

2025 Bulldog Beat Scholarship Auditions

Video Audition Process - Due March 1, 2025

Thank you for your interest in the Bulldog Beat Scholarship Auditions for the 2025-2026 school year. The Bulldog Beat is the top scholarship ensemble at Fresno State, paying \$6000 per student and is only open to full-time students at Fresno State, regardless of your major. This ensemble includes: 8 Saxophones (4 Alto, Tenor and Bari), 8 Trumpets, 4 Mellophones, 8 Trombones, 2 Bass Guitars, 2 Lead Guitars, 2 Pianists and 4 Drum Set players. The musicians assigned to this ensemble perform at a wide variety of events including volleyball, basketball and football games, as well as other special events and are on-call for the President of Fresno State. The Beat also travels around the state of California on an annual recruiting tour. As a member of the Bulldog Beat, participation in the Bulldog Marching Band is mandatory and attendance at all scheduled Bulldog Beat events is required.

The first step to the audition process is to go online to download the Audition Packet, found on the [Fresno State Bands](#) website. When it is time to submit your video, please complete this form - [Bulldog Beat and submit your audition video](#). A link to the audition registration is also found on the QR code below.

Students who also intend to major in music at Fresno State should register at the [Fresno State School of Music Website](#) to secure an audition time for admittance into the Department of Music. Auditions will be held on March 8th, in person, and each studio professor will determine admittance to the music program at Fresno State. This audition is required for all incoming Music Majors and is separate from this process.

Bulldog Beat Audition Process

Students must prepare the following for a successful audition:

1. Be prepared to play the specific audition packet of etudes for your instrument.
2. Be prepared to improvise to a recording. (See more below)
3. Be prepared to perform the following major scales (starting on the specific notes below) and chromatic scale:

Saxophones – G Major (1 octave), D Major (2 octaves), A Major (1 octaves), Bb Major (2 octaves), Eb Major (1 octave).
Chromatic Scale: practical range of the instrument, both Etudes, Improvisation (see below).

Trumpet – Bb Major (2 octaves), Eb Major (1 octave), Ab Major (2 octaves), C Major (2 octaves), G Major (2 octaves).
Chromatic Scale: practical range of the instrument. both Etudes, Improvisation (see below) **Potential lead Trumpets should demonstrate range during the scales**

Mellophone – F Major (1 octave), Bb Major (2 octaves), Eb Major (1 octave), C Major (2 octaves), G Major (2 octaves).
Chromatic Scale: practical range of the instrument, both Etudes, Improvisation (see below) **Potential lead Mellophones should demonstrate range during the scales**

Trombones – F Major (2 octaves), Bb Major (2 octaves), Eb Major (1 octave), C Major (2 octaves), G Major (2 octaves).
Chromatic Scale: practical range of the instrument, both Etudes, Improvisation (see below) **Potential lead Trombones should demonstrate range during the scales**

Guitars –Major Scales (up to 3 flats and sharps). Both Etudes, Improvisation (see below), and a brief recording of your choosing to accompany that shows off your maximum ability.

Drum Set - Prepare the Drum Set packet and include a brief recording of your choosing to accompany that shows off your maximum ability.

Keyboard - Perform the improvisation and a brief recording of your choosing to accompany that shows off your maximum ability.

Improvisation - All auditionees are required to demonstrate their ability to improvise as well. [Use this link for your improvisation segment, performing for a minimum of 60 seconds.](#)

I look forward to hearing your audition and please feel free to contact me should you have any questions, or concerns.

Good luck with your preparations!

Steve McKeithen
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Alto

Bulldog Beat Audition Etudes 2025

Etude #1

Swing ♩ = 148

3

6

13

18

Etude #2

Fast Swing ♩ = 168

23

27

30

34

38

Tenor

Bulldog Beat Audition Etudes 2025

Etude #1

Swing ♩ = 148

Musical notation for Etude #1, Swing, starting at measure 3. The piece is in C major, 4/4 time, with a tempo of 148 beats per minute. The notation includes a treble clef, a common time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' above it at the beginning. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a key signature change to D major (two sharps).

