
Information for Graduate Financial Aid

General Information on Graduate Merit-Based Aid

Upon admission, the Eastman School of Music provides financial support (if requested in the application) to graduate students through the Graduate Award program. The graduate awards are assigned by the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies (585-274-1560) and include **merit-based tuition scholarships and often, affiliated jobs**. If you do not indicate your interest in these awards in the application, you will not be scheduled for relevant interviews, and you will not be considered for these awards. We assign **merit tuition scholarship aid** based on the successful candidate's qualifications relative to their peer group of other admitted candidates, typically within their department. Direct comparisons for graduate awards and scholarships between departments and between specific instruments are harder to assess, given the different nature of degree programs of study. The Associate Dean for Graduate Studies, in consultation with the Faculty and the Director of Admissions, considers everything in the admissions file when making decisions about Graduate Awards and specific types of job specialties that are usually tied to specific awards. **Virtually all Eastman graduate tuition scholarships are linked to a graduate award.** You may elect to be considered for up to 4 graduate awards for which you qualify. In the online application, you must include detailed information of your qualifications either in the space provided or by uploading a separate document.

General Information on Graduate Need-Based Aid

While we recognize that most graduate students require financial aid, the Graduate Award program cannot offset all costs for all students. Graduate students are considered to be **'independent'** for the purposes of federal need-based financial assistance. After graduate award decisions have been made, students may be considered for Eastman need-based scholarships, or for federal and state need-based financial aid (loans, federal work study, state grants, etc.) based on information provided. Eligibility for all need-based aid requires applicants who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents to have a valid U.S. social security number on record; additionally, applicants are required to complete the **FAFSA**. Admitted candidates are awarded financial aid based on the information in the admission file and the information provided to the Eastman Financial Aid Office. A description of the financial aid process at Eastman is available on our website:

<http://www.esm.rochester.edu/financialaid>

INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS:

Those who are not U.S. citizens and who are not permanent residents) are considered for merit scholarships using the same criteria as those used for U.S. applicants. We also encourage international students to apply for scholarships in their home country. International applicants are not eligible for any U.S. federal need-based aid.

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) - Need-Based Financial Aid for U.S. citizens and permanent residents

- File your FAFSA online at www.FAFSA.ed.gov. Use estimated Federal income information for 2009 (to be filed in 2010) or your completed 2009 Federal Tax Return. Be sure to make corrections to your online FAFSA after you have filed your 2009 Federal Tax Return.
- Enter the Eastman code (**008124**) to have your FAFSA data sent electronically to Eastman.
- You will receive a Student Aid Report once the FAFSA is processed. **KEEP THIS REPORT**; do not send it to Eastman.
- For the quickest aid determination (in order to have your results by March 15), file after January 1, but before February 28.

The Eastman Financial Aid Office (585-274-1070) administers Federal, state and institutional financial aid funds. The Financial Aid office awards graduate students federal and state financial aid when the FAFSA is completed and received electronically at the Eastman Financial Aid Office. Graduate students must enroll for **six (6) or more credits per semester** and must maintain satisfactory academic progress to be eligible for Federal funds. Full-time enrollment at Eastman is defined as 12 or more credits per semester. If the student holds a Graduate Award that requires working for Eastman in some capacity, then these students are considered to be enrolled full-time with 9 or more credits per semester. Graduate students who have borrowed Federal Direct Loans from their undergraduate study must be registered for at least half-time enrollment (6 credit hours) to be eligible for an in-school payment deferral on those loans.

Transfer Applicants:

If you are currently enrolled in another school, you must submit a NASM transfer release form signed by a designated school official to be eligible for merit-based financial aid. In accordance with the NASM Code of Ethics, Eastman cannot ethically offer you merit-based financial aid without this completed release form.

Graduate Award Application and Interview

Graduate Award Specialties

Choose up to four Graduate Award specialties in the following section, numbering them according to priority for you in the online application (page 16). Be sure to complete any required supplemental forms and a detailed statement of your qualifications for each award chosen.

Graduate Awards 1 through 17 (studio teachers of the instruments listed). Applicants for these Awards are not required to perform an extra audition. Recommendations for recipients of these Awards are made by the faculty based on the applicant's audition.

Graduate Awards 25 through 27 (ensemble participation), are based on the applicant's audition and do not require an extra audition.

Graduate Awards 29 through 37 (departmental assistantships and classroom positions), do not require an additional interview. These awards are based on the applicant's audition/interview and are restricted to *applicants whose major is in the department listed*.

