

## **Bass Drum Vacancy Application Information**



The United States Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps is one of four premier musical ensembles within the U.S. Army, and is permanently stationed at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, VA. Members of the Corps perform using musical instruments and wear uniforms similar to those worn by military musicians of the Continental Army during the American Revolution. The Fife and Drum Corps performs in ceremonies for official military and government events at the White House, Pentagon, Arlington National Cemetery, and Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall (JBM-HH). The Corps also supports the Army's mission by traveling nationally and internationally to perform shows, parades, and special events. Drum instrumentalists require the exclusive use of rope tensioned rudimental snare drums and bass drums.

### **Benefits**

- **Military Rank**  
Members of The Fife and Drum Corps are given the Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) of 42S (forty-two sierra), "Special Band Musician". Personnel are promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant (E-6) immediately after the completion of Basic Combat Training.
- **Compensation**  
The annual starting salary for Staff Sergeant equates to \$73,000 without dependents and \$78,000 with dependents.
- **Healthcare**  
Full medical and dental coverage through Tricare.
- **Paid Leave**  
30 days paid vacation annually.
- **Retirement**  
The Blended Retirement System allows you to immediately begin contributing to a retirement account, in addition to being eligible for a pension after 20 years of active duty service.
- **Education**  
Earn full tuition for higher education through the Post 9/11 GI Bill. Tuition Assistance is also available for continuing education while serving.
- **Location**  
Permanent duty assignment to JBM-HH, VA, located near the heart of Washington, DC.

### **General Qualifications**

All applicants must:

- Be eligible for military service with the United States Army.
- Have no physical hindrance to marching or movement. Marching experience is not necessary. However, precision marching and maneuvering is a requirement of the position and will be a significant part of the audition process.
- Be capable of performing while marching without the aid of glasses, or be able to wear contact lenses.
- Adhere to strict appearance guidelines. Specifically, no tattoos may be visible above a dress shirt collar or beyond a suit coat cuff while in the playing position.
- Have U.S. citizenship.
- Be able to obtain a security clearance.
- Enlist for a minimum of 4 years, with notification of acceptance **prior to enlistment**.
- Civilian applicants must be between 18 and 35 years of age.
- Comply with active duty Army height and weight standards.
- Successfully complete U.S. Army MEPS **prior to live audition**.

## To Apply for the Live Audition:

Please submit a Pre-Screening Portfolio that includes the following:

### 1.) Information Sheet

- Height and weight
- Date and Place of birth
- Current References with email and phone contact information – 2 professional, 1 personal
- Unlisted YouTube Recording Link

### 2.) Cover Letter

- The cover letter is an opportunity to portray your personality; it should compliment, not duplicate, your attached resume.
- Address to the Commander of The United States Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps.
- Detail what you, as an individual, will offer the organization.
- Mention specifically how your qualifications and experiences meet the position requirements.

### 3.) One-Page Resume

- Education
- Performance / Occupational Experience
- All prior marching experience
- Additional information pertaining to this position

### 4.) Video Recording

- The video image should be level, straight from the front, as close to the performer as possible, and contain a view of the performer from head to toe.
- Professional appearance is highly recommended.
- Ensure that your video loads and functions properly.
- Presence of a splice or edit within an individual selection will constitute elimination.
- If recorded separately, individual videos must be compiled into a single Youtube link.
- Include the following material to be played on a bass drum:
  - I. The provided *Pre-Screen Music*
  - II. A bass drum solo or etude of your choice (not to exceed two minutes in length). Your solo should showcase your musical background and individual strengths as a musician.
- Include the following material to be played on a snare drum:
  - I. The provided *Pre-Screen Music*.
  - II. The following rudiments played open-closed-open (30 seconds in, 30 seconds out):
    - Long roll (to be played 60 seconds in, 60 seconds out)
    - Flam
    - Paradiddle
    - Flamacue
    - Seven-Stroke Roll - left hand lead
    - Fifteen Stroke Roll
    - Drag (ruff)

### 6.) MILITARY APPLICANTS - Please also include the following:

- All required materials, as outlined above
- A copy of your Soldier Talent Profile or service-equivalent
- A copy of your two most recent NCOERs or service-equivalent (if applicable)
- A letter of release from your Commander

**ALL APPLICANTS:** Email all materials to [auditions.TOGFDC@gmail.com](mailto:auditions.TOGFDC@gmail.com) at one time. Please do not submit files individually over a period of time. You will receive an email confirming receipt of your portfolio. If you do not have confirmation within 24 hours of submission, please contact the Auditions Coordinator. Portfolios must be submitted by email no later than **11:59 pm EST** on **JANUARY 17, 2024**. All file names must include your first and last name.

## **Audition**

A select number of candidates will be invited to attend a live audition at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, VA, **MARCH 13-14, 2024**. Due to the high visibility and unique requirements of the position, the audition itself will be a two-day process, and will include the following:

- Marching Instruction and Assessment
- 30-Minute Standing Assessment
- Memorized selections which will be provided
- Prepared selections which will be provided
- Marching and playing with a drumline
- Personal interview

\*Candidates may be dismissed based on their performance after any assessment\*

Civilian Applicants: If selected for the live audition, your local recruiter will arrange to have your audition travel expenses paid for by the U.S.Army Recruiting Battalion [IAW USAREC Message 23-036 Paragraph 6]. Civilian Applicants **ARE NOT** under obligation to enlist unless they are offered and accept a position with the Fife and Drum Corps.

The U.S. Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps supports an environment in which all individuals are treated fairly and respectfully, have equal access to opportunities and resources, and can contribute fully to the organization's success, regardless of race, color, gender, religion, or national origin.

For more information, please email [auditions.TOGFDC@gmail.com](mailto:auditions.TOGFDC@gmail.com).



**Facebook.com/fifeanddrum**

**Instagram.com/armyfifeanddrum**

**fifeanddrum.army.mil**

# Bass Drum Audition 2024

## Pre-Screen Music

♩ = 110

Bass Drum  $\frac{2}{4}$

*p* *f*

4

8

12

16

*mp* *ff*

# Bass Drum Audition 2024

## Pre-Screen Music

Snare Drum  $\text{♩} = 98$

*mp*

5

*mf*

9

13

Detailed description: The score is for a snare drum in 2/4 time with a tempo of 98 BPM. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff starts with a dynamic marking of *mp* and contains a series of eighth and sixteenth notes with various accents and slurs. The second staff begins at measure 5 and features a triplet of eighth notes and a triplet of sixteenth notes, with a dynamic marking of *mf*. The third staff starts at measure 9 and continues the rhythmic pattern. The fourth staff begins at measure 13 and concludes the piece with a final note and a double bar line.