

**McNally Smith College of Music
Guitar Department**

The successful prospective student should demonstrate the knowledge of basic guitar technique and playing skills. This will include the ability to play scale and chords, rhythm playing, and soloing.

The student must bring the essential items (a guitar, tuner, cord, picks, extra strings – plan for the unexpected). If you plan to play solo pieces, bring an acoustic or classical guitar in addition to an electric guitar.

Be certain that you dress in a professional manner for the audition.

Arrive early for your audition and be certain that your guitar is in tune before the audition.

Those auditioning for Guitar Performance will be given sample melodies and chord progressions upon arrival at the school. You will have access to a practice room with 10 minutes to prepare these for the audition.

The material covered during the audition includes:

Sight Reading:

Demonstrate the ability to read a simple melody and play in it tempo.

*Be able to name the notes on the first 5 frets of all strings

Chord Shapes:

- Open Position Chords
 - C G, E, B7, etc.
- Barre Chords:
 - Root 6th string:
 - Major, Minor, Major 7, Dominant 7, Min 7
- Barre Chords:
 - Root 5th string:
 - Major, Minor, Major 7, Dominant 7, Min 7

Diatonic Chord Progression and Rhythm Playing:

1. Power Chords (Rock Feel)
2. Diatonic 7th Chords (Ballad, and/or Jazz Feel)
3. 12-Bar Blues - Shuffle Rhythm

Scales and Arpeggios: 1 octave

- Major and Minor Pentatonic
- Major and Minor:
 - Fingerings examples: Leavitt, Segovia, 3 notes per string, etc.
- Arpeggios:
 - Major, Minor, Dominant 7th, Minor 7

Improvisation & Call and Response

4. Solo over a Blues in Key of E, G or A - live rhythm or pre-recorded backing track

5. Play back a melodic or rhythmic phrase

Prepared Solo Guitar Piece(s):

This can be a classical piece, a jazz chord-melody solo, an arrangement by a well-know player, or an original tune.