*PgCert/PgDip/MMus Jazz  
Birmingham Conservatoire*

## **Additional costs for this course**

We have provided you with a breakdown of the essential costs and the optional costs which are dependent on your budget.

Please note that your marks are not a reflection of how much you spend, so a student who spends less than the estimated costs won’t be marked down, compared to a student who spends more.

### **Equipment and consumables**

You’ll usually arrive with your own instrument unless you are a pianist or singer, so this cost you will have incurred before you start your course.

You may want to purchase equipment related to your instrument. Typically you may spend about £1,500 although this depends on the type of instrument.

It is best to budget about £2,000 for instrumental repairs and services. Some students will spend more or less – it depends on your individual budget and needs and many of the potential costs are optional.

This covers such things as specialist equipment or repairs related to your instrument. For example: reeds for saxophones, strings for guitars and basses; valve oil for brass instruments. Assistance and advice on purchasing of equipment is available.

**Professional Association Membership**

We recommend you become a member of the [ISM](http://www.ism.org/) (Incorporated Society of Musicians) for £15 per year and/or [Musicians Union](http://www.musiciansunion.org.uk/Join) for £20 per year.

Any other professional association membership fees may cost you about £200, although this is an optional cost.

## **Laptops and Software**

It is not essential for you to purchase your own laptop (PC or Mac), as you can also borrow a laptop from the university or use one of our shared computer rooms. Laptops may be borrowed for free for up to six hours and may be found at the following locations: Curzon building, Millennium Point, Parkside building, the School of Jewellery and Margaret Street (Birmingham School of Art). Most students do prefer to have their own laptops, and we suggest you allow about £300 to £1,200 for this, dependent on your preferences and budget. Apple also offer a discount on laptops for UK students: [go to Apple for Education for more details](http://www.apple.com/uk_edu_5000618/shop).

You’ll also be provided with a free account for [Lynda.com](http://www.lynda.com/) worth £227.40.

Microsoft Office 365 and 1TB of OneDrive cloud storage space is provided free to all students.

**Field trips**

In previous years our students have played at local venues including the [Symphony Hall](http://www.thsh.co.uk/) or [Town Hall](http://www.thsh.co.uk/your-visit/parking/) at no cost as these venues are within the local area.

For general travel costs throughout the course we suggest a budget of £200. Many students live within walking distance of the Conservatoire.