



## Bass Audition Requirements

Auditions are held at McNally Smith College of Music on specific dates each semester. Visit [www.mcnallysmith.edu/admissions/auditions](http://www.mcnallysmith.edu/admissions/auditions) for upcoming audition dates, then email [admissions@mcnallysmith.edu](mailto:admissions@mcnallysmith.edu) to schedule your audition time on one of the predetermined audition dates listed.

The audition has a number of components including:

- An in-person interview.
- Prepared Music: 4 required pieces and 1 student choice
- Performance of required reading pieces.
- Note placement, scales, intervals, triads, seventh chords, and pentatonic scales.
- Basic Skills and Musicianship Test

### The Interview

Adjudicators will ask the prospective student basic questions about their background and musical interests, including: any bass training (school or private), other instrumental skills, band/solo experience (either amateur or professional), etc. Other questions include perceived strengths and challenges on the instrument, influences, and specific hopes for their college experience.

### Required Audition Pieces

Applicants will find the required audition material on the website <http://www.mcnallysmith.edu/admissions/auditions>. Applicants will find mp3 recordings of the material with and without the bass. Applicants will also find the sheet music for the pieces in pdf form. Learn to play the “Shuffle Blues”, “Jazz Blues”, “Bossa Nova”, and the “Pop Groove”. There is no sheet music for the “Pop Groove”. This one needs to be figured out by ear. Also prepare for the “Sight-Reading” pieces.

### Basic Skills and Musicianship

Applicants will be tested on Pitch Matching, Rhythmic Matching, and other basic musical aptitude.

### Prepared Music

Applicants should bring in a piece of their choice, memorized with music provided for accompaniment. Pick something that best demonstrates your capabilities on the bass. The piece can be anything you wish, just make sure that it presents you at your best. If you feel that you cannot successfully complete the required portions of the audition, it is suggested that you consult a professional instructor to prepare you for entrance to the College. We will be happy to assist you in any way we can to help in your audition preparations. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions. You will find contact information below.

### What To Bring To Your Audition

- Your bass
- A 1/4” cable
- A tuner (please make sure your instrument is in tune)
- Any other items you may need (CD’s, iPod, etc.) to assist you in your audition

For Questions About Audition Content

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