

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 \$10,740 (for 2020-2021*) for a one-hour lesson per week (460A – 4 units). 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 unit. For 2020-2021, the rate is projected to be \$1,790 per unit.

3) Are there any additional fees?

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

Mandatory Health Fee: \$331 per semester*

Graduate Activity Fee: \$72 per semester*

Comprehensive Fee: \$237 per semester*

Orientation Fee: \$292 (charged only in the first semester of your degree program)*

University Health Insurance: \$2,448 (required if non-institute insurance is shown to be insufficient)*

4) Am I allowed to move funds from my tuition scholarship from one academic year to another?

No. You must use the amount of tuition scholarship you are granted within an academic year (i.e., between 1 July and 30 June of the following year).

5) What constitutes a full-time load?

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

- A. Graduate Award with service to the School: If you have a Graduate Award that includes some service to the School (including Conducting Orchestra and accompanying duties), then you only need 9 units per semester to be considered a full-time student.
- B. Graduate Award with tuition scholarship only: If you are only receiving a tuition scholarship and have no TA or DA responsibilities, you will need to be registered for 12 units per semester to be considered a full-time student.
- C. No Graduate Award: If you do not have a graduate award, you will need to be registered for 12 units per semester to be considered a full-time student.

6) 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.

7) 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 are assessed through individual interviews, following a review of their admissions files. Based on the results of the placement exams and interviews, students may be required to enroll in some remedial coursework.

Remedial courses on the 100-level do not count towards degree requirements, but you are still charged for the credits (generally 1.5 units per course). Also, such 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; JCM 119; MHS 480 (2 units, for doctoral students); EAP 101, EAP 102, and any 100-level foreign-language courses used to fulfill a foreign-language degree requirement.

*Please see the following link in the Academic Policy Handbook for details:

<https://www.esm.rochester.edu/registrar/policy/05-00/#05.03>

8) 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 the [Academic Policy Handbook](#) to find out the specific requirements for your degree.

9) 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 need UR 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.

If you choose to drop down to part-time status and have a Federal Loan, please check with the Financial Aid Office to make sure you will still be eligible. **Students are typically eligible for loans or deferment of past loans if they are registered for at least 6 units.**

* All dollar amounts are shown at the ESTIMATED 2020-2021 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/>.