



## PERSONNEL COMMISSION

**Class Code: 5213**  
**Salary Range: 15 (C1)**

### ACCOMPANIST

#### JOB SUMMARY

Under general supervision, provide piano accompaniment for soloists and dance or choral groups at a variety of performances and special events including rehearsals, graduations, festivals and competitions; perform related duties as assigned.

#### EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

*The classification specification does not describe all duties performed by all incumbents within the class. This summary provides examples of typical tasks performed in this classification.*

- Provide piano accompaniment for soloists and dance or choral groups at a variety of performances and special events including rehearsals, graduations, festivals and competitions. **E**
- Consult with instructor regarding technical music decisions, such as discrepancies in scores and errors in printed music; transpose and transcribe music as needed. **E**
- Prepare music materials for classroom use by copying and taping individual parts; record and upload music and vocal parts for instructor and student use; edit music as needed. **E**
- Consult with instructor regarding upcoming activities; research and plan appropriate music for classes and performances; sight-read music to find appropriate music for specific composition assignments. **E**
- Play the piano from scores, lead sheets or from memory to accompany class units. **E**
- Improvise music in various meters and styles such as 3/4, 4/4, 5/4 and 6/8 tempos, narrative, classical, impressionistic, 20<sup>th</sup> century and pop for exercises, combinations and compositions; compose music for special assignments. **E**
- Rehearse and tutor individual or small groups of students; recommend modifications to vocal harmonies during practice and encourage student involvement and participation. **E**
- Participate in communicating musical theory and concepts to students. **E**
- Assist in the coordination of and participate in student group activities related to music education; attend after-school events as needed. **E**
- Rehearse with various guest musicians including drummers and guitar and bass players; arrange and chart music for guest musicians as necessary. **E**
- Arrange for and schedule piano tuning and repairs. **E**
- Maintain a library of categorized files of sheet music and audio recordings; copy music in accordance with copyright laws. **E**
- Operate a variety of audio equipment including CD and MP3 players; evaluate

- sound balance on electronic equipment for classes, rehearsals and performances. *E*
- Set up or oversee the setting up of instruments, monitors, amplifiers and microphones for rehearsals and performances. *E*
- Perform a variety of general clerical duties relating to classroom and student activities including assisting the instructor with paperwork and maintaining records; operate a variety of office equipment including a computer and assigned software. *E*
- Correct student work as assigned.

*Note: At the end of some of the duty statements there is an italicized E which identifies essential duties required of the classification. This is strictly for use in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.*

### **DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS**

The Accompanist is required to be a musician with advanced piano training and piano playing experience. Incumbents are typically assigned to a District high school. Incumbents are expected to attend and provide piano accompaniment at evening and weekend performances.

### **EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS**

#### **Knowledge of:**

Music theory, language, and history.  
Musical styles and keyboard literature from various historical periods.  
Musical forms and phrase structure.  
Standard musical performance procedures and practices.  
Techniques of music editing.  
Basic techniques of choral and individual vocal singing.  
Interpersonal skills using tact, patience and courtesy.  
Basic record keeping techniques.  
Oral and written communication skills.  
Operation of a variety of office equipment including a computer and assigned software.

#### **Ability to:**

Provide piano accompaniment for soloists and dance or choral groups at a variety of performances and special events.  
Play piano at an advanced level and sight-read musical scores accurately.  
Play a wide range and variety of musical styles.  
Transpose and transcribe music.  
Assist in the selection of music for special performances.  
Follow the conductor's tempo and dynamics.  
Rehearse and tutor students in the areas of proper musical and vocal techniques.  
Create abstract sounds, color effects, mood and energy sensations at the keyboard.  
Watch dance movements and play music that reflects and supports the energy or dynamic of the movements.

Assist instructors with reinforcing instruction to individuals or small groups of students.  
Understand and follow oral and written instructions.  
Establish and maintain cooperative and effective working relationships with others.  
Operate a variety of office equipment including a computer and assigned software.  
Maintain records and files.  
Work collaboratively as an educational team member.

**Education and Training:**

Consistent with the No Child Left Behind Act of 2002 and other related legislation, candidates for this classification must meet the following standards:

The equivalent of graduation from high school and one of the following:

1. Completion of at least two years of study (48 semester units or 60 quarter units) at an institution of higher education; Or
2. Attainment of an Associate of Arts degree or higher degree; Or
3. Meeting a rigorous standard of quality by receiving a passing score in an examination administered by the Personnel Commission which demonstrates the knowledge and ability to assist in instructing reading, writing and mathematics.

In addition to the above standards, applicants must provide proof of completion of college-level coursework or advanced private training in piano and music theory.

**Experience:**

One year of experience as an accompanist.

Any other combination of training and experience that could likely provide the desired skills, knowledge or abilities may be considered, however, experience cannot substitute for the required minimum education.

**WORKING ENVIRONMENT**

Classroom and theater environment.  
Indoor and outdoor locations.  
Evening, weekend and varied hours.

**PHYSICAL DEMANDS**

Dexterity of hands and fingers to play the piano.  
Seeing to read music and observe performances.  
Hearing and speaking to listen to music and exchange information.  
Sitting for extended periods of time.  
Lifting, carrying, pushing and pulling instruments weighing up to 25 pounds.

*AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT*

Persons with certain disabilities may be capable of performing the essential duties of this class with or without reasonable accommodation, depending on the nature of the disability.

**APPOINTMENT**

In accordance with Education Code Section 45301, an employee appointed to this class must serve a probationary period of six (6) months during which time an employee must demonstrate at least an overall satisfactory performance. Failure to do so shall result in the employee's termination.

PCA: 6/23/16