



Leeds Conservatoire

Audition Requirements

2025 Entry

BA (Hons) Music (Folk, Roots and Blues)

Introduction - Application Process

Once you have submitted your application to the conservatoire via UCAS, if you meet or are likely to meet our minimum entry requirements, you will receive an email that will detail how to send your audition materials to us, or how to book an in person audition if applicable.

Once we have made our decision on your application we will update UCAS with our decision and you will be notified via UCAS Hub.

Applicants have the option to audition online via portfolio submission or in person at an audition on our campus.

This guide will set out what you will need to prepare and / or submit when auditioning for Folk, Roots & Blues at Leeds Conservatoire.

IN PERSON AUDITION

BA (Hons) Music (Folk, Roots and Blues)

Performers Only:

You will be scheduled for 30 minutes warm-up time before your audition.

- You may perform as a soloist or with accompaniment.
- You may bring your own accompanist or use a backing track.

1. You will perform two contrasting pieces of your choice that best demonstrate your personal artistry:

- You may perform unaccompanied or with accompaniment, or backing track
- The two pieces should last no longer than 10 minutes in total
- We welcome both traditional and contemporary approaches to performance and therefore acknowledge traditional instrumentation and new approaches to performance and accompaniment.

2. You will have a short interview, where we will explore your general musical knowledge and interests

Writers / Composers / Arrangers Only:

1. You will have a structured interview based on your portfolio of pieces which you should bring with you

- The interview will involve discussing your pieces (compositions / songs / arrangements) in terms of the creative and writing / arrangement process as well as your influences and direction
- Compositions, songs and arrangements may be in recorded or scored form
- There is no set limit, but the panel will consider approximately 10 minutes of music

2. You will be asked to perform one piece that demonstrates your musical and performance strengths.

This can be your own composition or an existing piece

BA (Hons) Music (Folk, Roots and Blues)

Performers Only:

Please submit video recordings of:

1. A performance of two contrasting pieces of your choice that best demonstrate your personal artistry:

- You may perform unaccompanied or with accompaniment, or backing track
- The two pieces should last no longer than 10 minutes in total
- We welcome both traditional and contemporary approaches to performance and therefore acknowledge traditional instrumentation and new approaches to performance and accompaniment.

2. Interview:

Submit a short video with your answers to the following questions (please speak to camera):

- Why do you want to study at Leeds Conservatoire?
- Who are your influences as a musician and how/why do they influence you?
- What music are you currently listening to and why?
- Tell us about your experience of composing or playing/performing solo/or in bands.
- Tell us about an issue facing musicians in the folk and traditional music industry that you think is particularly important at the moment.
- Why do you believe we should offer you a place? What can you bring to the conservatoire?
- What do you want to do once you've finished your studies?

Songwriting / Composers / Arrangers Only:

Please provide the following for assessment:

1. Portfolio

Writers, composers and arrangers are required to submit a portfolio of two or three pieces as recordings (e.g. MP3/ M4A/ video/ a document containing audio links) or scores. You may also submit any lyrics as a word document or pdf.

We welcome both traditional and contemporary approaches to songwriting, composition and arrangement and acknowledge both traditional instrumentation and new approaches to writing and arrangement.

2. Performance (continued on next page)

Submit a video of you performing one piece that demonstrates your musical and performance strengths.

- This can be your own composition or an existing piece.
- You may perform unaccompanied or with accompaniment, or backing track.
- We welcome both traditional and contemporary approaches to performance and therefore acknowledge traditional instrumentation and new approaches to performance and accompaniment.

3. Interview:

Submit a short video with your answers to the following questions (please speak to camera):

- Why do you want to study at Leeds Conservatoire?
- Who are your influences as a musician and how/why do they influence you?
- What music are you currently listening to and why?
- Tell us about your experience of composing or playing/performing solo/or in bands.
- Tell us about an issue facing musicians in the folk and traditional music industry that you think is particularly important at the moment.
- Why do you believe we should offer you a place? What can you bring to the conservatoire?
- What do you want to do once you've finished your studies?

