



THE ROYAL CANADIAN COLLEGE OF ORGANISTS LE COLLÈGE ROYAL CANADIEN DES ORGANISTES

REQUIREMENTS FOR DIPLOMA OF COLLEAGUE (2023-25)

MARKS

Marks are assigned to each part of the examination as indicated in brackets. In order to pass, candidates are required to obtain at least 70% in each part of the Practical Section of the examination (Repertoire, Tests at the organ, Hymns) and at least 70% in the Written Section of the examination. A report will be sent to each candidate showing itemized marks and the comments of the examiners.

EDITIONS

Suggested editions follow titles in the lists below. Where no publisher is suggested, any standard edition may be used.

PRACTICAL SECTION (300 Marks)

1. (100) Repertoire

Play one piece from each of the following lists. Candidates are advised to select a balanced programme. Pieces chosen must be indicated on the application form.

List A

- Bach, J. S. – Christ lag in Todesbanden, BWV 625
- Demessieux, Jeanne – Rorate caeli (in *Twelve Chorale Preludes*, op. 8, Summy-Birchard)
- Laurin, Rachel – Soliloquy (in *Twelve Short Pieces*, vol. 2, Wayne Leupold)
- Pachelbel, Johann – Toccata in E minor
- Reger, Max – Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme, op. 135a, no. 25
- Van der Hoek, Bert – Trumpet Air (in *Te Deum Laudamus*, vol. 2, RCCO)

List B (Felix Mendelssohn and his contemporaries)

- Brosig, Moritz – Postludium in C, op. 11, no. 5 (in *Selected Organ Works*, IMSLP)
- Mendelssohn, Felix –
 - Sonata No. 1 in F minor (2nd movement: Adagio)
 - Sonata No. 3 in A (3rd movement: Andante tranquillo)
 - Sonata No. 4 in B flat (2nd movement: Andante religioso)
 - Sonata No. 6 in D minor (2nd movement: Fuga)
- Rinck, Christian Heinrich – Maestoso in C minor, op. 48, no. 4 (in *Zwölf fugierte Nachspiele*, IMSLP)

2. (100) Tests at the Organ

A preview time of 60 seconds for Sight Reading and Score Reading and 40 seconds for the Transposition test is permitted. Candidates may play the Transposition test once through in the original key prior to the 40 second preview time. Candidates are not permitted to write directly on the examination question sheet.

- a) **(35)** Play at sight a passage of organ music which could involve change of manual and registration; the candidate must demonstrate the ability to maintain a steady pulse.
- b) **(35)** Play at sight a hymn-like composition written in four-part vocal open score, using G and F clefs. The pedals are not to be used.
- c) **(30)** Transpose at sight a passage of music on two staves in the style of a hymn tune up or down a tone or semitone. Use of the pedals is optional.

3. (100) Hymns

Play an introduction and all stanzas of two hymns as for congregational singing, demonstrating rhythmic control, sensitivity to the text, and effective registration. In one stanza of each hymn, the melody should be played on a solo registration with the accompaniment on a second manual and pedal. The candidate should be prepared to play all five hymns listed in the current Colleague Examination Hymns leaflet (download from https://rcco.ca/resources/PDFs/Exams/Requirements/Hymns_CRCCO_2023-25.pdf). One hymn will be chosen by the examiners, and the candidate will choose one of the remaining four hymns

WRITTEN SECTION (1 paper – 3 hours allowed – 100 marks)

1. **(30)** Harmonise a melody in four-part harmony for SATB, using closed score with G and F clefs. Harmonic vocabulary will be confined to diatonic triads, seventh chords in root position and inversions, and a possible simple modulation, and may be in a major or minor key.
2. **(20)** Compose a 16-bar melody. The two opening bars will be given, and the candidate should continue in a matching style, including at least one modulation. At the end of each four-bar phrase the candidate should write a two-chord cadence, using complete chords, with a single approach chord preceding it. For this purpose the cadential 6/4 (if one is used) should be regarded as an embellishment of the V chord, and another chord of approach should precede it.
3. **(25)** Analyse a short anthem with reference to practical aspects of performance as well as harmony, structure, and other musical features.
4. **(25)** Answer one question (in approximately 500 words) on the organ sonatas of Felix Mendelssohn.

EAR TESTS SECTION (Pass or fail)

Ear tests will be given immediately prior to the Written section of the examination. Ear tests do not have marks allotted but are an independent section which must be passed.

1. Write the bass line only, together with chord identifying symbols (using a traditional system) of a passage of not more than eight four-part chords in a major or minor key. All chords could be in first or second inversion as well as root position; the dominant seventh chord in root position only could also be included. The key will be stated, the tonic chord sounded, and the speed of the pulse indicated. The passage will be played four times.
2. Write from dictation a melody in simple time not exceeding four measures. The candidate should show the rhythmic structure of the melody by including the time signature and appropriate bar lines. The key will be stated, tonic chord sounded, and the speed of the pulse indicated; the passage will be played four times.

For the complete Regulations, please refer to <http://www.rcco.ca/exam-regulations>.

To apply online, go to <https://rcco.ca/Online-Exam-Registration>