Etude #2

Fast Swing ♩ = 168

Musical notation for Etude #2, Fast Swing, starting at measure 23. The piece is in D major, 4/4 time, with a tempo of 168 beats per minute. The notation includes a treble clef, a common time signature, and a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody is characterized by a fast, rhythmic eighth-note pattern. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' above it. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Bari. Sax.

Bulldog Beat Audition Etudes 2025

Etude #1

Swing ♩ = 148

6

13

18

Etude #2

Fast Swing ♩ = 168

23

27

30

34

38

Trumpet

Bulldog Beat Audition Etudes 2025

Etude #1

Swing ♩ = 148

6

13

18

Etude #2

Fast Swing ♩ = 168

23

27

30

34

38

Mellophone

Bulldog Beat Audition Etudes 2025

Etude #1

Swing ♩ = 148

Musical notation for Etude #1, measures 1-18. The piece is in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Measure numbers 6, 13, and 18 are indicated at the start of their respective lines. Trills and triplets are used for ornamentation throughout the piece.

Etude #2

Fast Swing ♩ = 168

Musical notation for Etude #2, measures 23-38. The piece is in 2/4 time with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Measure numbers 27, 30, 34, and 38 are indicated at the start of their respective lines. Trills and triplets are used for ornamentation throughout the piece.

Trombone

Bulldog Beat Audition Etudes 2025

Etude #1

Swing ♩ = 148

Musical score for Etude #1, measures 1-18. The score is written in bass clef, 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Measure numbers 1, 6, 13, and 18 are indicated at the start of their respective lines. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' in measures 1, 6, and 13. Accents (^) are placed over notes in measures 1, 6, 13, and 18. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a C-clef at the end of measure 18.

Etude #2

23 Fast Swing ♩ = 168

Musical score for Etude #2, measures 23-38. The score is written in bass clef, 3/4 time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Measure numbers 23, 27, 30, 34, and 38 are indicated at the start of their respective lines. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' in measure 23. Accents (^) are placed over notes in measures 23, 27, 30, 34, and 38. The piece concludes with a double bar line at the end of measure 38.

Bass Trombone

Bulldog Beat Audition Etudes 2025

Etude #1

Swing ♩ = 148

Measures 1-5 of Etude #1. The music is in bass clef, 2/4 time, and B-flat major. It begins with a triplet of eighth notes (G2, A2, B2) followed by a quarter note (C3), a quarter note (D3), and a quarter note (E3). The melody continues with eighth and quarter notes, including a triplet of eighth notes (F3, G3, A3) and a quarter note (B3).

Measures 6-12 of Etude #1. The music continues with eighth and quarter notes, featuring a triplet of eighth notes (C4, D4, E4) and a quarter note (F4). There are accents over several notes and a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) in measure 11.

Measures 13-17 of Etude #1. The music continues with eighth and quarter notes, including a triplet of eighth notes (C4, D4, E4) and a quarter note (F4). There are accents over several notes and a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) in measure 15.

Measures 18-22 of Etude #1. The music continues with eighth and quarter notes, including a triplet of eighth notes (C4, D4, E4) and a quarter note (F4). There are accents over several notes and a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) in measure 20.

Etude #2

Fast Swing ♩ = 168

Measures 23-26 of Etude #2. The music is in bass clef, 2/4 time, and B major. It begins with a triplet of eighth notes (G2, A2, B2) followed by a quarter note (C3), a quarter note (D3), and a quarter note (E3). The melody continues with eighth and quarter notes, including a triplet of eighth notes (F3, G3, A3) and a quarter note (B3).

Measures 27-29 of Etude #2. The music continues with eighth and quarter notes, including a triplet of eighth notes (C4, D4, E4) and a quarter note (F4). There are accents over several notes.

