

For the Diploma in Music Performance audition, you will be required to complete a **Theory Placement Assessment (TPA)**. The purpose of the TPA is to determine your level of theory/rudiments knowledge. Upon successful completion, you will proceed directly to the core program courses MUSC 112 (Tonal Harmony) and MUSC 114 (Aural Skills). The TPA will take 3 hours to complete. If you have completed Camosun MUSC 111 or RCM Grade 8 theory with a grade of 60 (C) or better, you do not need to complete the TPA. If you have not taken formal music theory courses or lessons, don't worry; you would then start at level MUSC 110 or MUSC 111 (Theory Fundamentals 1 & 2). Contact the VCM and talk to us about options for private instruction or group classes that may take place before the start of the program in September. [Click here for a sample TPA.](#)

Skills Tested

Read, write, identify and manipulate quickly and with fluency:

- Pitch notation in treble, bass, and C-clefs, up to two ledger lines above and below the staff
- Rhythm notation for values from *breve* to 32nd-note, including beams, ties, dots, and basic “-tuplets”
- Time signatures: simple and compound duple, triple, and quadruple
- Key signatures, scales and triads: All major and minor keys on the Circle of Fifths
- Diatonic scale degrees by name and by number
- Intervals and inversions (harmonic and melodic, simple and compound): Perfect, major, minor, diminished, and augmented
- Triads, closed and open position, and in inversion: Major, minor, augmented, and diminished.
- Seventh chords, closed and open position, and in inversion: M7, Mm7, m7, ø7 and °7
- Symbols for chords and triads: figured bass and lead sheet notations
- Diatonic triads and 7th chords in major and minor keys, including identification with Roman numerals
- Transposition between keys and across intervals within an octave
- Key or chord identification of musical passages given in on grand staff or single staff
- Cadence identification (authentic, half, plagal, deceptive)
- Figured bass symbols
- Identification of common musical terms