

**Regulations for Application of International Students for Preparatory Courses
for Admissions to Professional Bachelor's Study Programmes of Jāzeps Vītols
Latvian Academy of Music (JVLMA)**

1. **JVLMA Preparatory Courses for Admissions to Professional Bachelor's Study Programmes in performing arts (further referred to as preparatory courses)** are designed for acquisition of new knowledge and development of existing skills, preparing for admissions examinations of the current academic year in accordance with the JVLMA Admissions Regulations and JVLMA Content of Admissions Examinations, approved by the JVLMA Senate;
2. **The preparatory courses are designed for** – foreign citizens selected by the committee (further described as selection for preparatory courses) based on the evaluation of the following competencies:
 - 2.1. English language proficiency corresponding to level B1 and higher (in accordance with the Appendix No.1 of these regulations);
 - 2.2. knowledge in music history and theory – the abilities to theoretically analyse a musical piece, indicating its epoch, style, means of musical expression, and providing information on the composer (not applicable to study programme *Choreography*);
 - 2.3. professional competencies (knowledge and skills) in selected speciality (instrument performance / vocal performance / conducting / choreography or other relevant skills) and the applicant's suitability for participation in the group lectures of Semester 1;
 - 2.4. motivation for studies at JVLMA;
3. **Selection procedure:**
 - 3.1. To apply for preparatory courses, the applicant must complete an online application form ([link](#));
 - 3.2. The application form must include a hyperlink to applicant's performances corresponding to the requirements of the selected specialization in accordance with the JVLMA Admission Regulations (content of examinations is available on the JVLMA webpage - [link](#));
 - 3.3. A committee consisting of 3-5 persons shall be appointed by the Vice-Rector in Academic Work of JVLMA to assess the applicant's performance in applicant's specialization;
 - 3.4. After assessing the recording, the committee shall schedule a Skype (or equivalent means of communication) interview with the applicant. The interview of approximately 15 minutes of duration shall be planned from 9AM to 6PM Latvian time (GMT+2) and shall take place in English language. During the interview, the applicant shall introduce himself/herself to the committee, outline his motivation to study the selected specialization at the JVLMA, shall demonstrate theoretical analysis of one of the musical pieces submitted as the application video recording, describing its epoch, style, means of musical expression and the composer of the piece. During the interview, the committee shall assess applicant's language skills and knowledge in music history and theory (except for study programme *Choreography*);
 - 3.5. The selection results shall be e-mailed to the applicant within one week from the interview, and shall consist of:

- 3.5.1. Invitation letter for participation in the preparatory courses including an invitation to sign a Contract of Attendance, if the applicant's level meets the requirements of the preparatory courses;
 - 3.5.2. Refusal letter, if the applicant's level does not meet the requirements of the preparatory courses;
4. JVLMA shall prepare the Contract of Attendance for the preparatory courses, indicating the study courses provided, period of studies, beginning and end dates, study fee and payment schedule, requiring pre-payment no less than 1 month before the commencement of the courses. The contract shall be sent to the applicant's e-mail address;
5. **Time period of preparatory courses** – the preparatory courses are 3 months long and are organized within the time period from November 30 to the commencement of the academic year (September 1);
6. **Venue of preparatory courses** – the preparatory courses take place at the Jāzeps Vītols Latvian Academy of Music, Riga, Kr. Barona Street 1, Latvia.
 - 6.1. If the attendee requires a visa to enter Latvia, in the visa request (to an EU country) the "reason of travel" must be indicated as "study courses at JVLMA". The Contract of Attendance and the invitation letter shall serve as documentary proof for visa application. If the applicant requires additional documents for visa application, the Further Education Department of JVLMA must be contacted and issues shall be solved on case-to-case basis;
7. **Fee of preparatory courses** – the attendee covers full costs of preparatory courses in accordance with the costs estimate approved by the Rector of JVLMA;
8. Upon arrival for preparatory courses, the attendee receives the original copy of the Contract of Attendance, and submits a personal ID document and a copy of visa (if applicable);
9. The schedule of the courses is introduced to the attendee before the commencement of the courses;
10. In the conclusion of the preparatory courses, the attendee undertakes examinations that correspond to the JVLMA Admissions Regulations for the current academic year and to the JVLMA Admission Examinations Requirements. The examinations are assessed by an admissions committee approved by the JVLMA;
11. Depending on the results of the final examinations of the preparatory courses:
 - 11.1. If the level of the attendee is sufficient for admission to JVLMA study programme and if the attendee wishes to study at JVLMA, a Contract of Studies and a costs estimate is prepared, after signing of which the attendee is admitted to studies at JVLMA;
 - 11.2. if the level of the attendee is not sufficient for admission to JVLMA study programme, JVLMA issues to the applicant a Further Education Certificate that proves the attendance of the preparatory courses;
12. Participation in the preparatory courses does not guarantee the admission of the attendee to the study programme, if the results of the final examinations of the preparatory courses do not correspond to the level and requirements outlined in the JVLMA Admission Regulations and JVLMA Admission Examinations Requirements.

Prepared by the Director of Further Education Department Inese Gūte

The Common European Framework divides learners into three broad divisions that can be divided into six levels; for each level, it describes what a learner is supposed to be able to do in reading, listening, speaking and writing. The following table indicates these levels.

- **Basic Level (A1)** – Can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. Can introduce themselves and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details such as where they live, people they know and things they have. Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.
- **Basic Level (A2)** – Can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment). Can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters. Can describe in simple terms aspects of their background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need.
- **Intermediate Level (B1)** – Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. Can deal with most situations likely to arise while travelling in an area where the language is spoken. Can produce simple connected text on topics that are familiar or of personal interest. Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes and ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans.
- **Intermediate Level (B2)** – Can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in their field of specialization. Can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party. Can produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.
- **Higher Level (C1)** – Can understand a wide range of demanding, longer clauses, and recognize implicit meaning. Can express ideas fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. Can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes. Can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organizational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.
- **Higher Level (C2)** – Can understand with ease virtually everything heard or read. Can summarize information from different spoken and written sources, reconstructing arguments and accounts in a coherent presentation. Can express themselves spontaneously, very fluently and precisely, differentiating finer shades of meaning even in the most complex situations.