

ROANOKE COLLEGE
 Department of Fine Arts
 Degree in Music
 Career Advising Guide

Following are some of the jobs typically open to Roanoke College graduates with a major or minor in music. The list is by no means exhaustive, so think of it as a starting point—a source of ideas from which you can branch out and discover some of the things you would most enjoy doing. Why you chose music as your field is as important as the degree itself. Equally important are the non-academic experiences and skills you acquire outside the classroom: part-time or summer jobs, volunteer work, special training, extracurricular activities. If you have questions about any of the occupational fields or need other information, talk to a faculty member in the Music Department or a staff member in the Office of Career Services.

General Occupational Fields	Sample Job Titles	Employment Outlook	Recommended Preparation
Performing Arts	Vocalist, pianist, instrumentalist	Limited openings, keen competition	Typically must have extensive experience in performance and evidence of outstanding ability. In some instances, advanced degree or other training is expected. Adaptability (ability to play more than one instrument or ability to sing and act) is important.
Church Music	Organist, choir director, minister of music, pianist, assistant in music	Good prospects for jobs; pay is not outstanding	Must have demonstrated ability and experience (volunteer work in home church, summer or part-time work, etc.). Multiple skills are important such as vocal ability combined with piano and/or organ. Religion courses and past involvement in church are important.
Teaching	Secondary or elementary school teacher, college professor	Limited openings; stiff competition	For secondary or elementary teaching, must meet state certification requirements (unless at private school). For college teaching, typically must have master's or doctorate degree plus experience and exceptional skill. Helpful to have done extensive performing.
Music applied in social service jobs	Music therapist, activities director (such as at nursing home, hospital, or children's home)	Moderate openings	Jobs in music therapy frequently require certification. For other positions, typically must have courses in sociology, psychology, and possibly recreation and art. Useful to have paid or volunteer work in service capacities. Multiple talents in music, art, crafts, recreation are helpful.

Certification: Music Education (Choral)

Bachelor of Arts: Music

Minors: Music

For Additional Information, Contact:

Dr. Jeff Sandborg, x2360, 336 Olin Hall

Dr. Gordon Marsh, x2352, 358 Olin Hall

Dr. Joseph Blaha, x2357, 334 Olin Hall