

All students planning to apply to the Singer/Songwriter Emphasis 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 singer/songwriter audition videos must include the following:

1. Perform 2 original songs with lyrics and accompaniment. Applicants must accompany themselves on either guitar or piano.

- Before you perform your original songs, verbally answer the following questions:
 - When and why did you start writing songs?
 - How did you find out about the CU Denver Singer/Songwriter Program?
 - Why do you want to attend the CU Denver Singer/Songwriter Program?
 - Where do you see yourself in 5-10 years after graduating from the Singer/Songwriter Program?
 - How do you see yourself utilizing the faculty, peer, networking, and equipment resources in the Singer/Songwriter program to achieve those career goals?
- Perform your two original songs. The auditioning faculty will assess the songs/performances based on the following criteria:
 - Intonation/pitch accuracy
 - Solid rhythmic groove/steady tempo
 - Diverse accompaniment styles on accompaniment instrument
 - Quality of technique and skill level in voice and accompaniment instrument
 - Utilization of dynamic range in voice and accompaniment instrument
 - Emotional expressiveness
 - Application of standard song forms (Verse/Chorus & AABA)
 - Presentation of melodic and lyrical hooks
 - Inclusion of major and minor triadic chords, and seventh chords, in accompaniment
 - Exploration of various rhyme schemes (AABB, ABAB, AABCCB, etc.)
 - Clarity of lyric meaning
 - Natural lyric and melodic rhythm (speech-like lyrical meter - don't acCENT the wrong syllABLE)

2. Perform one cover song with lyrics and accompaniment. Applicants must accompany themselves on either guitar or piano.

- Before you perform the cover song, give a brief overview, verbally, of why you chose the song and how it relates to or has influenced your personal writing style.
- Perform the cover song. You can perform it identically to the recorded version, or you can make it your own by rearranging it to fit your performance style.

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 20th.**

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: <http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/CAM/programs/meis/Pages/Admissions.aspx>

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 prospective students to ask questions regarding the program, applied lessons, ensemble placement, etc.

Contact Information:

If you want to schedule a live audition or have questions about the singer/songwriter audition process, please contact Owen Kortz at owen.kortz@ucdenver.edu.