

June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026

The U.S. Air Force Academy Band  
 520 Otis Street  
 Peterson SFB CO 80914-1620

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for inquiring about auditioning for a keyboard/piano position with the United States Air Force Academy Band. This musical audition will be conducted in two parts: (a) a pre-screen by e-mailing Google Drive or Dropbox links to MP3 files (encoded at 320kbps for best quality), a one-page résumé, professional reference letter of recommendation (no more than two) and (b) a live audition for those selected from the initial screening. Details concerning both prescreen submission and the live auditions are attached. Please review these requirements carefully to determine if you are prepared to take the audition at this time. The following information outlines the requirements and important dates.

|                              |                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Aug. 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2026 | Deadline for receipt of all musical prescreening materials and résumé.                               |
| Aug. 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2026 | Each candidate will be notified whether or not they are invited to participate in the live audition. |
| Oct. 13-16, 2026             | Live audition at <u>Peterson Space Force Base</u> , Colorado Springs, CO.                            |

In addition to passing the musical audition, you must also meet other criteria in order to become a member of an Air Force. Before applying, you must meet the following Air Force eligibility requirements.

|              |                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Age:         | You must be able to enlist in the Air Force between the ages of 17–41.                                                             |
| Weight:      | Individuals must meet weight requirements in order to enlist in the Air Force.                                                     |
| Medical:     | Individuals must be qualified for worldwide duty. Chronic medical problems, congenital defects etc., may be disqualifying factors. |
| Financial:   | A severe financial problem could be a disqualifying factor.                                                                        |
| Criminal:    | A criminal record could be a disqualifying factor.                                                                                 |
| Citizenship: | You must be a natural born citizen, naturalized, or able to complete the naturalization process within four years.                 |

For more precise information on becoming a member of the U.S. Air Force, please visit [www.airforce.com](http://www.airforce.com)

**\*\*\*Prior Service and Active Duty members - please contact the USAFA Band Auditions team for additional information prior to submitting materials.\*\*\***

If you are invited to the live audition, you will be required to meet with an official Air Force recruiter to be pre-qualified for basic military training. If you have any questions that pertain to the previously eligibility requirements, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Thank you so much for contacting the United States Air Force Academy Band regarding our upcoming audition. We hope you have a great experience during this process and wish you the best of luck. Please let me know if I can help you with anything. Do not hesitate to contact me directly at (719) 556-9925 or email [usafacademybandauditions@gmail.com](mailto:usafacademybandauditions@gmail.com) if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,  
CHRIS M. JACKSON, MSgt, USAF  
The USAF Academy Band  
NCOIC, Auditions

Attachments:

1. Audition Requirements (pre-screen)
2. Job Qualifications



ANNOUNCES A PREMIER BAND OPENING FOR:

## KEYBOARD/PIANO – Top 40/Commercial/Jazz

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### PRE-SCREENING REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:

- Resume
- Professional reference letter of recommendation (no more than two)
- Audio Recordings:
  - Classical Piece: Frédéric Chopin, Mazurka in C Major, Op. 67 No. 3
  - A Jazz Standard – must display ability to play appropriate changes and be able to improvise over changes (ensemble performance or backing track is preferable.)
  - A Top 40/Commercial/Country song demonstrating your interpretation of the style and sounds (ensemble performance or backing track is preferable.)
  - A Solo Jazz/Pop Ballad or one selection accompanying a vocalist or instrumentalist in a style of your choosing.
  - One additional piece that demonstrates your musical strengths.

NOTE: You may have to make recordings specifically for these prescreen items listed above. However, if you already have studio recordings or live recordings that **fully demonstrate** the requirements listed above, you may send those. We stress the importance of having all required items in your prescreen submission.

*All résumés and pre-screening materials must be received by Aug 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026*

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### LIVE Audition Date:

**Oct 13-16, 2026, Peterson Space Force Base, Colorado Springs, CO**

*Each candidate will be notified of prescreen results by Aug 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026. Live audition is by invitation only.*

E-mail MP3 Files (encoded at 320kbps), Résumé and References, both via Google Drive or Dropbox to:  
[usafacademybandauditions@gmail.com](mailto:usafacademybandauditions@gmail.com)

Promotion to the Rank of Technical Sergeant (E6)  
Starting Salary: \$70,152-75,588 Annually  
Permanent Duty Assignment  
Full Medical and Dental Benefits  
30 Days Paid Vacation Per Year  
Post 9/11 GI Bill for College up to \$80,000

Call (719) 556-9925, E-mail [usafacademybandauditions@gmail.com](mailto:usafacademybandauditions@gmail.com), or  
visit our website at <https://www.music.af.mil/Bands/US-Air-Force-Academy-Band/> for further information.  
The United States Air Force is an Equal Opportunity Employer



### **KEYBOARD/PIANO – Top 40/Commercial/Jazz**

**Qualifications:** Must be an outstanding commercial piano/keyboard player with the ability to perform in diverse music performance teams including concert ensembles, jazz groups, and popular music groups (rock/pop, country, etc.). Must have professional experience in current top 40/commercial styles, classic rock, motown, R&B, all styles of jazz, funk, fusion, country, and solo piano. Must be able to provide appropriate solo music at events for high-ranking government officials. A successful candidate will also have technological aptitude for industry standard gear, building patches, and running appropriate music software. Must have outstanding sight-reading, performance technique, and the ability to master advanced literature quickly. Must perform with no limitations present, moving seamlessly through different tempi, meters, and rhythmic subdivisions. Must demonstrate effortless and creative phrasing and dynamics, both written and implied in diverse musical styles. Must demonstrate excellent improvisational technique and be attentive to phrasing throughout performance. Additionally, all members of the USAFA Band are required to perform in ceremonial marching band and will be tasked to play cymbals, bass drum, snare drum, or another instrument if deemed qualified.