



The United States Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps

www.fifeanddrum.army.mil

Live Audition: November 19-20th, 2026

Materials Due: September 17, 2026

Bass Drum Vacancy 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 (TOGFDC) are awarded the Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) of 42S, "Special Band Musician". Base rank for MOS 42S is Staff Sergeant (pay grade E-6).

Compensation

The annual starting salary for Staff Sergeant equates to \$80,000 without dependents and \$86,000 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 Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, VA (JBM-HH), located near the heart of Washington, DC.

Qualifications:

Qualified candidates must demonstrate superior musical expertise. Candidates must exhibit the highest standards of military bearing, personal appearance, and discipline.

Candidates must have no physical hindrance to marching or movement. Marching and maneuvering is a requirement of the position and will be assessed as a portion of the live audition. Candidates must be capable of performing without the aid of glasses. Contact lenses are acceptable.

Enlistment:

U.S. Citizenship is required. Eligible applicants must be between ages 18 and 42.

Minimum enlistment period of 4 years, after notification of acceptance.

TOGFDC Soldiers must obtain a security clearance, qualify for presidential support duties, and exhibit a high degree of maturity, discretion, and trust.

Candidates must complete U.S. Army Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) prior to live audition.





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To Apply for a Live Audition

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

1 Information Sheet

- Complete the provided Information Sheet

2 One-Page Resume

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

3 Video Recording

- The video image should be level, straight from the front, as close to the performer as possible, and with a clear view from head to toe.
- Professional appearance is highly recommended.
- Ensure that your video loads and functions properly.
- Presence of a splice or edit within a selection will constitute elimination.
- Each excerpt may be 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. Please include a PDF copy of your solo or etude in your packet.
 - III. The following rudiments played open-closed-open (30 seconds in, 30 seconds out)
 - on snare drum
 - Long Roll
 - 7-Stroke Roll
 - Drag Paradiddle
 - on bass drum
 - Paradiddle
 - Inverted Flam Tap
 - Single Ratamacue

Military Applicants

Please contact us at usarmy.jbmhh.mdw.list.fdc-auditions@army.mil to verify eligibility and additional material requirements.





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All Applicants

Email all materials to the Auditions Coordinator at: usarmy.jbmhh.mdw.list.fdc-auditions@army.mil. Please submit all items in a single email, 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 48 hours of submission, please contact the Auditions Coordinator. Portfolios must be submitted by email no later than 11:59 pm EST on September 17, 2026. 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 November 19-20, 2026. The live audition is 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.

Civilian Applicants are encouraged to speak with a recruiter at their earliest convenience. Completion of the military medical pre-screening does not guarantee an invitation to the live audition, nor does it obligate an applicant to join the Army. However, completion of MEPS (Military Entrance Processing Station) pre-screening is a prerequisite to secure Army funding to attend the live audition. MEPS pre-certifications are valid for two years upon completion.

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, sex, religion, sexual orientation, or national origin.

For more information, please email
usarmy.jbmhh.mdw.list.fdc-auditions@army.mil



The United States Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps

CW4 Thomas Jackson, Bandmaster

Personal Information Sheet

First Name:	Middle Initial:	Last Name:
Street Address:		City:
State:	Zip Code:	Primary Phone Number:
Email Address:		
Date of Birth:		Are you a US Citizen?

Professional Reference 1

Name:
Email Address:
Phone Number:

Professional Reference 2

Name:
Email Address:
Phone Number:

Personal Reference 1

Name:
Email Address:
Phone Number:

Personal Reference 2

Name:
Email Address:
Phone Number:

Unlisted YouTube Link:

All applicants please attach a 1 Page Resume

Military Applicants: Please attach your Soldier Talent Profile (or service equivalent), Letter of Commander's Intent to Release, and last 2 NCOERs

