

Becoming An Undergraduate Mariachi Music Major at Texas State University

*An audition is required for consideration of acceptance
into all undergraduate music degrees.*

1. Submit your [ApplyTexas Application](#) to Texas State University
 - a. University acceptance can take up to 8 weeks after ApplyTexas is completed.
 - b. Select “Pre-Music”
 - c. Be admitted by December 15th to be considered for all Texas State University academic scholarships
 - d. Complete 1 application to apply to all available Texas State scholarships you are eligible for. [Bobcat Online Scholarship System \(BOSS\)](#)
 - e. Complete [FASFA](#) or [TASFA](#) (School Code 003615)
2. Submit your School of Music Application & Audition Request through [Accepted](#)
 - a. Applications are due 3 weeks before Audition Date
 - b. Choose audition date; specific audition time will be scheduled; message will be sent through Accepted
 - c. Live auditions are preferred but if Select “Media Only” if you need to send in a recorded video audition.
 - i. **Media Only Applicants**
 - ii. **Requirements for your video(s):**
 1. Announce your name and the title of your piece(s) clearly and slowly enough to be heard and understood.
 2. Face the camera as you would face an audience with it far enough away from you so that the audition panel has a full body view.
 3. Video should be recorded in a neutral room (preferably in your school rehearsal room, but a living room or private lesson instructor's studio is acceptable).
 4. Videos recorded in bedrooms, bathrooms, or cars are NOT acceptable
 5. Make sure the lighting in the room is bright enough for the panel to see you clearly.
 6. Dress in the way that you would for a job interview in an office, or how you might dress to attend a special school event.

Before uploading your video, watch your video with a critical eye and ear, remembering that this video will determine if you are accepted into the School of Music. Listen carefully to all aspects of your performance so that you present us with your best performance. While a professional video is not necessary, your performance and presentation should be as professional as you can make it.

3. Degree Options

- a. BM – Music Studies with Mariachi Concentration
 - i. This program leads to teacher certification for public schools, grades K-12 for all mariachi instrumentalists and vocalists. Areas of concentration include choral, band, and orchestra with all areas achieving elementary competencies with a concentrated focus on mariachi education.
 - b. BM – Music Studies with a Choral or Instrumental (Band/Strings) Concentration with a [Mariachi Minor](#)
 - i. This program leads to teacher certification for public schools, grades K-12. Areas of concentration include choral, band, and orchestra with all areas achieving elementary competencies.
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Required Audition Materials

- 4. BM – Music Studies with Mariachi Concentration Required Media/Documents
 - a. A pre-screen video(s) of you playing Son de la Negra on your mariachi instrument (any part is acceptable).
 - i. A decision as to whether you will be invited to our live auditions on the date that you selected will be made as soon as possible after your application is submitted.
 - b. A current resume **in either a .doc, .docx, or .pdf format**. Be sure your resume includes an objective statement, all music honors, awards, and/or productions you have participated in, academic awards, organizations (e.g. National Honor Society), and any work/volunteer experience.
 - c. Your **unofficial** transcript(s) **in a .doc, .docx, or .pdf format** (for freshmen = High School transcript; for transfers/current TXST students = High School transcript (if available) and all College/University transcript(s)).
 - i. The School of Music is unable to see your official transcript(s) that you send to University Admissions.
 - d. Two email addresses of music directors/applied lesson instructors and/or professional music or educational/occupational persons who have agreed to submit a positive and descriptive recommendation in support of your admission. They will receive an email request from Acceptd with directions on submitting their recommendation.
 - e. Your recommendation letters do not need to be included before you submit your application, however, we appreciate their submission by your audition date.
 - f. A 250-500 word written statement answering the question "Why do you want to teach music?".
 - **Transfer Students**
 - The Music Studies area requires a GPA of 2.85 or higher. If your GPA is close to a 2.85, consult with one of our Music Education faculty (see [Faculty Directory – by Division](#) for contact information) prior to submitting your application.
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Performance Audition Requirements

