

CMC 2026 Edition (Ontario)

1. REGISTRATION

1. The competition is open to Canadian residents, including Canadian citizens, permanent residents, and students with a valid student visa (students must have held the visa for at least two years). Participants entering the Ontario provincial round must reside in Ontario. All participants must be prepared to provide valid proof of residency in Canada upon request.
2. A candidate cannot participate in two categories with the same instrument. However, an applicant may enrol simultaneously in solo, chamber music and piano four-hands/duo-piano. A candidate can also enrol in several ensembles if the instrumental formations are different.
3. Proof of age is required at the time of registration. The following documents are acceptable proof: birth certificate, passport, health card, driver's license, citizenship certificate, and permanent resident card.
4. At the time of registration, the candidate must have read the Code of Ethics of the Competition and comply with it. Consult the [Code of Ethics](#).
5. Applicants who participate in CMC do so with an understanding of the risks and agree that the CMC is not responsible for any loss or damage caused by viruses, bacteria or microorganisms. Candidates must comply with the CMC's Public Health Protocol for Public Health Standards.
6. We plan to accept all registrations submitted by the deadline, but reserve the right to limit the number of registrants if necessary due to capacity limits.

2. DEADLINE

1. The completed registration form and all required documents must be received electronically no later than **December 31, 2025, 11:59 p.m. EST**.
2. Any registration received after December 31, 2025 at 11:59 a.m. EST will be refused.

3. REGISTRATION FEES

1. The registration fee for the CMC 2026 Ontario Provincial Round is \$200. All fees must be paid in full at the time of registration and are non-refundable.

2. Candidates who qualify for the Final Round will be required to pay an additional registration fee, as outlined in the rules and regulations of the Final Round.
3. Donations made during registration or at any other time are non-refundable.

4. AGE CATEGORY

1. Candidates must not exceed, on **January 1, 2026**, the age of the category in which they are registered. This rule applies to all instruments except for the categories "chamber music" and "piano four hands/duo-piano", for which one of the participants may be one year older than the age category.
2. The competition includes four age categories for all instruments: 7–10 years, 11–14 years, 15–18 years, and 19 years and above. There is no minimum age requirement for registration in the youngest category for any instrument, except for the voice category, which requires participants to be at least 16 years old as of January 1, 2026.

5. GUIDELINES FOR THE REPERTOIRE

1. There is no specific repertoire requirement for any age category in the Ontario Provincial Round. However, candidates are encouraged to select contrasting pieces for their performance. Each age category has the following maximum performance time limits:
 - Ages 7–10: 15 minutes
 - Ages 11–14: 20 minutes
 - Ages 15–18: 25 minutes
 - Ages 19 and above: 30 minutes
2. Applicants must adhere to the time limits specified for their age category. If a candidate exceeds the allotted time, the jury may interrupt their performance.
3. CMC reserves the right to disqualify candidates who exceed the specified time limits.
4. Candidates who qualify for the Final Round will be required to perform one movement of a concerto at the Final Round. Works originally written for orchestra must be accompanied by piano. Time limits for the Final Round are specified in the rules and regulations for that round.

5. In order to facilitate the work of the judges, the order of presentation of the candidates is determined at the time of registration. The order of the pieces can however be changed. On the day of the auditions, candidates must give the volunteers the list presenting the final order of presentation of their pieces as soon as they arrive.

6. COMPETITION PROCEDURE

1. The Competition takes place in two rounds: **the Ontario Provincial Round** and the **National Final**.
2. The candidate agrees to be free of any other activity during the duration of the Provincial Round (May 1 to June 10, 2026) and Final Round (July 2 to July 10, 2026) on the specific dates for the competition of his or her age category/instrument.
3. A candidate who is absent at the scheduled time of his or her hearing is disqualified. Any request for a schedule change received after the publication of the official schedule will be refused.

7. PUNCTUALITY

1. Candidates must indicate their presence at least fifteen minutes before the time of their invitation for their competition.
2. The schedule may be modified according to the evolution of public health directives. Candidates may be summoned at a specific time; An applicant who does not comply with this directive may be disqualified.
3. Access to a warm-up/practice room is not guaranteed.

8. SHEET MUSIC

1. A digital copy of each score is required at the time of registration and must be sent to the email address (cmcon2026@gmail.com). For accompanied works, the score submitted must include the accompaniment.
2. Candidates must indicate the measure numbers at the beginning of each line. The title of the work, the number of the movement, the name of the composer and the name of the candidate must be clearly identified on the score.

9. EVALUATION METHOD AND RESULTS

1. During the Provincial Round, each participant is evaluated by professional jury. Each judge assigns an individual score, and the candidate's final score is determined by the average of these scores.

2. The CMC National Office will announce the number of finalists advancing to the final round later. For the Ontario provincial round, the jury will apply a consistent pass-rate across instruments and age groups in order to determine those finalists. All decisions made by the judges are final, non-appealable and not subject to revision.
3. The evaluation method for the National Final will be outlined in the rules and regulations specific to the Final Round.
4. The results of the Provincial Round and the National Final are not cumulative.

10. PROVINCIAL AND NATIONAL AWARDS

1. Ontario Provincial Audition Awards and Scholarships are granted on the basis of the results of the Provincial Auditions.
2. Grand Prize winners in the Final Round for the age categories 7–10, 11–14, 15–18 and 19–25 will be invited to perform with orchestras. All travel and accommodation expenses are the responsibility of the winner.
3. Any additional awards and scholarships at the National Final Round are governed by the National Office.
4. Applicants aged 13 or older who receive a scholarship of CAD \$500 or more are responsible for any applicable taxes and duties under federal and provincial tax legislation. They will be required to provide their Social Insurance Number for the issuance of a Relevé 1 and/or T4A form.

11. EXPENSES

1. Applicants are responsible for all travel, accommodation and accompanying persons' expenses.

12. CANCELLATION

1. In the event of cancellation, candidates must promptly notify the CMC Ontario via cmcon2026@gmail.com.

13. PHOTOGRAPHY/AUDIO AND VIDEO RECORDING

1. During the competition, taking photos or filming candidates other than your own child is strictly prohibited.
2. The photographer(s) and videographer(s) mandated by the Competition are authorised to photograph and/or film the performances.

3. Candidates are required to grant the CMC all rights to record, broadcast, and reproduce their performances, as well as resale rights, for an indefinite period. By submitting the registration form, candidates acknowledge and agree to these terms. The CMC reserves the right to use these recordings and images for promotional purposes and archival use.
4. Contestants agree to be available to meet with the Competition's sponsors, partners or administrators. They may be called upon to give interviews with media selected by the Competition in order to promote it. The Code of Conduct set out in the CMC Code of Ethics applies. Any promotional material may be used by CMC through its various promotional tools (newsletter, website, social networks, etc.)

14. PIANO

1. The use of a pedal extension system is permitted.

15. DISQUALIFICATION

1. Any candidate who does not comply with the rules will be disqualified.
2. Any false declaration on the part of a candidate automatically results in his or her disqualification.
3. Use of the audition room and/or piano without permission is strictly prohibited and results in disqualification.

16. OTHER

1. Any matter not provided for in the by-laws is referred to the Board of Directors, whose decisions are final and without appeal.