Please submit application to: usarmy.jbmhh.mdw.list.fdc-auditions@army.mil

Bass Drum Audition 2026

Pre-Screen Excerpt #1

♩ = 100

Bass Drum

mp *f*

5

BD

9

BD

13

BD

p *f*

Bass Drum Audition 2026

Pre-Screen Excerpt #2

♩ = 116

Bass Drum

5

BD

9

BD

13

BD

17

BD

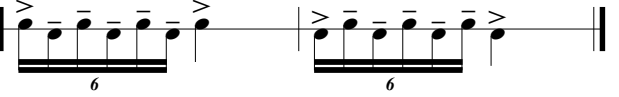
Bass Drum Audition 2026

Rudiment Sheet

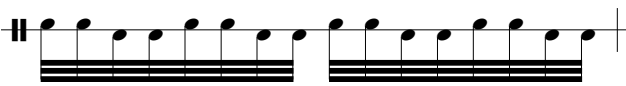
1. Single Stroke Roll



2. Single Stroke Seven



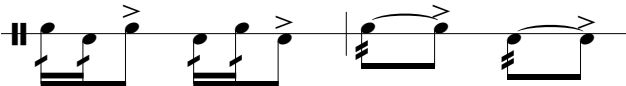
3. Double Stroke Roll (The Long Roll)



