

Music Composition for the Screen (MFA)

Estimated Program Costs

As a **Music Composition for the Screen MFA** student, you'll engage in an intense interdisciplinary course of study that will prepare you for all applications of music production, from film and television to video game and live performance scoring. You'll create distinctive music in response to a variety of dramatic problems and learn to present your work across multiple platforms.

To earn an **MFA in Music Composition for the Screen at Columbia**, you must complete **54 credits**. The below chart reflects the typical costs of a full-time student in this program:

| | YEAR 1 FALL AND SPRING | YEAR 2 FALL, SPRING, AND SUMMER | TOTAL COSTS |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|
| ESTIMATED DIRECT EXPENSES | \$35,613 | \$47,573 | \$83,186 |
| ESTIMATED INDIRECT EXPENSES | \$30,592 | \$30,592 | \$61,184 |

- The estimated **direct expenses** include tuition and fees for the program based on 2025-26 tuition rates. Tuition rates are subject to annual increases. You will be billed by Columbia for direct expenses after you register for each semester of the program.
- The estimated **indirect expenses** reflect the average cost of attending college full time in Chicago and include estimates for books and supplies, room and board, and transportation. You will not be billed by Columbia for indirect expenses, and your actual expenses may vary.
- The last semester of your program will include a month-long internship at our Los Angeles campus. The approximate costs associated with this internship are included in the year 2 figures above.

Financing Your Graduate Degree at Columbia

Columbia will work closely with you to create a plan to finance your graduate program. We recommend that you submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (studentaid.gov) with the Columbia school code of 001665 for the academic year that you plan to begin your graduate program. For additional information on financing your graduate program, please visit colum.edu/columbiacentral.