

# Overseas interview guidelines

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## BA (Honours) Sound Technology

Congratulations on getting through to the interview stage at LIPA. We understand how nerve-wracking the prospect of attending an interview can be, so please read through these guidelines carefully. Remember we're interested in finding out about you as an individual, so please try to relax, be yourself and enjoy yourself on the day.

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We want to achieve equality and diversity. We want to be accessible to everyone and we will make reasonable adjustments if you are disabled. If you have any questions about this, please contact Penny Byrne, our Student Support Manager: [p.byrne@lipa.ac.uk](mailto:p.byrne@lipa.ac.uk) or +44151 330 3013.

This information can be made available in other formats – please let us know about any specific needs you have.

**The Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts,  
Mount Street, Liverpool, L1 9HF  
[www.lipa.ac.uk](http://www.lipa.ac.uk)**



# What the interview event entails ●●●●●●●●●●

Depending on the number of candidates and interview venue, the interview may be a small group interview or it may be a one-to-one interview. We endeavour to ensure that the whole interview event is as positive and relaxed as possible. If at any time you would like clarification on a point or any other information please ask.

Please remember to **bring a passport photograph** with you, so we can easily identify you when we discuss who we make offers to.

## Test

This is a short multiple choice and written entrance test, which takes 30 minutes and is held under exam conditions\*. The test will give you a flavour of how we teach certain parts of the course, and we also like to see some evidence that you already have taken an interest in the sound technology field.

The questions will include areas related to music technology, studio equipment, software, microphones and some maths associated with acoustics. There are 10 multiple choice and 2 brief written questions.

\*If you are normally allowed additional time for examinations, please inform the International Team, tel +44151 330 3118, email [international@lipa.ac.uk](mailto:international@lipa.ac.uk).

## Group interview

We conduct the interviews in groups as this is more representative of some of the teaching sessions on the course. The interviews are held in panels with up to 5 candidates and up to 2 members of staff. The group interview lasts approximately 90 minutes.

You are asked both individual questions and you are invited to contribute to the group discussion. The interview will also be used to listen to recordings from all candidates and to look at any other optional portfolio evidence that you feel represents your range of experience.

## Sound Recording

To demonstrate your sound recording experience we ask you to bring along a **single WAV file (44.1 kHz and 16 bit) on a USB memory stick**. The WAV file should be a recording that you have made that is at most 4 minutes in duration and we will be listening to this in the interview.

We are primarily interested in how you have approached the recording, processing, mixing and production of the recording, rather than the music composition or performance. The recording does not have to be of your own performance, although this is fine if it is.

After listening to the recording, we will ask you questions relating to areas such as the equipment / software you used, the techniques you applied and maybe how you think the recording could be improved. We are more interested in your ability to discuss and analyse a sound recording, don't worry if you feel that your recording is not perfect.

Please make sure that **you don't bring along a data-compressed audio file such as a MP3**, or even a file that has at some stage been a MP3 as this may make our judgement of your recording more difficult.

It would also help us if you could name the WAV file with your surname and forename so that when we copy these over to our studio computer, we know which file belongs to which applicant. We won't need to keep your USB memory stick.

### **Portfolio Folder**

If you consider that your experience has been more directed towards live sound rather than recorded sound, then you may bring along some other additional documentary evidence of work you may have undertaken which you think is relevant. For example, you might wish to bring along printed out images of events that you have been involved in or a folder demonstrating your planning for an event. Please note that this portfolio is optional.

## **When you will hear from us after the interview** .....

We need time to reflect on the candidates we've seen, so we do not tell you the outcome of your interview on the day itself. We will communicate the decision within two working weeks but often earlier than this.

## **Any questions** .....

We wish you the best of luck and hope you enjoy your day with us. In the meantime, if you have any concerns about any aspect of the interview please contact the International Team, tel +44151 330 3118, email [international@lipa.ac.uk](mailto:international@lipa.ac.uk).



We aim for continual improvement in the applicant experience and would welcome any comments or suggestions you have about our interview process. After the interview, we'll therefore email you to ask you to complete an anonymous online survey about your experience with us.