



PIANO STUDIO POLICY

September 2024-August 2025

Thank you for considering Musicalize Piano Studio! It is my pleasure to be able to share the joy of playing piano with others, and help them develop a love for music and piano for themselves. In this document you will be able to find answers to all the initial questions you may have regarding lessons, registration, tuition, etc. Thank you for your interest!

Changes to watch for in this updated studio policy:

- Registration fee increased by \$25 for the whole year. NO INCREASE IN TUITION RATES.
- Lesson days are now MONDAYS and TUESDAYS only.

Registration

In order to secure a slot at Musicalize Piano Studio, a **non-refundable registration fee is due at the time of enrollment** (currently enrolling for the September 2024 - August 2025 school year). The **registration fee covers the 4 required summer lessons** and it is proportional to whether the student is registering for 30, 45 or 60-min. lessons. A portion of the fee also contributes towards recital venue rental fees, recital awards, and miscellaneous studio materials for individual lessons as well as group lessons.

Registration fees (not to be confused with tuition fees):

- 30-min. lessons: \$265
- 45-min. lessons: \$360
- 60-min. lessons: \$455

Tuition and Payment

A flat **monthly tuition payment is due on the first day of each month, and considered late after the 3rd day of each month** from September-June (10 payments), regardless of the number of lessons held or attended each month.

Automated payments are required. This should eliminate late fees entirely. No tuition payments are due in July and August (the 4 required summer lessons are already covered in the registration fee). Tuition rates remain the same for the duration of the year, after which they are evaluated and may be subject to change for the coming year.

Monthly Tuition Rates (NO INCREASE):

- 30-min. lessons: \$190
- 45-min. lessons: \$285
- 60-min. lessons: \$380

Studio Calendar

Students joining Musicalize Piano Studio commit to lessons from **September 2024 – August 2025**. Students are offered a total of **38 lessons** when school is in session, which are 30, 45, or 60 minutes in duration and are held on the same day and time every week. These lessons include 2 group lessons (1 hr) which will be scheduled right before or after a major holiday weekend, and a piano party at the end of the school year. **A minimum of 4 lessons will be required in the summer break.** We follow the LWSD calendar as a guideline. Even though schools will generally be closed on Monday holidays, **the studio will remain open on most Monday holidays** in order to provide Monday students with the same number of lessons as all other students. A detailed studio calendar is provided below, specifying whether the studio will be open or closed on each specific holiday and listing other important dates.

MUSICALIZE PIANO STUDIO CALENDAR (September 2024-August 2025)

Date	Holiday	Studio	Notes
*September 2	Labor Day	CLOSED	
September 9			First Week of Piano Lessons!
November 11			Monday lessons proceed as usual
November 27-29	Thanksgiving Break	CLOSED	
December 7			Tentative Date for Winter Recital
December 23- Jan. 3	Winter Break	CLOSED	Lessons start again on January 6
*January 20	MLK Jr. Day	OPEN	Monday Lessons proceed as usual
February 13-14	Mid- Winter Break	CLOSED	
*February 17	Presidents Day	CLOSED	
February 18			Group Lesson, 7-8pm
April 14-18	Spring Break	CLOSED	
*May 26	Memorial Day	CLOSED	Denisse's Birthday ☺ woohoo!
May 27			Group Lesson, 7-8pm
June 7			Tentative Date for Spring Recital
June 10			Last day of regular lessons (subject to change)
June 17			End of Year Piano Party, 7-8pm (no piano on the 16 th)
June 23			Summer Break Begins

-Monday Holidays are noted with an asterisk ().*

-Calendar is subject to change.

Late Fee Policy

Late fees should technically be eliminated with automated payments. However, in the case of a late payment, a \$15 charge will be added to all payments made after the 3rd of the month. Please go ahead and include this fee with your late payment. **No exceptions.**

Missed Lessons

No refunds or credits will be issued for missed lessons. However, students are offered **two make-up lessons per year at no extra charge** that can be scheduled the day after a group lesson (subject to slot availability). As a courtesy, I ask that you notify me if the student cannot attend a lesson. If I have to cancel a lesson, I will issue an extra free makeup lesson that can be scheduled during a group lesson week, or at another mutually agreeable time. For missed lessons due to snow days see “Snow Day Policy” below. It is the parent and/or student’s responsibility to request and schedule make-up lessons.

