

Frequently Asked Questions about the Cost of a Graduate Degree at Eastman

1) How much do lessons cost?

Lessons are billed at a fixed rate of \$7200 (for 2011-2012*) for a one-hour lesson per week (460A – 4 credits). Most MM students will take 4 semesters of 460A lessons, while most DMA students will take 6 semesters of 460A lessons.

2) How am I charged for all of my other courses?

All other courses are billed per credit hour. For 2011-2012, the rate is \$1200 per credit hour.

3) Are there any additional fees?

Yes. The following fees will be added to your tuition bill every semester:

Mandatory Health Fee: \$252 per semester*

Graduate Activity Fee: \$56 per semester*

Comprehensive Fee: \$138 per semester*

Orientation Fee: \$115 (charged only in the first semester of your degree program)*

4) What constitutes a full-time load?

Full-time status is determined by the number of credits for which you are registered in a given semester. There are four possible scenarios:

No Graduate Award: If you do not have a graduate award, you will need to be registered for 12 credits per semester to be considered a full-time student.

Graduate Award with tuition scholarship only: If you are only receiving a tuition scholarship, you will need to be registered for 12 credits per semester to be considered a full-time student.

Graduate Award with Conducting Orchestra only: If playing in Conducting Orchestra is the only job listed on your award, *and you are a first-year student*, then you will need to be registered for 12 credits per semester to be considered full time. After the first year of your degree, you will need only 9 credits per semester to be considered a full-time student.

Graduate Award with service to the School: If you have a Graduate Award that includes some service to the School (over and above Conducting Orchestra duties), then you only need 9 credits per semester to be considered a full-time student.

5) Will I need to take any remedial courses?

During orientation week placement exams in music history and music theory are administered to all incoming students. In addition, all incoming MM students take a listening exam, and international students for whom English is not their native language take an ESL exam. Based on the results of the placement exams, students may be required to enroll in some remedial coursework.

Remedial courses do not count towards degree requirements, but you are still charged for the credits (generally 1.5 credits per course). Also, remedial courses are not covered by your Graduate Award.

The following courses are considered remedial for graduate students at Eastman: any 100-level course, including TH 117, TH 118, and MHS 119, MHS 480 (for doctoral students), any ESL courses, and any foreign-language courses used to fulfill a foreign-language degree requirement.

6) Is there a residency requirement for my degree?

Yes. All graduate degrees at Eastman have at least a one-year full-time residency requirement. One year of residence is defined as two consecutive semesters of full-time study.

Residency requirements vary by degree and major, so please check with the [Academic Policy Handbook](#) to find out the specific requirements for your degree.

7) Must I be a full-time student after I fulfill my residency requirement?

No. You only need to be a full-time student for the following reasons:

- 1) You are an international student on an F-1 or J-1 visa.
- 2) You anticipate receiving federal student loans.
- 3) You need U of R health insurance and are not covered by another policy.

If you do not need full-time status for any of the above reasons, you may register as a part-time student.

8) Do I need to be a full-time student to receive a Graduate Award?

No. Your receipt of a Graduate Award is independent of your full- or part-time status.

* All dollar amounts are shown at the 2011-2012 rate. These rates will fluctuate every year. For a full description of all current tuition charges and fees, please see <http://www.esm.rochester.edu/registrar/fees/>.