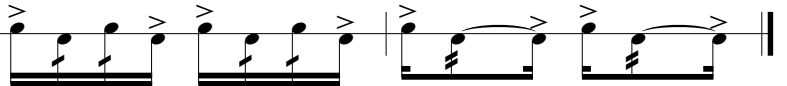
4. Triple Stroke Roll



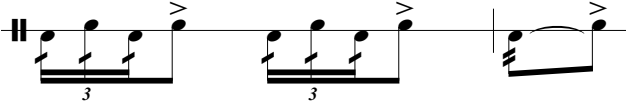
5. Five Stroke Roll



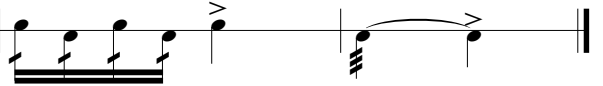
6. Six Stroke Roll



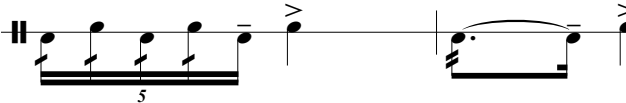
7. Seven Stroke Roll



8. Nine Stroke Roll



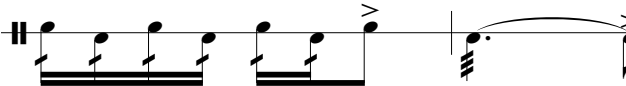
9. Ten Stroke Roll



10. Eleven Stroke Roll



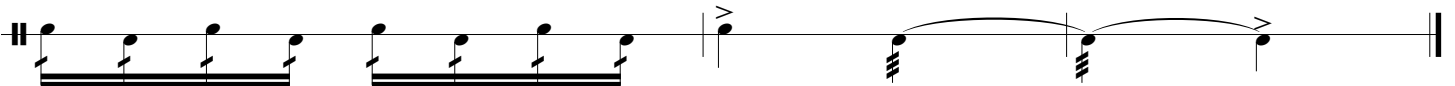
11. Thirteen Stroke Roll



12. Fifteen Stroke Roll



13. Seventeen Stroke Roll



14. Single Paradiddle



15. Double Paradiddle



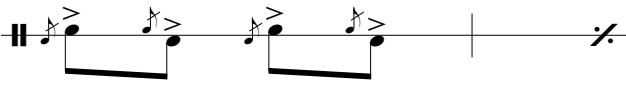
16. Triple Paradiddle



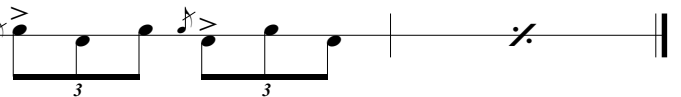
17. Paradiddle-diddle

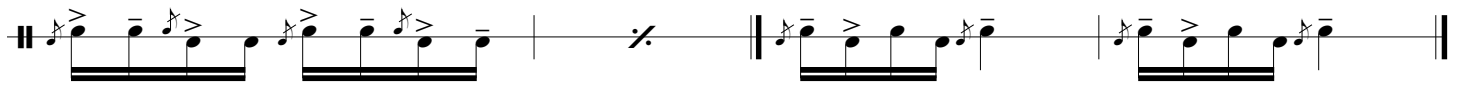
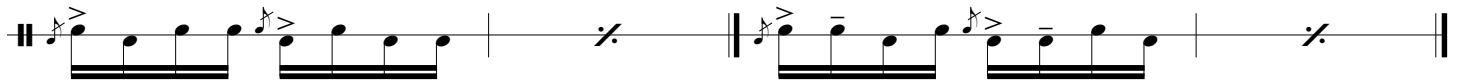
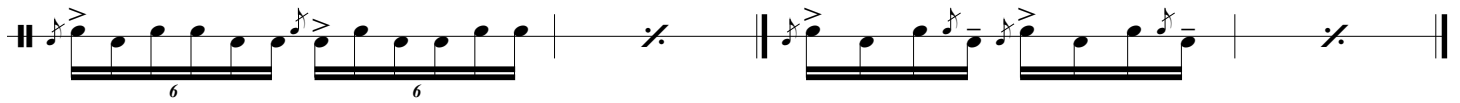
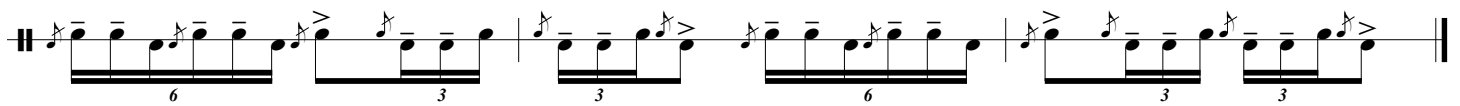
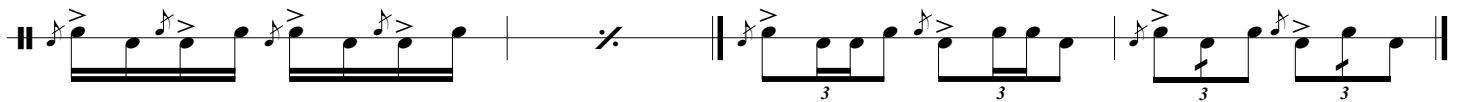
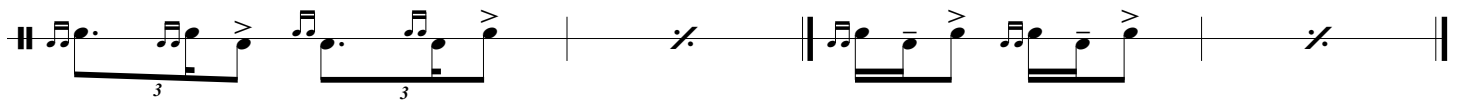
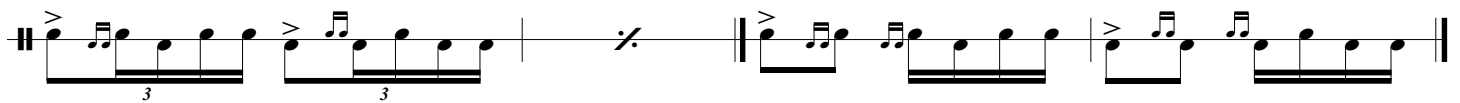


18. Flam



19. Flam Accent



20. Flam Tap21. Flamacue22. Flam Paradiddle23. Single Flammed Mill24. Flam Paradiddle-diddle25. Pataflafla26. Swiss Army Triplet27. Tap Flam (Inverted Flam Tap)28. Flam Drag29. Single Drag (Ruff)30. Single Drag Tap31. Double Drag Tap32. Lesson #2533. Drag Paradiddle #134. Drag Paradiddle #235. Single Ratamacue36. Double Ratamacue37. Triple Ratamacue