



**NATIONAL MUSIC**  
CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

P.O. Box 1984  
Buffalo, NY 14240-1984

T 866.716.2223  
F 866.716.2224

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## **EXCUSED ABSENCE REQUEST**

Dear School Official:

I am participating in music evaluations using the curriculum and examinations of The Royal Conservatory of Music, through the National Music Certificate Program. I am requesting an excused absence from school in order to take part in this examination.

My examination will take place on: \_\_\_\_\_  
*See attached Examination Program Form*

<b>National Music Certificate Program Examinations</b>	<b>High School Level</b>
Grade 6 Piano + Grade 1 Rudiments	Grade 10
Grade 7 Piano + Grade 2 Rudiments	Grade 11
Grade 8 Piano + Grade 2 Rudiments	Grade 12

The National Music Certificate Program is offered in cooperation with one of the world's most renowned schools of music, The Royal Conservatory of Music. Founded in 1886, The Royal Conservatory of Music is recognized throughout the world for the high quality of its programs. RCM Examinations, a division of The RCM, has over 100 years of experience developing curricula and providing third-party assessments based on established pedagogical research and the highest artistic goals. Each year practical piano and music theory examinations are conducted in select communities through a network of examination centers.

The Certificate Program starts with two preparatory levels, suitable for piano students completing their first and second years of study, respectively. The Program then progresses through ten consecutive grades (Grades 1 - 10), and culminates in certification as an Associate of The Royal Conservatory of Music (the ARCT diploma). The examinations available for each level, grade, and certification, serve as logical assessment points for developing musicians.

Preparation for a typical piano examination over the school year breaks down as follows:

### **Grade 6 Certificate**

<b>Requirement</b>	<b>Breakdown of Preparation</b>	<b>*Number of Days</b>	<b>Duration of Preparation per Day</b>	<b>Total Number of Hours</b>
Practical	Practice	233	45 minutes	175

	Lessons	36	45 minutes	27
Theoretical	Homework	168	30 minutes	84
	Lessons	28	60 minutes	28
				<b>314 Hours</b>

### Grade 7 Certificate

Requirement	Breakdown of Preparation	*Number of Days	Duration of Preparation per Day	Total Number of Hours
Practical	Practice	233	45 minutes	175
	Lessons	36	45 minutes	27
Theoretical	Homework	168	30 minutes	84
	Lessons	28	60 minutes	28
				<b>314 Hours</b>

### Grade 8 Certificate

Requirement	Breakdown of Preparation	*Number of Days	Duration of Preparation per Day	Total Number of Hours
Practical	Practice	233	60 minutes	233
	Lessons	36	60 minutes	36
Theoretical	Homework	168	45 minutes	126
	Lessons	28	60 minutes	28
				<b>423 Hours</b>

\* 10 months minus holidays

Additional information about the National Music Certificate Program can be found on their website, [www.nationalmusiccertificate.org](http://www.nationalmusiccertificate.org).

Sincerely,