

Very Mary Piano Studio™ Tuition Rates, Policies & Procedures

Registering for lessons signals your agreement to the terms delineated in this document.

1) Pre-Paid Monthly

- **Reserves your weekly spot** from Sept to June, but students may start any time during academic year
- Based on **40 lessons** divided into 10 equal payments
- **Tuition due 1st of each month** via **e-transfer or cash** (cheque/credit card not accepted); no invoice will be provided. **Late Payment fee of \$10** will be added to next month's tuition **if not paid by 3rd of month**.
- If late payment persists beyond 1 week, your weekly time spot can no longer be guaranteed.
- Early-bird discounts, when offered, apply to new, not returning students
- Tuition will be prorated for students starting after September or discontinuing before end of June.
- **In addition to tuition**, all Pre-paid Monthly plans are subject to an **annual student resource fee of \$35 per household** to help offset costs of studio-provided resources (e.g. studio-licensed sheet music, photocopies etc.). *This fee does not cover students' curriculum books and is non-proratable.*
- **In-Your-Home plans** also subject to **travel fee of \$45.00/month** (subject to change due to increasing gas prices.)

Online or In-person studio lessons:					
RATE: \$31.00/HALF HOUR	TUITION (SEPT – JUNE)	MONTHLY PAYMENT	HOURLY RATE	PER HOUR DISCOUNT	YEARLY SAVINGS
30-Minute Weekly Lessons:	\$1240.00	\$124.00	\$62.00	N/A	N/A
45-Minute Weekly Lessons:	\$1830.00	\$183.00	\$61.00	\$1.00	\$30.00
60-Minute Weekly Lessons:	\$2400.00	\$240.00	\$60.00	\$2.00	\$80.00
In-Your-Home Lessons					
RATE: \$34.00/HALF HR * Plus travel fee	TUITION (SEPT – JUNE)	MONTHLY COST	HOURLY RATE	PER HOUR DISCOUNT	YEARLY SAVINGS
30-Min Weekly Lessons:	\$1360.00	\$136.00	\$68.00	N/A	N/A
45-Min Weekly Lessons:	\$1980.00	\$198.00	\$66.00	\$2.00	\$60.00
60-Min Weekly Lessons:	\$2600.00	\$260.00	\$65.00	\$3.00	\$120.00

- **A Word About In-Your-Home lessons:**
I enjoy teaching in students' homes and engaging with the student's family! It is a service I am happy to provide! **Travel fees help cover gas and vehicle wear/tear. For example, if student lives 7 km away, that's 14 km round trip @ .73/km (2026 business expense rate set by CRA) = \$10.22 cost per trip. If the student were driving to lessons, the student would be absorbing this cost through gas, wear/tear on their own vehicle. Either way, the student's travel cost is the same. The extra \$1.03 in this case (\$11.25 - \$10.22), helps offset my lost teaching time.**

A minimum of 30 minutes teaching time **(about \$30.00)** is **lost travelling** to student's home each lesson, particularly when factoring in driving conditions, construction and other traffic delays. As you can see, the slightly higher In-Your-Home rate does not meaningfully compensate for lost teaching time. For this reason, **travel fees are not refundable when the student misses or cancels a lesson** for any reason.

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
- Summer Flex Pak, only, allowed one same-day cancellation if cancelled by 9:00 AM

- 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: **\$248.00/4 hrs, \$366.00/6 hrs**

University Flex Pak: **\$204.00/4 hrs, \$300.00/6 hrs**

3) Trial Lessons

- Rate: \$31.00/half hour, Online/In-Studio
\$34.00/half hour, In-Your-Home * plus \$12.50 travel fee (subject to change due to gas prices)
Maximum 2 trial lessons. Payment due at time of lesson.

4) Pay-As-You-Go Lessons

- Rate: \$68.00/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: 58.00/hour Online/In-Studio
\$64.00/hour In-Your-Home * plus \$12.50 travel fee (subject to change due to gas prices)
60-minute lessons only.
Payment due at time of lesson

Lesson Policies & Procedures

At The Lesson | Students are expected to arrive for lessons on time, with all required materials (curriculum book, notebook etc.) If student is late, lesson time will not be extended. Parents are welcome to discuss student progress with the teacher during the lesson, but not afterwards, in order to respect next student's time slot.

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 use.

