

Studio Policy

Maryland Guitar Academy

Welcome to the Maryland Guitar Academy studio! This document covers the simple policies that keep everything running smoothly and effectively while ensuring all students receive the attention they deserve.

Studio Membership

Enrolling in the studio provides students with access to a variety of learning experiences and tools.

Private Lessons

Private lessons provide students with a focused and personal learning environment. Lessons are offered year-round, with occasional planned breaks throughout the year. A student's lesson time will be on the same time and day each week.

Group Sessions

In addition to private lessons, enrolled students will have access to group activities throughout the year, such as group jam sessions and special topic classes.

Recitals

Recitals are scheduled twice per year and provide students with an opportunity to showcase what they are learning in lessons.

Interactive Learning Tools

Maryland Guitar Academy provides access to online tools and lesson materials to give students the resources to support productive independent practice at home.

Studio Calendar

Lessons are offered year-round, with occasional planned breaks throughout the year. The studio calendar is developed to provide students with a balanced learning environment throughout the year. A student's lesson will be reserved for the same time and day each week for all scheduled private lesson days. Contact the office if you need to change your lesson schedule on an ongoing basis. You can view upcoming studio events and closures at <https://marylandguitaracademy.com/calendar/>

Cancellations and Makeups

It is important that you make coming to your lessons a priority. We reserve your lesson time throughout the year and are unable to offer makeup lessons if you cannot attend at your regular lesson time.

If you cannot make it to the studio for your regularly scheduled lesson time, you are welcome to request an alternative lesson:

- A recorded video lesson: we will send a 5-10 minute video per student teaching a new concept and assigning new homework.
- A virtual video lesson: during your normal lesson time, we will meet virtually on a platform such as Zoom or Google Meet.

Summer Vacation

Maryland Guitar Academy operates year-round and does not close for the summer. We are happy to offer alternative lessons for students who can't attend their normal time for lessons. If you are taking an extended vacation and want to resume when you return, your payment is still due on the scheduled payment date to reserve your lesson space.

Monthly Payments

Tuition is a flat rate paid as a monthly membership through the online subscription platform, Fons. To ensure smooth administration and uninterrupted lessons, payments are required in advance on the 15th of each month. These payments cover the tuition for the following calendar month. For example, a payment made on January 15th would cover the tuition for the month of February.

Continued payment of tuition ensures the student's membership in the studio. There are no tuition adjustments or refunds for missed lessons or seasonal lessons. Occasional absences by the student and teacher have already been considered in the total cost, including for major holidays and planned breaks.

In addition to a reserved lesson time, tuition covers admission to group learning sessions and special events such as recitals, as well as access to digital learning resources such as SoundSlice. Tuition also covers many activities that happen behind the scenes: preparing for lessons, planning recitals and other performance activities, exploring new music to inspire your student, and ongoing teacher development to provide you with the best lesson experience.

Student Expectations

Practice

Consistent daily practice is the best way to ensure continued development and progress in learning the guitar. The teacher will work with students individually to determine an appropriate practice plan.

Books and Materials

Students are required and expected to purchase any materials necessary for lessons. This includes lesson books, tuners, guitar picks, and guitar strings.

Inclement Weather

If the weather prevents us from meeting in person, the lesson schedule will remain the same, but lessons will take place virtually via a platform such as Zoom or Google Meet.

Illness

For the health and safety of both students and teachers, we ask that students do not come to lessons if they aren't feeling well or if they are exhibiting any symptoms that could be contagious to others. Virtual lessons or recorded video lessons are always an option if a student has symptoms but is feeling well enough for their lesson.

Discontinuing Lessons

Every student is on a month-to-month basis. To discontinue lessons and to discontinue charges to your account, notify us in writing at least 7 calendar days before your next scheduled charge. Tuition is not prorated for the last month's lessons. Students will be responsible for their last month's tuition whether or not they attend lessons.

Acknowledgement

By initiating payments and participating in lessons, you confirm that you have thoroughly reviewed, understood, and consent to the policies outlined in this document. This agreement supersedes any prior verbal or written arrangements between Maryland Guitar Academy and the student or their parent/guardian.