

Very Mary Piano Studio™ Tuition & Payment Options

Students have the option of paying tuition in one of the following methods:

(Please note: Cash or electronic transfer accepted. Cheques or credit cards not accepted.)

1) Pre-Paid Monthly.

- Reserves your weekly time spot week from Sept to June, but students may start at any time of the academic year
- Based on **40 lessons** divided into 10 equal payments
- Payments due 1st of each month via electronic transfer and no invoice will be provided
- If paying cash, please pay the next month's tuition on the last lesson of the current month.
- Early-bird discounts, when offered, apply to new, not returning, students

Current tuition calculations are shown in the table below:

Online or In-person studio lessons:				
RATE: \$26.50/HALF HR	TUITION (SEPT – JUNE)	MONTHLY PAYMENT	PER HOUR DISCOUNT	YEARLY SAVINGS
30-Min Weekly Lessons:	\$1060.00	\$106.00	N/A	N/A
45-Min Weekly Lessons:	\$1560.00	\$156.00	\$1.00	\$30.00
60-Min Weekly Lessons:	\$2040.00	\$204.00	\$2.00	\$80.00

In-Your-Home Lessons				
RATE: \$30.00/HALF HR *	TUITION (SEPT – JUNE)	MONTHLY COST	PER HOUR DISCOUNT	YEARLY SAVINGS
30-Min Weekly Lessons:	\$1200.00	\$120.00	N/A	N/A
45-Min Weekly Lessons:	\$1740.00	\$174.00	\$2.00	\$60.00
60-Min Weekly Lessons:	\$2280.00	\$228.00	\$3.00	\$120.00

- If student starts lessons later in the year, monthly tuition will be prorated. If student discontinues before June, the value of lessons received will be deducted from total paid & any difference refunded/charged.
- *Please refer "Policies and Procedures" section below for further information*

** Due to the volatile nature of rising gas prices, In-Your-Home Pre-Paid Monthly rates are subject to a travel fee of \$32.00/month (subject to change in response to increasing gas prices.)*

2) Flex Paks

- Pre-Paid Blocks of 4 or 6 hours of lesson time
- Lessons may vary between 30, 45, 60, 75 or 90 min. at student's discretion until time is used up
- Multiple lessons may be scheduled ahead of time
- May be rescheduled with 24 hours notice
- Available for adults only, except for Summer Flex Pak
- University Flex Pak requires proof of full-time post-secondary enrolment.
- No in-your-home lessons for Flex Paks – only online or in my home studio
- Rates and availability vary throughout the year; scheduling subject to teacher availability
- Payment due at first lesson
- Flex Paks are non-refundable and expire 1 year from date of purchase

- Unused dollar amount, but not time, may be transferred to Pre-Paid Monthly Plan.

Summer Flex Pak: *Not available for purchase after Aug 7*

Fall/Winter Flex Pak: **\$216.00/4 hrs, \$315.00/6 hrs**

University Flex Pak: **\$188.00/4 hrs, \$276.00/6 hrs**

3) Trial Lessons

- Rate: \$26.50/half hour, Online/In-Studio
\$30.00/half hour, In-Your-Home * plus \$8.00 travel fee (subject to change in response to gas prices)
Maximum 2 trial lessons. Payment due at time of lesson.

4) Pay-As-You-Go Lessons

- Rate: \$60.00/hour Online/In-Studio (no In-Your-home lessons for this option)
60-minute and 45-minute lessons only.
Payment due at time of lesson

4) Theory Lessons

- Rate: \$53.00/hour Online/In-Studio
\$60.00/hour In-Your-Home * plus \$8.00 travel fee (subject to change in response to gas prices)
60-minute lessons only.
Payment due at time of lesson

Late payments will incur a late fee of \$1 for each day late (applicable to all tuition options). If payment is more than a week late, I will assume you are discontinuing lessons and your spot will no longer be reserved.

Very Mary Piano Studio™ Policies & Procedures

_____ **General Information** | Weekly private lessons, for children/adults, are offered in 30, 45, or 60-minute sessions, depending on the student's age/level. Day, evening or Saturday lessons, as per teacher availability. Lessons available: In-home (select areas), in my Fort Garry studio, or Online.

_____ **At The Lesson** | Students are expected to arrive for lessons in a timely manner, with all required materials and music. To discuss student progress, parents are welcome to talk with the teacher during the first five minutes of the student's lesson -- but not afterwards, in order to respect the next student's time slot.

_____ **Cold & Flu Safety Protocols for In-Person Lessons to help ensure healthy, enjoyable lessons:**

- Teacher & student will:
 - Wash hands before lesson or use hand sanitizer
 - Practice respiratory etiquette such as sneezing or coughing into sleeve or tissue
 - Wash/sanitize hands as necessary during the lesson
- Student MUST inform me, before lesson time, if student or anyone in student's household has any cold or flu-like symptoms

_____ **Practice and Instrument** | Students are expected to practice regularly. Acoustic pianos are recommended, but a good quality digital piano with weighted keys/hammer action is acceptable for beginning years. Flat-key keyboard instruments are not recommended for more than short-term or interim use until a more suitable instrument can be acquired.

