

The Audition Process at Alverno College

The audition process for the Bachelor of Music in Music Therapy or Bachelor of Arts in Music degree at Alverno College encompasses four components. Whether the student attends one of our on-campus audition days or opts for a virtual audition, these components will be addressed:

During the audition, you may be asked to do the following:

1. *Performance* on your major instrument shows faculty that you are ready to study musicianship at a college level. You are asked to perform two contrasting pieces on your major instrument (which may be your voice) at your live audition. Choose music that best shows what you are capable of and who you are as a musician.
2. At your audition, we will ask you to sing a simple song (such as “Happy Birthday”) to determine if you have the ability to match pitch and sing in-tune. Because the voice is the primary tool of a music therapist, it is important for students to have this basic ability upon entrance to the program.
3. A *piano assessment* is **optional** for students who indicate a background of piano skills or prior piano experience. This assessment determines placement in beginning piano courses and may be used to allow students with more extensive experience to be waived from piano courses. No piano experience is required prior to audition, as the curriculum allows for students to learn piano from beginning levels.
4. The *music theory assessment* is **optional** for students with prior experience with music theory who may wish to bypass beginning music theory courses or be allowed to audit courses to review material. It is for placement purposes only and does not affect the outcome of the audition.