

NATIONAL MUSIC THEORY HONOR ROLL EXAMS NMA is the only school in the State of Illinois offering these exams

These music theory exams allow each student who earns a score of 90% or higher to be listed on the National Music Theory Honor Roll List. The list of National Music Theory Honor Scholars is published at the end of September each year. All NMA students are encouraged to participate. Students who are not enrolled with NMA are also welcome to take the exam at NMA.

The exams have 7 levels and are held twice per year on NMA premises. KITS, the exam publisher, requires the exams be done in person and there are no on-line options.

The exams are similar to AIM Piano Theory Exams (Illinois State Piano Exams) and consist of written theory, aural skills and scales. The scales can be played on piano, guitar, violin and other melodic instruments which can produce scales.

These very demanding exams are of great value in college applications and job searches since they show a student's ability to go in depth with one subject and to sustain interest over time.

Who can participate:

all NMA instrumental and voice students, as well as students not enrolled with NMA

- this is an especially great opportunity for students who are not eligible to take IL State Exams, such as <u>guitar</u>, <u>drums</u>, <u>ukulele</u>, <u>and 20-min class piano</u>, <u>violin and voice students</u>
- Please note that the biggest challenge in these exams is the requirement to play numerous scales and to read bass clef.
- Drum students would need to play the scales on another instrument such as piano, guitar or violin.
- Since there are numerous similarities between <u>AIM Piano Exams</u> and Honor Roll Exams, students taking Piano AIM are especially encouraged to participate.
- AIM piano students can attempt 2 levels in a year; students taking <u>AIM</u> <u>Piano Exams Levels 9 and up</u> can just take the highest-level Honor Roll exam they already know most of the scales required on this level.

Can the student retake the exam:

Yes, the student can retake the same exam until they reach the desired score, or they can move to the next level and try to achieve a better score.



Age Limit: No age limit

Exam Dates: Spring Exams: Sunday, May 11, 2025; Summer Exams: Saturday, July 19, 2025

Fee: \$43 per exam per student payable by credit card, check or cash – no additional

charges for credit card payments. There is an additional charge of \$6 for each

theory book, which you can purchase on Amazon.

Registration Deadline: For spring exams by May 5, 2025; for summer exams by July 12, 2025

Awards: Students receive the certificate of participation and medal, and those who

receive the score of 90% or higher are listed on the National Music Theory

Honor Roll List.

Refunds: Refunds offered for cancellations by April 25, 2025, for Spring Exams, and July

10, 2025, for Summer Exams.

To Register: Please fill out the registration google form – link will be sent in the email or fill

out the PDF form found on NMA web site. Contact NMA to make the payment.