Calendar and Schedule | Pre-Paid Monthly lessons run from the first week of September to the last week of June and are based on the public school calendar (usually 40 weeks). No lessons during Spring/Christmas breaks; consequently, some months have 4 lessons, others 3 etc. No lessons on statutory and civic holidays; tuition will be prorated (e.g. Tuition for Monday lessons in 2026 is based on 36 lessons/academic year.) Lessons may be offered during the summer, subject to demand and teacher availability.

Missed Lessons | **Your time spot is reserved for you throughout the academic year** and unlike a product that can be returned to the store and re-sold, missed piano lessons cannot be “resold”. For this reason, and due to the teacher's limited availability, lessons missed or cancelled by the student **will NOT be made up, nor** will a **refund or credit** be given. For **missed lessons due to ILLNESS or EMERGENCY, a special supplemental lesson package** will be emailed to the student or given to the student at their next lesson to be completed at home and returned to the teacher for review. These may include topics such as composition/improvisation, theory, music history, technique etc. **Alternatively**, a student is welcome to do an **online lesson** when too sick or contagious to be out and about but feeling well enough for an online lesson at home. For **lessons cancelled by the teacher**, students will have the **choice of a make up lesson, or** if they prefer, a **supplemental lesson package**.

Notification

- If the day of your lesson you become ill, please **notify me as soon as you are aware of your condition**
- Please notify me at least **24 hours in advance** regarding any **known upcoming absences**.

Other Alternatives for Missed Lessons

- **Inclement Weather:** If weather conditions impede travel to the lesson for either student or teacher, an **online lesson** will be conducted. **Sometimes** these things happen quickly and there's **no time to switch to an online lesson**; **in this case**, the lesson will be **rescheduled, or a supplemental lesson** package provided, whichever the student prefers. *(Any difference between online and in-your-home rates will be refunded on the next month's tuition.)*
- **Lesson swap** to a household family member is an excellent option for the occasional absence. For example, a parent/sibling is welcome to have that week's lesson instead. *Hint: parents, this is a great opportunity to get a sense of the musical journey that your child has embarked upon!*
- For **family lessons**, if **one member cannot attend** their lesson, **their time will be allotted to the student(s) present** for the lesson, not made up later. *(e.g. 3 siblings @ 30 min becomes 2 @ 45 that day)*. If not possible that day, a supplemental lesson package will be provided for the absent student. If the whole family is absent, each student will receive a supplemental lesson package.

Makeup Lesson Conditions

- Credits or refunds will NOT be given for student-missed lessons for any reason
- If teacher cancels a lesson, student may choose either a makeup lesson or supplemental lesson package
- Scheduled makeup lessons that are missed or cancelled with or without notice by the student, regardless of the reason, will be considered made up (**no makeups for a missed makeup lesson**).
- Makeup lessons **must be completed by the end of June** or they will be forfeited by student
- No makeup lessons for no-shows, last-minute notice, or if student is not home when teacher arrives.
- **Flex Pak** lessons may be re-scheduled with 24-hours notice, so makeups are not necessary. However, for no shows or insufficient notice, the missed lesson will be considered attended and no refund or credit given.
- **Trial Lesson, Pay-As-You-Go, Theory lessons** - No makeups necessary since not pre-paid

_____ **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 notice is given, unused paid tuition will not be refunded**, but makeup lessons will be offered and must be used by the end of the academic year, or they are forfeited by the student.

(Note: 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 student's practice regimen at home. Parents are also encouraged to occasionally attend and quietly observe lessons.

_____ **Studio Events** | Each year, the studio schedules exciting events. Some of these events, such as student recitals, are provided at no extra cost, while others, such as theory and practical exams require fees.

- **Studio Recital:** Performing in a formal recital setting is an exciting opportunity for students to showcase their hard work and progress over the year and to gain experience in public performance. The recital is usually held near the end of the academic year.
- **Student Composition Contest:** Students who enjoy composing will be encouraged to participate in composition contests, such as the *Canada Music Week Student Composer Competition*.
- **Examinations:** Students are encouraged to participate in theory/practical exams when ready. These opportunities require additional fees. The RCM offers exams in-person and online throughout the year.

_____ **Communication** | The quickest way to contact the teacher is via phone call or text, which will be promptly returned.

I have read, understand and accept the policies, procedures and terms described above.

Parent/Student Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____