



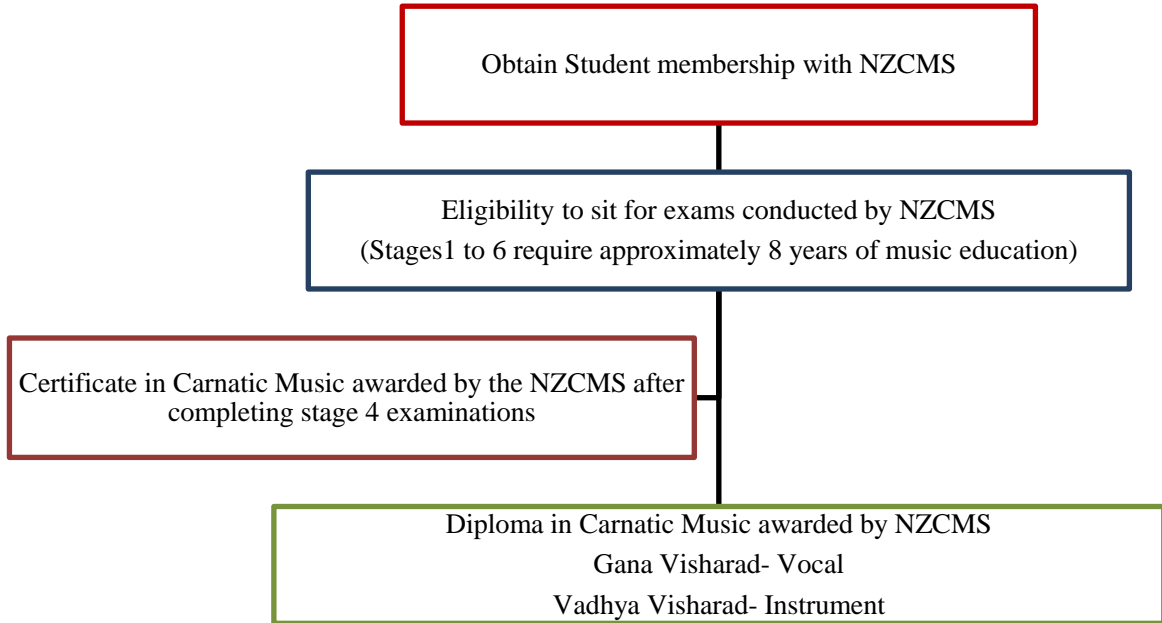
NZCMS - Examination Regulations



NEW ZEALAND CARNATIC MUSIC SOCIETY

2017 EXAMINATION REGULATIONS¹

Exam Overview



1. Examinations

- a. The exams conducted by NZCMS will be in accordance with its syllabus as approved by the carnatic music teachers in Auckland.
- b. Theory and practical examinations will commence in the second weekend of Term 1 school holidays (usually in the month of April)
- c. All examinations will be conducted in Auckland, New Zealand.
- d. Special arrangements will be made for candidates with disabilities, if appropriate requests are forwarded to the society in due time.
- e. All candidates should submit a folder containing the items learnt in fulfillment of the requirements set in the syllabus, to the examiners on the day of the exam.
- f. NZCMS will provide the venue and basic facilities such as standard power connections and seating during the examination.

¹ Subject to change at the discretion of the management committee of NZCMS.

- g. The transportation and operation of any instrument/equipment needed for the examination will be the responsibility of the candidate.
- h. If a situation arises wherein a candidate is unable to undertake the examination, despite completing all formalities, due to genuine illness or unforeseen circumstances such as bereavement etc, their fees will be carried forward to the examination date whenever it is held next, as scheduled by NZCMS.
- i. For examinations involving public performances, NZCMS will undertake to provide a venue, sound system and to inform its members through its usual modes of communication about the public event. Any additional arrangements and costs such as printing of invitation cards and catering, among others, will be the responsibility of the candidate but such arrangements should only be made after obtaining permission from NZCMS.

2. Eligibility

- a. All registered students of NZCMS are eligible to sit for exams conducted by the society.
- b. Students should have paid the registration fee in full before tendering the application form.
- c. The minimum ages for candidacy for stages 1 and 4 are 7 years and 12 years respectively. Candidates should have attained the above minimum ages as of 28th February to be eligible to apply.