5. **PRE-SCREEN PROCESS:** Submit a video of you playing on either Violin, Trumpet, or Armonía (any part on your instrument is acceptable) and singing all of ***Son de La Negra*** at a tempo marking of MM150 - MM170 with your Accepted application. Your completed application must be submitted by the deadline for your selected audition date. The faculty will review your submission and you will be notified via Accepted as soon as possible after your submission is received and reviewed if you will be invited to our live auditions on your selected date.

a. **Requirements for submission of a pre-screening video:**

- Announce your name and the title of the piece clearly and slowly enough to be heard and understood.
- The selection that you present must be memorized
- Your performance should preferably be with live accompaniment.
 - Student accompanies themselves by performing on their primary mariachi ensemble instrument or singing-along with a PISTA (karaoke accompaniment) track is acceptable.
- You should stand in front - or just to the side - of the ensemble if using live accompaniment.
- The camera must be far enough away from you so that the audition panel has a full body view.
- Video should be recorded in a neutral room (preferably in your school rehearsal room)
 - Videos recorded in bedrooms, bathrooms, or cars are NOT acceptable
- Make sure the lighting in the room is bright enough for the panel to see you clearly
- Face the camera as you would face an audience
- Dress in the way that you would for a job interview in an office, or how you might dress to attend a special school or mariachi performance event.
- Perform expressively
- **Before you submit your video:**

Watch your video with a critical eye and ear, remembering that this video will determine if you get a live audition. Avoid the mistake of thinking, "It's only a pre-screen video..." Treat this like a live audition. Listen carefully to your intonation. You want to present us with your best performance so that we are interested in hearing more. While a professional video is not necessary, your performance and presentation should be as professional as you can make it.

6. **VOCAL MARIACHI AUDITION**

- TWO MEMORIZED MARIACHI SONGS of your choice. These songs should represent contrasting styles with live or recorded accompaniment.
- *Optional:* Perform a *Son Jalisiense* (of your choice) on your primary instrument

OR

7. INSTRUMENTAL MARIACHI AUDITION (Violin, Trumpet, or Armonía):

- Play *Viva Veracruz I* on your primary instrument
- Perform a *Son Jalisiense* (of your choice) on your primary instrument
- *Optional*: Sing a mariachi song (of your choice) with live or recorded accompaniment

NOTE: Students who can demonstrate advanced skills across various sections of the mariachi will be given preference in the acceptance process.

8. LIVE ACCOMPANIMENT

- Student accompanies themselves by performing on their primary mariachi ensemble instrument or singing-along with a PISTA (karaoke accompaniment) track.
- If the PISTA option is selected, we will provide an auxiliary cable to run from the student's electronic device (phone, laptop, etc.) to our PA system, however, if the track is on the newest iPhone, the student will need to provide their own adapter in order to connect to the provided auxiliary cable.

Other: If you have any questions regarding the two mariachi degree plan options or audition repertoire requirements, contact **Ms. Michelle Quintero** (mq15@txstate.edu) or the Latin Music Studies area, contact **Dr. Amanda C. Soto** (acs131@txstate.edu)

Reminders:

- Admission to the School of Music is contingent on admission to the University via the ApplyTexas application. Select **pre-music** on the ApplyTexas Application as the desired degree plan.
- Any prospective music student who is unable to audition in person due to geographic distance from Texas State (out-of-state or international) may submit a video(s) of the required repertoire for their instrument or voice part, representative of their performing abilities (see above) with their Accepted application.
- Admission will be based upon the student's audition and available space in each studio. **A successful audition does not automatically ensure acceptance to the University or the School of Music.**
- Prospective music majors will not be permitted to enroll in applied music and other music majors classes until acceptance is granted via a performance audition.
- Please contact the LMS area (as47275@txstate.edu) if you need to schedule an audition after March 5, 2022
- Music scholarships will be sent via the [Bobcat Online Scholarship System \(BOSS\)](#)
- Accept scholarship offers by May 1, 2022 or else you will lose the offer.
- [See website for Audition day information & What to expect after you Audition](#)