Snow Day Policy

In the eventuality of a snow day, no credits or refunds will be issued. However, students can choose to come to lessons if they are comfortable driving or if they live within walking distance, or they can choose to use one of their free make-up lessons at a later time. If snow day cancellations extend over multiple days and a good majority of students can’t make it, there will be a studio-wide closure and an additional group lesson offered to all students sometime before the end of the school year.

Summer Lessons

Students that take a long break from lessons in the summer will frequently experience a regression in the fall. In order to mitigate this regression and avoid spending time relearning old skills, a minimum of 4 lessons during the summer break are now required and covered as part of the registration fee. Students can choose the dates for these 4 lessons around their travel plans, and they can be combined into bigger blocks of time if needed. The studio is usually closed 2-3 weeks in the summer (dates to be announced).

Group Lessons

A minimum of 3 group lessons will be scheduled this year. **Group lessons replace regular, individual lessons for that week.** They will be 1 hour long and will be scheduled right before or after a major long holiday weekend. Group lessons will provide students the opportunity to perform for their peers and receive feedback in preparation for recitals. Group lessons are also an opportunity to review the Piano Explorer magazine materials in a fun game format.

Recitals

Students are expected to participate in two recitals every year (during the winter holiday season and spring). Recitals are normally held at local venues, unless pandemic restrictions are in place, limiting us to having a virtual recital. It is a great way to hear what others are learning as well as showcase your musical talent for friends and family.

Sick Students

I kindly ask that you do not send sick students to piano lessons. Please use a free make-up lesson later on.

Covid-19 Safety Measures

Students are welcome to continue wearing masks, although they are no longer required. We will keep following Washington's Health Department Covid guidelines. Students will continue to wash their hands before sitting at the piano, as usual.

Materials and Equipment

Students should possess an acoustic piano or a digital keyboard with 88 full-sized, weighted keys, and pedals. Please make sure your instrument is located in a part of the house where the student will be able to practice undisturbed by TV, pets, other noises, etc.

The student is responsible for purchasing the assigned books and supplementary materials. I will provide a link for each item to be purchased, or give you a local recommendation of where to get these materials.

Punctuality and Preparedness/Early Arrivals

Your time is as valuable as mine. Students are expected to be on time and prepared each week, and always bring all their materials. **Students can come in when their lesson time starts and should not arrive early**, as this can be disruptive to my family time or to the student before them. Lesson times will not be extended to compensate for tardiness. Parents are also expected to pick up students on time.

In-Lesson Visitors

It is requested that only the student attending the lesson be present in the studio for the duration for the lesson. Students need to have the opportunity to focus without the distraction of other people in the room or people coming in and out. **Parents, siblings and friends are kindly invited to wait outside- unless I have specifically required parents to be present in lessons.** Exceptions are made for parents when the student is too young, or a beginner.

Practicing at Home

Without a doubt, young students who have parents involved in their practice sessions (encouraging the child, reminding them to practice consistently...) are much more successful and have a more enjoyable musical experience. The student will be given a monthly practice sheet to help them meet their goals and keep track of practice time at home.

"Cramming" a week's worth of practice right before a lesson will not produce quality results. Practice expectations will vary from student to student and will be outlined on the practice sheet.

Discontinuing Lessons or Dismissal of a Student

I will always work diligently with the students and parents to resolve any issues that may arise. Please speak with me if you or your child is showing decreased interest. Learning to play the piano should be a fun and uplifting experience, not a drudgery. A change in approach, different music or books usually help. Taking action early is best and taking a break from piano is usually counterproductive. One month's notice is required when discontinuing lessons. Tuition and registration fees are not refunded when discontinuing lessons. **I also retain the right to terminate lessons due to the student being consistently unprepared each week, difficulty in discipline or disrespectful behavior during lessons, or lack of payment.**

Please note: This Studio Policy will be revised towards the conclusion of every school year. If a change is made throughout the year, a new copy to read and sign will be provided.

Thank you for considering Musicalize Piano Studio!

Denisse Avena, Instructor
Musicalize Piano Studio
d@musicalize.org

I understand and agree to Musicalize Piano Studio's Policy:

Signature of Student or Parent/Guardian and printed name

Name of Student (if signed by Parent/Guardian)

Date