

2025 External Assessment Instructions for NZ Scholarship Music Digital Submissions

Principal's Nominees and teachers should read these instructions before beginning to process candidate portfolios for submission to NZQA

16 May 2025 v1



Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa New Zealand Qualifications Authority



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1. Key dates

Date 2025	NZ Scholarship Music 93305		
16 May	Submission Instructions available to schools via the subjects pages on the NZQA website.		
1 September	Deadline to submit entries to NZQA for externally assessed standards.		
21 - 28 October	 Schools prepare candidate portfolios for online submission. Schools complete the online attendance rolls for submissions. 		
29 October	Schools submit the uploaded portfolios to NZQA by 5.00 pm.		
7 November	Deadline for PN to submit the completed online attendance roll.		

2. Mode of assessment

The mode of assessment for NZ Scholarship Music 93305 is a digital submission.

Teachers are expected to be familiar with the Assessment Specifications.

Each candidate will submit TWO files to their school:

- 1. Portfolio ONE of: Performance (P) OR Composition (C) OR Musicology (M).
- 2. Critical Reflection (R) supporting the chosen portfolio (must include the <u>authenticity</u> <u>declaration</u>, and scores if applicable).

3. Digital submissions

Schools submitting digital portfolios will need to upload files via the old secure Provider login links by **5.00 pm Wednesday 29 October 2025**.

Schools must retain copies of all submissions sent to NZQA.

To submit portfolios digitally, the school will need to be familiar with submitting work through their secure Provider login.

- Online Digital Submission User Guide
- Online Digital Submission Quick User Guide

For assistance during the submission process or queries relating to these instructions:

- Email examinations@nzqa.govt.nz and in the subject line, type 'NZ Scholarship Music'
- Phone 0800 697 296 (NZQA Contact Centre).

Other information:

- It is recommended schools check that all expected uploads have occurred.
 - Each candidate should submit a portfolio (one of Performance OR Composition OR Musicology) <u>AND</u> a written Reflection with the signed Authenticity Declaration included, and scores, if applicable.
- Schools must retain copies of each candidate's submitted work until the end of March 2026.
- It is recommended that the candidate keeps a personal copy of their submission until the end of March 2026.
- NZQA will store a copy of the submissions and marked files for security and reference purposes.
- NZQA will delete the candidates' submission and marked files after 30 June 2026.

4. Preparing individual submissions

Prior to the upload of candidate submissions to NZQA, the following must be strictly adhered to.

The performance portfolio:

This must include:

(a) A video recording of up to 15 minutes of the candidate performing music as a featured soloist of a significant work or programme of works.

In addition, the performance may include one or both of the following:

- group performance
- performance on a second instrument
- If available, a copy of the score of the works performed should be supplied with the recording.

The performance must:

- be a continuous and unedited recording made at a particular performance event
- be no more than 15 minutes in duration (include pauses between items).
 Markers will not watch the performance past the maximum 15 minutes length
- take place in front of an audience
- be recorded by a stationary camera, and the sound recording should be of the highest-possible fidelity.
- (b) A critical reflective analysis of the work.

The composition portfolio:

This must include:

(a) The score and audio recording of a significant work or a selection of shorter works composed by the candidate.

The recording:

- may comprise any combination of live performance or computer realisation of the work(s)
- must be no more than 15 minutes in duration
- may include one arrangement or re-composition (not more than 5 minutes in duration).
- (b) A critical reflective analysis of the work.

The musicology portfolio

This must include:

- (a) A comprehensive study, along with an annotated score, of a substantial musical work. This may be in the form of an essay of no longer than 3000 words, or a video seminar (no longer than 15 minutes in duration), and must include:
 - an examination of FIVE musical elements deemed by the candidate to be most significant
 - a critical discussion outlining the musical contribution of each element in relation to the success and/or effectiveness of the work.

(b) A critical reflective analysis of the work.

Schools are required to complete a NZ Scholarship Music Scholarship Authenticity Declaration for each candidate and upload this along with the submission files. NZQA may carry out authenticity checks.

The Authenticity Declaration can be downloaded from the NZ Scholarship Music webpage.

Detailed information can be found in the NZ Scholarship Music Assessment Specifications.

5. File formats

Evidence must be submitted as shown in the table below:

Submission	File format	Maximum file size
Performance portfolio (P)	MP4	1GB
Composition portfolio (C)	MP3	1GB
Musicology portfolio (M)	.docx	15MB
Critical Reflection (R)	.pdf	15MB

Please adhere to the guidelines for file sizes and ensure videos and sound files are within this size limit. Large video and audio files must be compressed. This will significantly reduce the time it takes to upload the files. Files over the limit may not upload successfully, so markers may not be able to access material to mark.

6. Late submissions

Late upload of candidate submissions (after 29 October 2025) can only be made if:

- an email is sent to examinations@nzqa.govt.nz, by the school's Principal or Principal's Nominee verifying that the late submission(s) was the result of an act of omission on the part of the school and that the candidate(s) has not worked on the submission after 29 October; and
- the email is sent prior to submitting the late work to NZQA.
 Note: the subject line of the email will need to include 'Late submission NZ Scholarship Music'.

Please check the candidate(s) are entered for the standard to be submitted. If there are no current entries, the work will not be able to be submitted, and schools will be required to submit an entry file to NZQA.

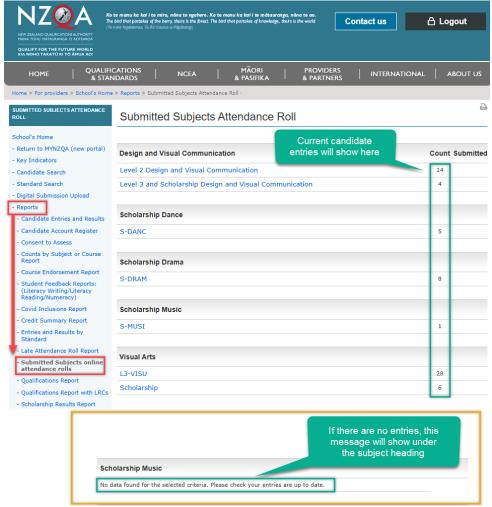
NZQA will acknowledge the request and/or provide further instructions where applicable.

7. Completing attendance rolls

Accurate completion of the online roll is vital for tracking, reconciliation and recording candidates that did not submit work. Incorrect data may create issues for candidate results.

The Principal's Nominee must complete online attendance rolls from their secure Provider login by Friday 7 November 2025.

Reports > Submitted Subjects online attendance rolls



- **Performance**: Tick this column to indicate the candidate has submitted a NZ Scholarship Performance piece of work.
- **Composition**: Tick this column to indicate the candidate has submitted a NZ Scholarship Composition piece of work.
- **Musicology**: Tick this column to indicate the candidate has submitted a NZ Scholarship Composition piece of work.
- **Reflection**: Tick this column to indicate the written reflection aspect of the candidate's work has been submitted (including the authenticity declaration).
- Candidate did not submit: Use this if the candidate is not submitting any work for NZ Scholarship Music 93305 but has an entry into the standard. These entries will be marked as Standard Not Attempted.
- **Portfolio submitted**: this column will auto-tick once the two assessment components have been ticked to indicate the candidate work has been uploaded to NZQA.

How to complete an online roll for Scholarship Music:

