

London College of Music Examinations

Classical Singing & Popular Music Vocals

Requirements for Recorded Exams:
Steps, Grades, Recital Grades, Leisure Play

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1. Overview

In response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, London College of Music Examinations is offering recorded alternatives in order to assess the work candidates have prepared.

The following exam alternatives provide the opportunity for the assessment of musical performance, whereby candidates upload a video file of their performance, rather than attending an examination venue. Performances are assessed by trained LCME examiners, using the same standards and criteria as are used for face-to-face, live exams. This offers candidates a reliable, independent, regulated assessment of their performance standard, while benefitting from the flexibility allowed by the submission process.

2. Entry Details

Candidates entered for a face-to-face exam may choose to switch to a recorded exam at no additional cost. Once candidates have recorded their exams, they can be uploaded via the LCME website. Please see *submission guidelines* on the LCME website for details.

3 Recorded Exam Requirements

3.1 Pre-grade 1 (Popular Music Vocals only)

A recorded submission alternative for candidates who have entered for Step exams

Component 1: Technical Work (20 marks)

Candidates sing the scale and arpeggio and perform the riffs from the handbook (for more information see *Technical Work and Discussion Requirements* on the LCME website)

Component 2: Pieces (80 marks)

Performance of two contrasting songs not exceeding 7 minutes (total performance time) One song must be from the LCME handbook and one own choice.

Weighting for examination components

Technical Work	Pieces
20 %	80 %

Assessment

Performances are assessed according to the same standards and criteria as for LCME's face-to-face exams. Refer to the details listed under Performance, in the section *How marks are awarded* in the relevant syllabus.

Submission

Please see *submission guidelines* on the LCME website

3.2 Grades 1-8 - Classical Singing

A recorded submission alternative for candidates who have entered for graded exams (grades 1-8)

Component 1: Performance

- Performance of the set Technical Work OR Study for the relevant grade (see *Technical Work and Discussion Requirements* on the LCME website)

AND

- Candidates are required to perform 3 pieces: One verse from a hymn, carol or similar strophic song of the candidate's choice. Two further songs, at least one of which must be taken from the relevant LCME grade syllabus or from the set list for an equivalent grade syllabus of another accredited exam board.

Component 2: Discussion

Set questions for each grade in response to the pieces performed by the candidate. Candidates should present their responses orally before or after performing their selected pieces. (see *Technical Work and Discussion Requirements* on the LCME website for details on the Discussion component)

Weighting for examination components

Technical Work/ Study	Performance 1	Performance 2	Performance 3	Discussion
20 %	20 %	20 %	20 %	20 %

Assessment

Performances are assessed according to the same standards and criteria as for LCME's graded exams. Refer to the details listed under Performance, in the section *How marks are awarded* in the relevant syllabus.

Regulation

LCME's recorded exams are regulated in England by Ofqual, and by the corresponding authorities in Wales (Qualifications Wales) and Northern Ireland (CCEA). They have been placed on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) at Levels 1, 2 and 3.

Submission

Please see *submission guidelines* on the LCME website.

3.3 Grades 1-8 Popular Music Vocals

A recorded submission alternative for candidates who have entered for graded exams (grades 1-8)

Component 1: Performance

- Performance of the set Technical Work OR Study for the relevant grade (see *Technical Work and Discussion Requirements* on the LCME website)

AND

- **Grades 1-3:** Performance of two contrasting songs not exceeding 8 minutes (total performance time). One song must be from the LCME handbook or from the set list for the equivalent grade syllabus of another accredited exam board. The other may be the candidate's own choice.
- **Grades 4-8:** Performance of three contrasting songs. One song must be from the LCME handbook or from the set list for the equivalent grade syllabus of another accredited exam board. The other may be the candidate's own choice.

Component 2: Discussion

Set questions for each grade in response to the pieces performed by the candidate. Candidates should present their responses orally before or after performing their selected pieces. (see *Technical Work and Discussion Requirements* on the LCME website for details on the Discussion component)

Weighting for examination components

Technical Work/ Study	Performance 1	Performance 2	Discussion
20 %	30 %	30 %	20 %

Assessment

Performances are assessed according to the same standards and criteria as for LCME's graded exams. Refer to the details listed under Performance, in the section *How marks are awarded* in the relevant syllabus.