Measures 30-33 of Etude #2. The music continues with eighth and quarter notes, including a triplet of eighth notes (C4, D4, E4) and a quarter note (F4). There are accents over several notes.

Measures 34-37 of Etude #2. The music continues with eighth and quarter notes, including a triplet of eighth notes (C4, D4, E4) and a quarter note (F4). There are accents over several notes.

Measures 38-42 of Etude #2. The music continues with eighth and quarter notes, including a triplet of eighth notes (C4, D4, E4) and a quarter note (F4). There are accents over several notes.

Guitar

Bulldog Beat Audition Etudes 2025

Etude #1

Swing ♩ = 148

Musical notation for Etude #1, measures 1-18. The piece is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. Measure numbers 6, 13, and 18 are indicated at the start of their respective lines. Trills and triplets are used for ornamentation throughout the piece.

Etude #2

Fast Swing ♩ = 168

Musical notation for Etude #2, measures 23-38. The piece is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F-sharp). It is characterized by a fast tempo and complex rhythmic patterns, including sixteenth and thirty-second notes. Measure numbers 27, 30, 34, and 38 are indicated at the start of their respective lines. Trills and triplets are used for ornamentation throughout the piece.

Bass Guitar

Bulldog Beat Audition Etudes 2025

Etude #1

Swing ♩ = 148

Measures 1-5 of Etude #1. The music is in bass clef, 3/4 time, and B-flat major. It begins with a triplet of eighth notes (G2, F2, E2) followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes.

Measures 6-12 of Etude #1. Measure 6 starts with a triplet of eighth notes (D2, C2, B1). Measures 7-12 feature various rhythmic patterns including eighth notes, quarter notes, and a triplet of eighth notes (G2, F2, E2).

Measures 13-17 of Etude #1. Measure 13 starts with a triplet of eighth notes (D2, C2, B1). Measures 14-17 continue with eighth and quarter notes, including a triplet of eighth notes (G2, F2, E2) in measure 15.

Measures 18-22 of Etude #1. Measure 18 starts with a triplet of eighth notes (D2, C2, B1). Measures 19-22 feature eighth and quarter notes, ending with a double bar line and a key signature change to C major.

Etude #2

23 Fast Swing ♩ = 168

Measures 23-26 of Etude #2. The music is in bass clef, 3/4 time, and C major. It begins with a triplet of eighth notes (G2, F2, E2) followed by eighth and quarter notes.

Measures 27-29 of Etude #2. Measure 27 starts with a triplet of eighth notes (D2, C2, B1). Measures 28-29 continue with eighth and quarter notes.

Measures 30-33 of Etude #2. Measure 30 starts with a triplet of eighth notes (D2, C2, B1). Measures 31-33 feature eighth and quarter notes with various accidentals.

Measures 34-37 of Etude #2. Measure 34 starts with a triplet of eighth notes (D2, C2, B1). Measures 35-37 continue with eighth and quarter notes, including a triplet of eighth notes (G2, F2, E2) in measure 36.

Measures 38-42 of Etude #2. Measure 38 starts with a triplet of eighth notes (D2, C2, B1). Measures 39-42 feature eighth and quarter notes, ending with a double bar line.

Audition Music
FSU Bulldog Beat
Drum Set Audition Packet

SHAWN GLYDE

12/8 LATIN

Play each pattern 4 times.

♩ = 120-124

1

2

3

4

Up Tempo Rock

Play each pattern 4 times.

♩ = 152-176

5

6

7

8

Jazz

Play the 4 bar written pattern twice then improvise for 8 bars in the context of that style (repeat).

♩ = 160-182

9

3

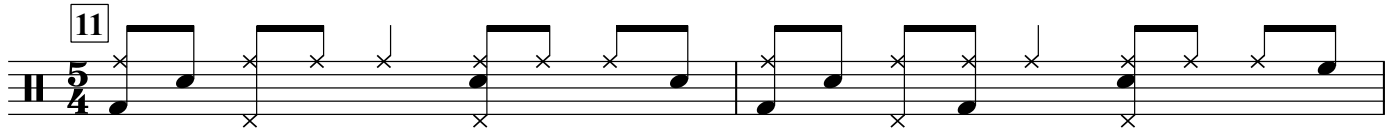
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5

V.S.