Graduate Award
1. Flute
2. Oboe
3. Clarinet
4. Bassoon
5. Saxophone
6. Horn
7. Trumpet
8. Trombone
9. Low Brass
10. Percussion
11. Violin
12. Viola
13. Violoncello
14. Double Bass
15. Harp
16. Guitar
17. Voice
<p>18. Piano (DMA piano performance and literature majors only) This Award, for studio teacher of piano, requires a special interview with the faculty supervisor. This interview is scheduled on the same weekend as the applicant's degree audition in Rochester. Graduate Award 18 is restricted to <i>DMA applicants only</i>.</p>
<p>19. Organ (DMA organ performance and literature majors only) This Award, for studio teacher of organ, is restricted to <i>DMA applicants only</i>. Faculty recommend applicants for this Award based on their audition for the DMA degree program; no extra audition is required.</p>
<p>20. Classroom Teacher of Piano (requires completion of supplemental form: Graduate Award No. 20) Eastman students who are, or have been enrolled in piano pedagogy coursework at Eastman must choose this Graduate Award in their application if they wish to be considered for this assistantship opportunity. Applicants who pass prescreening review will be scheduled for an interview on the audition day with Professor Caramia. This Award is normally available for <i>keyboard majors only</i> (piano performance, piano accompanying, harpsichord and organ majors).</p>
<p>21. Studio Accompanist, Piano (requires completion of supplemental form: Graduate Award No. 21) Applicants to degree programs in Piano Accompanying and Chamber Music are automatically considered for this Award, based on their <u>required live audition</u>. Other applicants for this Award must follow the instructions on the <u>relevant portion of this supplemental form</u>. This Award is normally for <i>keyboard majors only</i> (including piano performance majors, piano accompanying majors, harpsichord majors, and organ majors), and requires a collaborative audition with specific repertory. Applicants must have previous studio accompanying experience, and excellent sight-reading and score-reading ability. A collaborative audition for this Award will be scheduled on the same day as the applicant's degree audition. All candidates must submit a detailed ensemble repertory list.</p>
<p>22. Studio Accompanist, Harpsichord This Award is normally for <i>keyboard majors only</i> (including piano performance majors, piano accompanying majors, harpsichord majors, and organ majors). An audition for this Award will be scheduled the same day as the applicant's degree program audition. Some harpsichord study and experience in continuo realization are required. Applicants for this Award must audition in Rochester.</p>

<p>23. Choral Accompanist (requires completion of a supplemental form: Graduate Awards No. 23 and 24) Graduate Award 23 is normally for keyboard or conducting majors only (including piano performance majors, piano accompanying majors, harpsichord majors, organ majors plus conducting majors), and requires a collaborative audition with specific repertory. (Qualified applicants in majors other than keyboard should contact the Admissions Office for scheduling). Applicants must have previous, significant choral and studio accompanying experience, in addition to sight-reading and score-reading ability. Auditions for this Award will be scheduled during the audition visit. Applicants for this Award must audition in Rochester and upload a required statement demonstrating their experience and interest in this award (Use Upload box 3 or 4 on Page 14 of the application).</p>
<p>24. Opera Coach (requires completion of a supplemental form: Graduate Awards No. 23 and 24) Graduate Award 24 is normally for keyboard majors only (including piano performance majors, piano accompanying majors, harpsichord majors, and organ majors), and requires a collaborative audition with specific repertory. (Qualified applicants in majors other than keyboard should contact the Admissions Office for scheduling). Applicants must have previous, significant opera and studio accompanying experience, in addition to sight-reading and score-reading ability. Auditions for this Award will be scheduled the same day as the applicant's degree program audition. Applicants for this Award must audition in Rochester and upload a required statement demonstrating their experience and interest in this award (Use Upload box 3 or 4 on Page 14 of the application).</p>
25. Opera Performer
26. Choral Ensemble Performer
27. Orchestra or Wind Ensemble Performer
<p>28. Musicology Department Assistant Usually awarded to graduate students who major in musicology, but applicants in other majors will be considered. Non-musicology majors must submit 1-2 written papers on musical or non-musical subjects with their application for evaluation by the musicology department.</p>
29. Music Education Department Assistant
30. Composition Department Assistant
31. Conducting Department Assistant
32. Voice Department Assistant
33. Classroom Teacher of Composition
34. Classroom Teacher of Music History
35. Classroom Teacher of Music Theory
36. Jazz Ensemble Director
37. Classroom Teacher of Jazz Studies
<p>38. Departmental Assistant: Institute for Music Leadership Preference is given to graduate students who are enrolled in, or who are applying to, an IML certificate/diploma program, but applicants in other majors will be considered. Duties vary based on the skills of the student and may range from tasks such as web page development and maintenance, setting up a database or supporting the instructor of an Arts Leadership Program (ALP) course with course logistics, to basic office support. Computer skills including experience with Word, Excel, Dreamweaver and database software extremely desirable. Details about how to apply for this award are found at: http://www.esm.rochester.edu/iml/alp/dept_asst.php</p>
<p>39. Classroom Teacher of Aural Skills (see supplemental form: Graduate Award No. 39) Graduate Award number 39 requires sight-singing, basic conducting and basic keyboard skills. GRE scores are required to qualify for this Graduate Award (GRE requirement is waived for current Eastman students). Preference is given to graduate theory majors; applicants in other majors may be considered. Note that recipients of this Award must attend a two-day training workshop in late August.</p>
<p>40. Systems Programmer, Computer Music Studio (see supplemental form: Graduate Awards No. 40, 41) This award requires a special interview, which will be scheduled on the same day as the applicant's degree program interview.</p>
<p>41. Electronic Music (see supplemental form: Graduate Awards No. 40, 41) This award requires a special interview, which will be scheduled on the same day as the applicant's degree program interview.</p>
<p>42. Music Education Techniques Class Offered in: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba, Percussion, Strings, Voice. Applicants for these awards will be scheduled for an interview with the music education faculty on the same day as the applicant's degree program interview.</p>
<p>43. Church Music This award is for organ majors only. Recommendation for this award is based on the applicant's degree program audition/interview. No additional interviews or auditions are required.</p>
<p>44. Organ Maintenance This award is for organ majors only. Recommendation for this award is based on the applicant's degree program audition/interview. No additional interviews or auditions are required.</p>