

All piano applicants applying to the Performance Track, Music Business - Audition Track, or the Recording Arts - Audition Track must either submit an audition video or conduct a live audition. While a live audition is preferred, applicants may upload an audition video through Acceptd at <https://app.getacceptd.com/ucdenver> for consideration.

All piano audition videos or live auditions must include the following:

- 1) **Repertoire:** Prepare and perform two pieces of contrasting styles.
  - a) Pieces can be from the following genres: Jazz, Latin, Pop/Rock/R&B, or Classical.
  - b) One piece should be slower and demonstrate your touch and expressivity on the piano.
  - c) The other piece should be faster and demonstrate your technique and energy on the piano.
  - d) In addition (not as a substitute), students are encouraged to perform an original composition. This is not required.
- 2) **Scales:** Prepare major scales with both hands in B, C, Db, and D – two octaves ascending and descending, eighth notes at a tempo of quarter note = 80.
- 3) **Personal Statement:** Introduce yourself with the following:
  - a) Your name and where you live
  - b) Your strengths and weaknesses on the piano.
  - c) Goals you are passionate about and why you think studying piano at CU Denver can help you achieve those goals.

**How to submit your audition video:**

- 1) Record your audition video per the guidelines listed above. All selections must be verbally labeled.
- 2) Go to <https://app.getacceptd.com/ucdenver>; choose your Program Group (emphasis area) and Program (instrument). Click “Get Started!”
- 3) Follow the registration instructions to create your account and upload your video.
- 4) Physical CD’s, DVD’s, and tapes will not be accepted. Emailed files and YouTube links are not acceptable.
- 5) **Audition videos for new MEIS applicants must be received no later than April 1st.**
- 6) **Audition videos for current CU Denver MEIS students who wish to switch their emphasis/track for the Spring Semester must be received no later than November 20<sup>th</sup>.**

**Audition video follow-up and live audition information:**

Audition videos will be reviewed by our faculty within three weeks of receipt. Faculty will contact applicants about next steps. Faculty may request that applicants conduct a live audition in addition to the video submission. Applicants may also choose to live audition instead of submitting an audition video. The live audition dates are listed on the MEIS admission page on our website: <https://artsandmedia.ucdenver.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply>

Live auditions typically take 20-30 minutes and will take place in the Arts Building on the Auraria Campus. The audition will consist of sight-reading and a short demonstration of the pieces described above. The audition will also feature an opportunity for the prospective student to ask questions regarding the program, applied lessons, ensemble placement, etc. Sight-reading will be assessed during the audition using two methods:

- a) Read short grand staff excerpts.
- b) Read a lead sheet (interpreting chord symbols) in **two** of the following three ways:
  - 1) as an accompanist for vocals/melodic instruments (not playing the melody on the piano)
  - 2) as a solo pianist, interpreting chord symbols and the melody
  - 3) as in a jazz ensemble, playing left hand chords and right hand melody/improvisation

**Contact Information:**

If you want to schedule a live audition or have questions about the piano audition process, please contact Jonny Sterling at [jon.sterling@ucdenver.edu](mailto:jon.sterling@ucdenver.edu).