Jazz (continued)

11



7/8 Linear Rock/Funk

Play the 2 bar pattern twice then solo for 4 bars in 7/8 (repeat).

12

♩ = 96-108

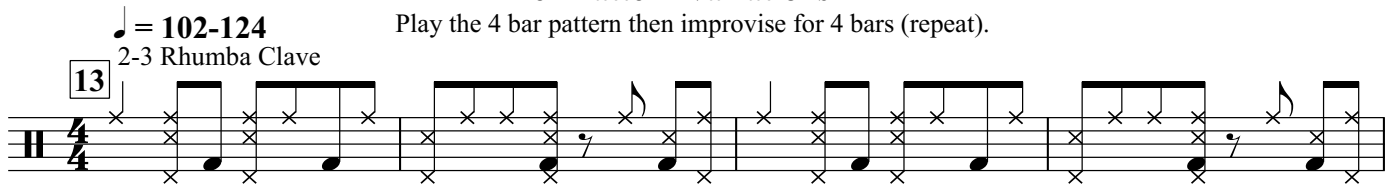


Bell Pattern Variations

Play the 4 bar pattern then improvise for 4 bars (repeat).

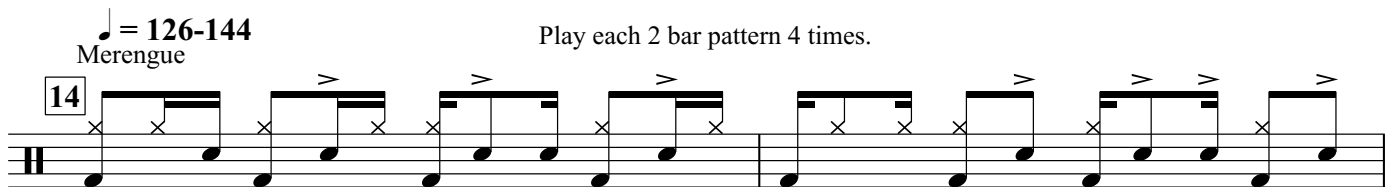
13

♩ = 102-124
2-3 Rhumba Clave



14

♩ = 126-144
Merengue

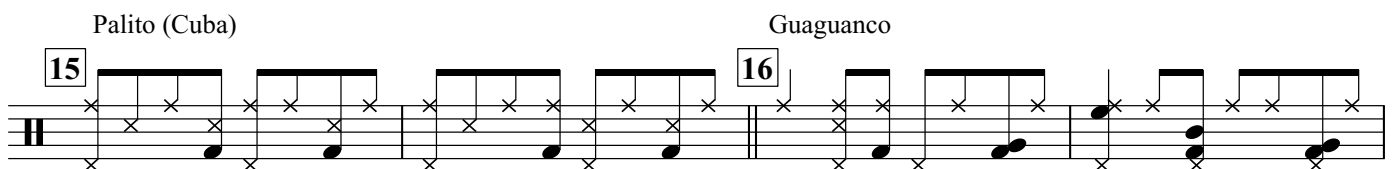


15

Palito (Cuba)

16

Guaguanco



Rhythmic Soloing

Orchestrate this 8 bar rhythm pattern around the drums while utilizing your double bass drum pedal (repeat).

♩ = 110-120

17

3 3 3 3 3 3 5 5 5

6 6 6 6

Open Soloing

Prepare an open drum solo (60-90 seconds).

18

Song or Loop

Drum to a song or loop (player choice). * 2-3 minutes.

Bring the track with you to the audition on your phone, laptop, ipod, ipad, etc.).

19

*Do not record yourself playing to the track. You'll be performing it live during the audition process. Your selection should show off your strengths as a player, musician and performer.