_____ **Required Materials** | Students may purchase a personalized ONCE UPON A PIANO™ Notebook for \$25.00 printed version/\$20.00 digital version (price and availability subject to change), which will be used to keep track of things learned, assigned pieces and practice suggestions/goals for each week or student may use their own

notebook. The teacher will recommend books/curriculum and other materials for the student, which student may purchase on their own or reimburse the teacher for purchase.

_____ **Calendar and Schedule** | Pre-Paid Monthly lessons run weekly from the first week of September to the last week of June and are based on the 40-week school calendar, with no lessons during spring and Christmas breaks – consequently, some months will have 4 lessons, others 3 etc. Lessons that occur on a statutory holiday such as Good Friday, will be rescheduled at a mutually agreed upon time.

_____ **Summer Months** | Though lessons may be offered during the summer (subject to demand and teacher availability), regular weekly students are welcome to take some time off and practice only occasionally. I personally find that if diligent practice has been a habit during the academic year, students benefit from the break as the skills learned during the year become part of long-term memory. Resuming a regular daily practice regimen reviewing repertoire and technique is recommended 2 weeks prior to September.

_____ **Makeup Lessons & Rescheduling** |

A) Pre-Paid Monthly Plan: Due to the teacher's limited availability, makeup lessons cannot be guaranteed. However, if an absence arises due to unforeseen situations such as illness, accident, family emergency, and if the student indicates a desire for a makeup lesson, the teacher will make an effort to accommodate a makeup.

Please be courteous to the teacher and fellow students by notifying the teacher at least 24 hours in advance regarding any known upcoming absences. If roads are impassible due to weather or a student is ill but feels well enough to play, student may opt for an **online lesson** (any difference between your regular tuition, if any, versus an online lesson would be adjusted on the following month's tuition).

Single Lesson Transfer to a household member is also an excellent option for the occasional absence. For example, if student is unable to attend a lesson, a parent/sibling is welcome to have that week's lesson instead.

- Credits or refunds will NOT be given for student-missed lessons.
- If teacher cancels a lesson, a makeup lesson will be offered or credit given at the discretion of teacher
- Scheduled makeup lessons that are missed or cancelled with or without notice, regardless of the reason, will be considered made up (i.e. there are no makeups for a missed makeup lesson).
- A makeup lesson will not be offered for no-shows, last-minute notice, or if the student is not home when teacher arrives. (If the day of your scheduled lesson you become ill, please notify me as soon as you are aware of your condition, to reschedule)
- Missed lessons not made up by the end of June will be forfeited, not carried over to next year.

B) Flex Paks:

- Lessons may be re-scheduled with 24-hours notice, so makeups are not necessary
- In the event that teacher cancels a lesson, it will be rescheduled.
- Summer Flex Pak, only, is also allowed one same-day cancellation if cancelled by 9:00 AM by personal phone call; no texts or email.
- If the day of your scheduled lesson you become ill, please notify me as soon as you are aware of your condition, to reschedule
- A missed scheduled lesson that was not cancelled ahead of time (no show) or cancelled with less than 24-hours notice (except for illness) will be considered attended and no refund, credit or makeup will be given.

C) Trial Lesson, Pay-As-You-Go, Theory

- No makeups necessary since not pre-paid
- Please give adequate notice if you must cancel a scheduled lesson

_____ **Discontinuing Lessons** | Every student stops taking lessons at some point. Ideally, this decision is made thoughtfully with plenty of discussion between the teacher, parent, and student so that lessons can cease

with a positive sense of closure. For this reason, the teacher asks for one month's notice in writing prior to discontinuing Pre-Paid Monthly lessons. If less or no notice given, unused tuition will not be refunded, but makeup lessons will be offered and must be used up within 3 months or else they are forfeited by the student.

(Note: At the discretion of the teacher, students may be asked to discontinue lessons at any time if they have unpaid tuition, an excess amount of absences/unprepared lessons, or if they show a lack of interest; in this case, any unused tuition will be refunded.)

_____ **Parent Participation** | Parents are encouraged to be supportive and active participants in practice at home. Parents are also encouraged to occasionally attend and quietly observe lessons.

_____ **Studio Events** | Each year, the studio schedules exciting events for private students and their parents. Some of these events, such as student recitals, are provided at no extra cost, while others, such as optional theory and practical (performance) exams require fees.

- **Studio Recital:** Performing in a formal recital setting is an exciting opportunity for students to showcase their hard work and improvement over the year in the presence of their family and friends and to gain experience in public performance. The recital is usually held near the end of the academic year.
- **Examinations:** Students are welcome (and encouraged!) to participate in theory and practical examinations when ready. These opportunities require additional fees. Please contact the instructor for more information. RCM offers both practical and theory exams in-person and online throughout the year.

_____ **Communication** | The best way to contact the teacher is via phone call or text, which will be promptly returned. The teacher always welcomes communication from students during the week if they have questions regarding their repertoire or other lesson matters.

I have read and accept the policies & procedures above.

Student Signature (or parent if student is under 18)

Date