

FLAT RATE TUITION

How it works

Some months - like October, March, April and May can have 5 lessons.

Some months - like September, July, August and December can have 3 lessons.

The other months might have 3, 4, or 5 lessons in them - depending on your lesson day and how the calendar falls.

- If you are a family with 3 kids taking lessons, a 5-lesson month can break your monthly budget.
- If you are an adult or senior on a fixed income, but you love your hour-long weekly guitar lessons - that 5-lesson month can be an unwelcome surprise.

The way we charge for lessons is with a flat-rate structure. Unlike the neighbor lady who teaches for cash out of her living room, but like every other music school, dance school, karate dojo, gym (etc).

Flat rate billing takes the total number of meetings for the whole year and divides by the number of months so that the monthly rate averages out to be the same.

At ASM, we sit down with the calendar every summer and plan the upcoming year. The way the calendar falls with regards to holidays makes each year a bit different. We aim for 44-47 lessons per year. Two lessons per year are added without charge to accommodate for missed lessons - so if you have great attendance you get two free lessons a year!

We take the total number of lessons per year and divide it into 12 months so that everyone is paying the same amount as each other and the same amount every month they are enrolled.

FAQ's

So wait, if we don't have a lesson on Halloween, why do we get charged for that?
You don't -but your monthly tuition does stay the same. When we plan our year, we decide what days we will close and factor that into our yearly rate. So, you aren't charged for days we're closed - like Christmas, Spring Break, or July 4th.

My lessons are on Mondays - there are a LOT of holiday weekends where the school is closed - do I get a refund?

We make sure that Monday/Friday/Saturday students get the same number of lessons per year as Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday students. This means that sometimes mid-week students will have a day off that might be unexpected - like extra days around the winter holidays, St Patrick's Day or Cinco de Mayo. Everyone has the same number of lessons per year and that yearly number is divided by 12 months to come up with a monthly rate that's fair to everyone.

So, how many lessons are there per year?

It's tough to say because each year will be slightly different depending on where the holidays fall, but it's usually 44-47. We figure out the year, deduct two lessons for missed lessons and divide the tuition by 12 months.

We are careful to keep our monthly tuition rates the lowest in South Jersey! We check every August to make sure we give our families a great value.

