

## INFINITE MUSIC RISING STARS PIANO™ RULES AND POLICIES

Rising Stars Piano<sup>TM</sup> (RS Piano) is a tuition-free music lesson program in piano or violin, which empowers students with one-on-one music lessons emphasizing preparation, confidence, patience, discipline, and perseverance while providing an invaluable opportunity for students to learn either of these foundational instruments. There is no cost to apply; lessons are funded through a special grant through Infinite Music (IM) and its sponsors. Selection of students receiving lessons is based on the endowment and grant dollars available and individual student's application need.

All applications submitted must follow the rules and conditions outlined below. Those that do not meet these requirements may be disqualified.

#### Application Requirements

- Students must be enrolled in 2<sup>nd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades (7-12 years of age by September 1, 2025) during the year of application.
- All Infinite Music Rising Stars Piano™ (IMRSP) applications must be endorsed by the students' household parent or guardian.
- All applications must be submitted by deadline. (October 1, 2025, 12 midnight)
- Only one application allowed per student. Incomplete applications will be returned for completion or disqualified.
- This Pilot Program is only available to students enrolled in San Luis Obispo County or Northern Santa Barbara public schools.
- Applicant or parent/guardian may not be the recipient of lesson funds. Music teachers are paid directly from Infinite Music.
- Student must maintain a satisfactory behavioral and attendance report from their elementary school administration.
- · Student must show a desire to learn piano or violin and is self-motivated (i.e. understanding that practice is paramount).
- For piano applicants, student must have access to a piano (acoustic or weighted 88-key digital) for daily practice. For selected students not having a piano, Infinite Music will make special arrangements for a digital keyboard to be loaned for at-home study. Violins also may be loaned to students. Both require student and parent/guardian loan agreements. Depending on instrument availability and student's situation, an "earn to own" instrument program may be available.

#### Infinite Music Rising Stars Piano™ Conditions

Selected students will receive the award of 20-weeks of 1x per week, 30-minute lessons as defined by Infinite Music. IM shall determine the time and conditions of selected students at its sole discretion. Infinite Music may specify the documentation required to ensure that the awarded student is following an appropriate course of study. If a Rising Stars award recipient withdraws from school – or their progress is unsatisfactory - and the award recipient makes no alternate arrangements to continue their music course of study at the same or another educational institution in San Luis Obispo County, then, at its sole discretion, Infinite Music may terminate the award of music lessons.

- An RS piano or violin recipient and their parent will be presented a RS Student/Parent agreement prior to lesson commencement, with required signature by both student and parent.
- 20-week lessons will be awarded under the following conditions: After successful completion of the first four weeks of instruction, the remaining 16 weeks of lessons will be contingent on meeting RS performance benchmarks, outlined in RS Piano Student/Parent agreement.
- Awarded recipient may receive RS music lessons in consecutive years, up to four.
- Awarded recipient will be required to participate in Infinite Music's Rising Stars™ recital performance.

### Infinite Music Disqualification of an Applicant

An applicant may be disqualified if; their application has not been properly submitted or within the prescribed deadline; there is a lack of sufficient merit; or if there is a violation of any portion of the rules or policies. If an application contains materials that appear to violate any of these rules, IMRS Selection Committee may, at their sole discretion, disqualify the application in its entirety or withdraw the remaining balance of an award that has not been paid out on the selected recipient's behalf.

Disqualification also may occur if an application that is submitted on time contains any omissions, errors, or falsifications. However, IMRS Selection Committee, at their sole discretion, may contact the applicant's parent/guardian to point out the violation and provide the parent/guardian time to complete or correct the application.

# Infinite Music Disqualification of an RS Selection Committee Member

To avoid an actual or apparent conflict of interest, no one may act as a Rising Stars Selection Committee member with respect to an applicant if they are directly related or otherwise feel that they might be, or appear to be, biased. All decisions by IMRS Selection Committee members are final. Infinite Music™ employees, Board Members and IMRS Selection Committee members and their immediate family members are not eligible to apply for the award of piano or violin lessons or be recognized as Infinite Music Rising Stars™ students.

# Discretion of Infinite Music; Binding Nature of Decisions

It is acknowledged and agreed that all decisions of Infinite Music regarding the RS Piano program and the use of the award of lessons, is at Infinite Music's sole and absolute discretion, subject only to compliance with applicable laws, rules, and policies. As such, all decisions of Infinite Music Rising Stars<sup>TM</sup> Selection Committee shall be final and binding and are not subject to challenge in any manner. The number and content of students awarded are determined at the sole discretion of Infinite Music.

#### Termination and Amendment of Program

Infinite Music reserves the right in its sole discretion to terminate their Rising Stars™ program at any time and for any reason and to change any of the rules regarding the piano or violin lesson program or use of any lessons. In addition, amendments to the program may affect the terms and conditions of any unused lessons previously granted.

Infinite Music does not and shall not discriminate based on race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status, in any of its activities or operations.

IMRS 11.25.25 \*\*\*