



NPM Cantor Colleague Certificate Study Guide

Revised January 2022

Testing for the **Cantor Colleague Certificate** consists of three components, *each* of which must have a passing score of 70%.

Section 1 - Vocal Technique and Skills

The candidate will sing the following:

- Two responsorial psalms from the lists provided (no substitutions): one setting chosen from List A (chant) and one chosen from List B (melodic)
- A ***chant*** setting of the Sequence for Easter, Pentecost or Corpus Christi
- A short Gospel acclamation and a chant psalm provided for sight-singing

Responsorial Psalm—List A (Chant)

- Psalm 30: I Will Praise You, Lord - [GIA, Lec. Psalms: Lead Me Guide Me]
- Psalm 31: Father, I Put My Life In Your Hands - Hughes [GIA, GIA G-2330]
- Psalm 34: Taste and See the Goodness of the Lord – Keil [OCP 30100782]
- Psalm 44/45: De Pie a Tu Derecha Está La Reina – Montgomery [OCP, Responde y Aclama]
- Psalm 62/63: Mi Alma Está Sediente/My Soul Is Thirsting- Hurd [OCP, 88983, Flor y Canto]
- Psalm 97/98: Los Confines De La Tierra - Alonso [GIA, Oramos Cantando Hymnal]
- Psalm 104: Lord, Send Out Your Spirit – Scavone [WLP/GIA, 006266 Psalms For The Easter Vigil]
- Psalm 113: Blessed Be the Name of the Lord - Mayernik [OCP, 30101909]
- Psalm 133/134: In the Silent Hours of the Night – Hughes [GIA, G-3377]

Responsorial Psalm—List B (Melodic)

- Psalm 25: To You, O Lord - Sullivan [OCP 88044, 3 Seasonal Psalms for Advent]
- Psalm 34: Taste and See the Goodness of the Lord - Robertson [WLP/GIA WLP 001283]
- Psalm 33/34: Gusten y Vean - Montgomery [OCP 30108359, Flor Y Canto]
- Psalm 42: As the Deer Longs for Running Water – Siege [WLP/GIA WLP 006209]

- Psalm 50/51: Misericordia, Señor/Show Us Your Mercy - Hurd [OCP 30107745, Flor y Canto 3, Unidos en Cristo]
- Psalm 84/85: Muéstranos Señor / Lord Show Us Your Mercy - Kolar [GIA/WLP, GIA/WLP 012726]
- Psalm 96: Today Is Born.../Hoy Día Nos Ha Nacido... - Hughes [GIA, G-2026, also Oramos Cantando Hymnal]
- Psalm 98: All the Ends of the Earth - De Silva [GIA, Gather 4]
- Psalm 122: Let Us Go Rejoicing – Harbor [OCP, 30101445 or 89803, Breaking Bread]

*Availability in a specific hymnal or missal is subject to change at the discretion of the publisher. Please consult the publishers' websites or contact them directly with questions regarding availability.

Section 2 -Applied Knowledge

The candidate will complete a written test demonstrating familiarity with intermediate applied concepts in music theory and an understanding of the ministry of the cantor/psalmist. Access to notes and iPad is permitted. The test will include the following:

- a) Identification of **major and relative minor keys** as indicated by key signatures shown in treble or bass clef
- b) Identification of **major and minor scales, location of half steps in both major and natural minor scales and construction of two major and two minor scales**
- c) Construction of **specified intervals** by adding the correct note above the printed note
- d) Identification of **common musical symbols**
- e) Identification and explanation of **common musical terms**
- f) Interpretation of **time signatures** and rhythmic patterns
- g) Explanation of the ministerial role and responsibilities of the cantor/psalmist in the liturgy

A suggested theory resource for this section is www.musictheory.net which provides sequential lessons and levels of exercises and drills.

Section 3 - Liturgical Knowledge

The candidate will complete a written exam on liturgy and its musical components. The test is administered online twice each year, in mid-January and mid-June. Successful completion of the exam requires extensive study and preparation over a period of several weeks. Candidates will be assigned a mentor to assist them in this process.

This test is e-mailed on the specified dates at a time requested by the candidate. It must be completed and returned within 24 hours. The rubric used for scoring this exam is provided as a helpful guideline during the preparation and study period. There are three sections as listed below. Two choices are offered in each section, and the candidate chooses one of the two for completion.

Sunday Celebration of the Eucharist

Seasons of the Liturgical Year

Rites of the Church

More specific information and suggested resources will be provided when mentors are assigned.