

## AGO CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

> As of July 2025 <	SERVICE PLAYING	COLLEAGUE	ASSOCIATE	FELLOW	CHOIRMASTER
<b>FEES **</b>	\$250 (student rate \$150)	\$350 (student rate \$250)	\$475 (student rate \$375)	\$475 (student rate \$375)	\$500 (student rate \$400)
<b>JUDGING</b>	recorded – local organ	recorded – local organ	on site judges – exam center	on site judges – exam center	on site judges – exam center
<b>DATES</b>	October 1, 2025 through March 31, 2026	Nov. 14, 2025 and May 15, 2026	June 4 and 5, 2026	June 4 and 5, 2026	June 3, 2026
<b>LITERATURE</b>	3 individual selections from 3 general groups	choose 1 of 4 selections in each of 3 groups (changes every other year)	choose 1 in each of 4 groups (changes each year)	choose 1 in each of 4 groups (changes each year)	rehearse and direct choir in performance of 3 given selections (changes each year)
<b>TRANSPOSITION</b>	1 from NEW hymnbook (chosen in advance) not more than M2; no play through; not written out	homophonic passage not more than M2; 8 measures or less; some preparation time	passage not more than M2; play through once	passage not more than M3; no play through	none
<b>HYMN PLAYING</b>	2 from NEW hymnbook (3 stanzas with changes)	2 from NEW hymnbook (3 stanzas with changes)	1 from standard hymnal (3 stanzas with bridge)	none	1 from hymn booklet
<b>ACCOMPANIMENT</b>	Accompaniment for 1 vocal solo & 1 psalm [singer required for both], and 1 of 5 anthems (all 3 to be prepared in advance)	1 choral selection and 1 vocal solo (both to be prepared in advance)	short passage from figured bass (at sight)	from the <i>piano</i> accompaniment of a vocal score, arrange at sight for the <i>organ</i>	accompany choir in rehearsal (optional)
<b>SIGHT READING</b>	short passage on 3 staves	passage on 3 staves in trio texture	longer passage in open score using G & F clefs on 4 staves	(a) organ piece with manual and registration changes; (b) polyphonic passage in open score (C&F)	none
<b>HARMONIZATION</b>	none	simple hymn tune, plainsong melody, or “folk-style” hymn tune (some preparation time)	passage in 4 parts – portions of treble melody and of unfigured bass are given	none	(a) melody; (b) progressions
<b>IMPROVISATION</b>	none	3 choices, all including modulation (some preparation time)	variations on ground bass, or prelude on hymn tune or chant	Piece approximately 3-4 minutes in ABA form; theme A is given	none
<b>EAR TESTS</b>	none	add missing pitches; identify comp. devices	one melodic line; one 2-part	one 4-part; one 2-voice counterpoint	one 2-part; one identify errors
<b>WRITTEN</b>	none	extensive	extensive	extensive	extensive

\*\* Above fees are for the entire exam; fees are reduced if taking only part of the exam.  
 Surcharge of \$115 for nonmembers of the AGO.  
 Student candidates must be age 30 or younger with valid student ID.

PREPARED BY BONNIE GOODLIFFE