____ Visa type _____

Note: If necessary, please attach additional sheets to answer the questions that follow.

List all colleges or universities you have attended, dates of attendance, and degrees earned. Please have a transcript sent from each institution as soon as possible.

School _____ City _____ State _____

Dates attended _____ Degree/Major _____

School _____ City _____ State _____

Dates attended _____ Degree/Major _____

School _____ City _____ State _____

Dates attended _____ Degree/Major _____

School _____ City _____ State _____

Dates attended _____ Degree/Major _____

Briefly describe those scholastic or professional honors you have been awarded that you consider relevant to this application.

How did you hear about Bennington College? _____

Do you have any relatives or close friends who attended Bennington College? If so, please list their names, relationship to you, and year of graduation.

Optional

1. Are you Hispanic/Latino? Yes, Hispanic or Latino (including Spain) No

2. Regardless of your answer to the prior question, please select one or more of the following ethnicities that best describes you:

American Indian or Alaska Native (including all Original Peoples of the Americas)

Are you enrolled? Yes No If Yes, please enter Tribal Enrollment Number _____

Asian (including Indian subcontinent and Philippines)

Black or African American (including Africa and Caribbean)

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander (Original Peoples)

White (including Middle Eastern)

Please sign below to indicate that all the information you have included in your application is complete, accurate, and honestly presented.

Signature _____ Date _____

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Supplementary Materials: Master of Fine Arts in Music

We encourage you to include any materials that might give us a clearer picture of who you are and what you do (e.g., links to performances or photographs posted online, DVD's, flashdrives, writing samples). Please fill out this form, mark each piece "Supplementary Materials," and send this form with your materials to the Office of Admissions **before February 1**.

LAST NAME

FIRST NAME

MIDDLE INITIAL

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

COUNTRY

E-MAIL ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

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Recommendation: Master of Fine Arts in Music

CANDIDATE'S NAME

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

COUNTRY

E-MAIL ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

Briefly describe the context in which you know the recommender

If you wish to waive your right to see this report once it is written, please sign below.

CANDIDATE'S SIGNATURE

DATE

Recommender

The Admissions Committee appreciates the time and energy it takes to create a vivid portrait of a person, and we thank you for your help in adding to the picture created by the other parts of the application. Please comment on the candidate's work and accomplishments. We would also welcome your opinion of the candidate's character, intellectual passion, creativity, independence, and capacity for collaborative work, as well as any other aspects that you think deserve special mention. We also encourage you to call us directly and look forward to speaking with you in person. Our number is 800-833-6845.

Please use the reverse side for your comments, or submit a letter printed on your stationery. Please staple any additional sheets to this form and return it to **Bennington College, Office of Admissions, One College Drive, Bennington, Vermont 05201, by February 1.**

RECOMMENDER'S NAME

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

COUNTRY

E-MAIL ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

LENGTH OF TIME YOU HAVE KNOWN THE CANDIDATE

RECOMMENDER'S SIGNATURE

DATE

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Recommendation: Master of Fine Arts in Music

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MAILING ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

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LENGTH OF TIME YOU HAVE KNOWN THE CANDIDATE

RECOMMENDER'S SIGNATURE

DATE

BENNINGTON COLLEGE

Financial Aid Office • One College Drive • Bennington, Vermont 05201
802-440-4325 • Fax: 802-440-4880 • finaid@bennington.edu • www.bennington.edu

Financial Aid Checklist: Master of Fine Arts in Music

Federal Direct Student Loan

Students needing financial assistance generally depend upon federal loans, which are available to U.S. citizens and eligible non-citizens. Students may borrow up to the cost of education (tuition, estimated living expenses during the academic terms, and required books and supplies), minus other aid received. Funds are generally disbursed at the beginning of the academic term.

- **Unsubsidized Federal Direct Student Loans** have a fixed interest rate of 6.21%, and loan fees of 1.073% are taken from loan proceeds. Borrowers enrolled at least half-time may make regular interest-only payments while in school, or make no payments, adding the interest due to the total amount borrowed (capitalizing the interest).
- **Federal Grad PLUS Loan** Graduate students whose education costs are not entirely covered by the unsubsidized student loan may be eligible to borrow a PLUS loan in addition. The interest rate is fixed at 7.21%, and loan fees of 4.292% are taken from loan proceeds. Students interested in PLUS funding should notify the Financial Aid Office (finaid@bennington.edu) after receiving a financial aid award showing loan eligibility.

Applying for Aid

FAFSA deadline: **April 1, 2015** for September 2015 entry.

- 2015–2016 Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA)**—online at www.fafsa.ed.gov after January 1, 2015.
 - Before filing a FAFSA, get a **federal PIN** (or retrieve a forgotten one) from www.pin.ed.gov to use as your electronic signature. Once you have a federal PIN, complete the 2015–2016 FAFSA at www.fafsa.ed.gov. Please note: the Department of Education will change the login system in late April.
 - Enter your social security number and driver's license number correctly, and your name (and middle initial) as it appears on your social security card (FAFSA initiates a social security database match.)
 - Do use the FAFSA's IRS Data Retrieval tool if you have already filed your 2014 federal tax return, or you may request a Tax Return Transcript at irs.gov.
 - List Bennington College, Bennington, Vermont—**college code 003682**—as a recipient.
- 2015–2016 Bennington College Application for Financial Aid**—online at www.bennington.edu, **My Financial Aid**
 - Login with a Bennington aid student ID (sent after the application fee is paid)
 - Go to the “Apply Online” tab; an acknowledgement will pop up when it's successfully submitted
- Federal Direct Loan Master Promissory Note and, if a first-time borrower, Entrance Loan Counseling**
 - Complete at <https://studentloans.gov>.
 - Use your FAFSA federal PIN as your login and signature.

In April and May, for students who will attend Bennington

- **Confirm IRS figures on FAFSA** If you did not use IRS Data Retrieval when first filing the FAFSA, you must do so later. Several weeks after your family has filed 2014 federal income tax returns, log into the FAFSA again, and authorize IRS Data Retrieval for all relevant tax returns, parent and student or request a Tax Return Transcript at irs.gov. Due by **May 1**.
- If required per aid award letter, complete and submit a 2015–2016 Verification Worksheet to Bennington.
- Accept, decline, or reduce the funds in your financial aid award online at **My Financial Aid**.
- Submit loan authorization and other forms (as required per **My Financial Aid**, Documents tab) directly to the Financial Aid Office.

Please note:

- Your FAFSA should be submitted by **April 1, 2015**. The Bennington Aid Application is due as soon as possible after. You must request FAFSA-IRS Data Retrieval or IRS Tax Return Transcript by May 1.