Regulation

LCME's recorded exams are regulated in England by Ofqual, and by the corresponding authorities in Wales (Qualifications Wales) and Northern Ireland (CCEA). They have been placed on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) at Levels 1, 2 and 3.

Submission

Please see *submission guidelines* on the LCME website.

3.4 Recorded Recital Grade Requirements

A recorded submission alternative for candidates who have entered for Recital Grade exams (grades 1-8)

Component 1: Performance

- Candidates perform four pieces, at least one must be from the LCME handbook.

Component 2: Performance or Discussion

Option 1: Performance of an additional piece (requirements as for Component 1)

Option 2: Discussion - Set questions for each grade in response to the pieces performed by the candidate. Candidates should present their responses orally before or after performing their selected pieces. (see *Technical Work and Discussion Requirements* on the LCME website for details on the Discussion component)

N.B. Please note the Sight Reading option is not available for LCME Recorded Recital Grades.

Weighting for examination components

Performance 1	Performance 2	Performance 3	Performance 4	Performance 5 or Discussion
20 %	20 %	20 %	20 %	20 %

Assessment

Performances are assessed according to the same standards and criteria as for LCME's graded exams. Refer to the details listed under Performance, in the section *How marks are awarded* in the relevant syllabus.

Regulation

LCME's recorded exams are regulated in England by Ofqual, and by the corresponding authorities in Wales (Qualifications Wales) and Northern Ireland (CCEA). They have been placed on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) at Levels 1, 2 and 3.

Submission

Please see *submission guidelines* on the LCME website.

3.5 Recorded Leisure Play Exam Requirements – Classical Singing

A recorded submission alternative for candidates who have entered for Leisure Play exams in Classical Singing.

Examination Requirements

Candidates are required to perform FOUR pieces

At least THREE of these pieces are to be selected from the set lists for the relevant LCME grade or from the set list for the equivalent grade syllabus of another accredited exam board. There is no requirement to select the pieces from different lists, as may be required in the equivalent graded syllabus, but candidates and teachers should endeavour to ensure that the overall programme is contrasted and balanced. There is no requirement to select at least one piece from the LCME Grade Handbook (where available).

The fourth piece may be an own choice, which may be in a jazz, popular or other contemporary style, and/or may be an original or own composition. Candidates should be aware that, if the standard of an own choice piece is significantly easier than that of the equivalent grade, this may be reflected in the marking.

Weighting for examination components

Performance 1	Performance 2	Performance 3	Performance 4
25%	25%	25%	25%

Assessment

Performances are assessed according to the same standards and criteria as for LCME's graded exams. Refer to the details listed under Performance, in the section *How marks are awarded* in the relevant syllabus.

Regulation

LCME's recorded exams are regulated in England by Ofqual, and by the corresponding authorities in Wales (Qualifications Wales) and Northern Ireland (CCEA). They have been placed on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) at Levels 1, 2 and 3.

Submission

Please see *submission guidelines* on the LCME website.

3.5 Recorded Leisure Play Exam Requirements – Popular Music Vocals

A recorded submission alternative for candidates who have entered for Leisure Play exams in Popular Music Vocals.

Examination Requirements

Candidates should prepare the following programme, including some variety of styles and tempos (the handbook does not have to be used)

Grades 1, 2 & 3:

- 3 songs (no longer than 10 minutes in total).

Max. 30 marks each for the first two songs, and max. 40 marks for the last song.

Grades 4 & 5:

- 4 songs (no longer than 15 minutes in total).

Max. 25 marks for each song.

Grades 6, 7 & 8:

- 5 songs (no longer than 20 minutes in total).

Max. 20 marks for each song.

Timings refer to the total performance time, including time taken between songs.
All songs should be accompanied (as described for graded examinations).

Assessment

Performances are assessed according to the same standards and criteria as for LCME's graded exams. Refer to the details listed under Performance, in the section *How marks are awarded* in the relevant syllabus.

Regulation

LCME's recorded exams are regulated in England by Ofqual, and by the corresponding authorities in Wales (Qualifications Wales) and Northern Ireland (CCEA). They have been placed on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) at Levels 1, 2 and 3.

Submission

Please see *submission guidelines* on the LCME website.