3. Transfer Credits

- a. Candidates seeking transfer-credits for qualifications obtained from other examining bodies should offer documentary evidence of their qualification.
- b. All requests for transfer-credits should be made through the exam registration form and submitted to NZCMS on or before 28th February.
- c. The examination committee of NZCMS will evaluate these requests in line with the guidelines set by NZCMS on a case by case basis.
- d. A candidate is eligible to apply for transfer-credits only once, and such transfers are allowed only up to the certificate level. No credit transfers will be allowed for Diploma stage examinations i.e. Stages 5 & 6.

4. Application

- a. Application forms can be downloaded from the NZCMS web site.
- b. A separate application form must be completed for each subject and grade that the candidate wishes to be examined on and counter signed by his/her Guru.
- c. The Guru's signature on the application form implies that the candidate has gone through an internal assessment and has reached the necessary standard to be examined by the external examiners.

- d. All applications duly completed and signed by both the candidate and the Guru together with the examination fee should be handed to respective teachers on or before 28th February.
- e. Applications received after the closing date will be subjected to a penalty of NZ\$ 25.00 per subject. The last day for late application will be 15th March.
- f. All completed exam forms along with any exam fees will be collected personally by NZCMS committee members the respective teachers after the closing date.

5. Examination Fees

- a. The following Fee structure is applicable to both vocal and instrumental music examinations².

	NZ\$		NZ\$
Stage 1	50.00	Stage 4	150.00
Stage 2	75.00	Stage 5	200.00
Stage 3	100.00	Stage 6	250.00

- b. Examination fees must be paid by cheque or Bank draft drawn in favour of the “New Zealand Carnatic Music Society”. If payment is made vide cheque or Bank draft, candidate’s name and the registration number must be clearly written on the reverse. (For details please refer to “Payments & Contacts” in this book.)
- c. Candidates may withdraw their candidacy any time before the 31st of March and will be eligible to obtain a refund 70% of the examination fee paid. In such cases the candidate may request either to receive the refund monies or to be held by NZCMS as partial credit for the following year’s examination. Application for withdrawal after 31st March will not qualify for any refund or credit.
- d. If a candidate is unable to appear for any part of the examination due to illness, supported by a medical certificate, a portion of the examination fee paid will be held on credit until the following examination. The quantum of credit would be at the discretion of the management committee of NZCMS.

6. Assessment and Grades

- a. Candidates will be assessed on their proficiency in the following manner:
 - i. Theoretical knowledge – involving a written examination paper
 - ii. Theoretical knowledge (VIVA) – ability to explain components of practical and theoretical elements orally.
 - iii. Practical – involving demonstration of skills to a panel of external examiners
 - iv. Public performance – involving demonstration of skills to the public-at-large.

² Subject to change at the discretion of the management committee of NZCMS.

- b. While the assessment process for the above remains unified, the weights accorded to each of the above components will differ in line with the specifications set by the accrediting institution.
- c. Where the assessment process involves internal assessments by subject teachers, candidates should have, during their learning period prior to the examination, had the following:
 - i. Class Attendance.
 - ii. Dedicated practice beyond class contact hours as judged by the subject teacher.
 - iii. Attendance at monthly concerts and public concerts organised by the NZCMS.
- d. Candidates will be provided with detailed results on each of the components assessed together with the examiners' comments where available.
- e. The following categories of grades will be used to signify the overall achievement in the examination

Grade	Description	Achievement level
A+	Exceptional, well beyond expectations	90% and above
A	Excellent knowledge in theory and practice	75% to 89%
B	Very good knowledge in theory and practice	60% to 74%
C	Adequate knowledge in theory and practice	50% to 59%
D	Inadequate knowledge in theory and practice	Less than 49%

- f. The minimum requirement for a candidate to qualify a stage would be an overall grade of **C**.
- g. There are no provisions for Aegrotats within the above assessment procedure.

7. Awards

In addition to obtaining highest marks in their respective grade or discipline, a student is required to have achieved minimum 60% attendance in NZCMS events to be considered for the award of excellence or special certificate. Student members attending a NZCMS event will be required to sign the student register at the end of each event.

8. Summary of Important Dates

1st February	Cut-off date to assess age eligibility criteria
28 th February	Closing date for exam applications
15 th March	Closing date for late applications with penalty fees
31 st March	Last day for withdrawals from examinations (70% refund eligibility)
22 nd April	Commencement of examination for all disciplines
31 st May	Announcement of Results
TBA	Presentation of certificates and award