# DMI STUDIOS – STUDENT ENGINEER LEVELS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL</th>
<th>CLASSES REQUIRED</th>
<th>RESPONSIBILITIES</th>
<th>PRIVILEGES</th>
<th>PAY SCALE (w/paying client)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Studio Assistant (entry level)</td>
<td>Enrolled in or completed DMI 102 or 111</td>
<td>General assistance throughout facility (gofer, clean up, setup/teardown)</td>
<td>Minimal access (stands, cables, headphones)</td>
<td>Minimum wage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Engineer (intermediate level)</td>
<td>Completed DMI 102 and DMI 111; Enrolled in (or completed) DMI 103 and DMI 112</td>
<td>Assistant to main engineer on session; responsible for session setup to engineer’s specs. Checking in/out gear; On/off sequence in all three studios</td>
<td>Access to selected mics and shop</td>
<td>Minimum wage + $1.25 per hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journeyman Engineer (advance level)</td>
<td>Completed DMI 102, 103, 111, 112; Enrolled in (or completed) DMI 322</td>
<td>Responsible for all aspects of a session, start to finish</td>
<td>Access to all mics</td>
<td>Minimum wage + $2.50 per hour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## STUDENT ENGINEER PROFICIENCIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL</th>
<th>WRITTEN</th>
<th>PRACTICAL</th>
<th>LENGTH OF SERVICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Studio assistant</td>
<td>80% passing grade on written test</td>
<td>100% passing grade on applied test</td>
<td>1 semester +</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant Engineer</td>
<td>85% passing grade on written test (including vocabulary)</td>
<td>100% passing grade on applied test</td>
<td>2 semesters +</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journeyman Engineer</td>
<td>95% passing grade on written test (including vocabulary)</td>
<td>100% passing grade on applied test</td>
<td>3 semesters +</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STUDY GUIDE FOR DMI STUDIO ASSISTANT

Vocabulary:

Bi-directional (Mic pattern)
Cardioid (Mic pattern)
Omni (Mic pattern)
Condenser Microphone
Dynamic Microphone
Ribbon Microphone
Phantom Power

Applicants need to be able to identify:

Male XLR
Female XLR
TRS Jack (3-conductor 1/4" connector)
TS Jack (Standard 1/4" connector)

Studio assistants need to:

Demonstrate how to properly roll and store an audio cable.
(It is mandatory to VIEW the video on how to properly roll a cable.)

Demonstrate how to make a great pot of coffee.

Demonstrate how to properly sweep, dust, and clean studios.

Demonstrate how to answer the phone and deal courteously with a client.

Demonstrate the ability to listen…don’t give your opinion unless asked, and then give it only with great diplomacy.

GOOD CUSTOMER SERVICE is of the utmost importance!
QUESTIONS FOR STUDIO ASSISTANT TEST

The XLR connector on a microphone is:
   a. Male
   b. Female

What is a transducer?
   a. A device that transmits audio by electricity.
   b. A device that transforms energy from one form into another (acoustical to electrical energy).
   c. None of the above.

Which statement describes a cardioid pickup pattern?
   a. A unidirectional pattern.
   b. A heart-shaped pattern.
   c. A & B
   d. None of the above.

Which statement describes an omni directional pickup pattern?
   a. A pattern that picks up from all directions equally.
   b. A pattern that picks up in a hemispherical pattern.
   c. None of the above.

Which statement describes a bi-directional pickup pattern?
   a. A microphone that picks up from the back as well as from the front.
   b. A microphone that is sensitive in two directions.
   c. A figure 8 microphone pattern.
   d. All of the above.

What is the „Good Rule‰?
   a. It's all good.
   b. Good musician + good acoustics + good mic + good placement + good performance=Good Sound.
   c. Good equipment + good instrument + good mic + good console = Good Sound.
   d. None of the above.

What does a direct box do?
   a. It reduces an instrument's line-level output to mic level for direct insertion to a microphone preamp input.
   b. It changes an instrument's unbalanced, high source impedance line to a balanced low-source impedance signal needed by a preamp.
c. It electrically isolates audio signal signal paths between the instrument and pre amp stages.
d. All of the above.

Which of the following is not a good archiving or backup strategy?
a. Copy all data (music and session files) to another hard drive for long-term storage.
b. Consolidate all music tracks to be continuous files.
c. Make multiple copies of everything.
d. Don't make a copy, store them in your closet. so they won't get lost.

How are MIDI connectors In, Out & Thru used?
a. MIDI OUT connectors transmit MIDI data.
b. MIDI Thru connectors relay data sent to the MIDI in port.
c. MIDI In connectors receive data from other MIDI devices.
d. All of the above.
e. None of the above.

Recording the original parts of a song is done during which phase of modern music production?
a. Recording.
b. Overdubbing.
c. Mixdown.

Creating a final stereo balance of a recording is done during which phase of modern music production?
a. Recording.
b. Overdubbing.
c. Mixdown.

Adding parts to a song that has already been recorded is part of which phase of modern music production?
a. Recording.
b. Overdubbing.
c. Mixdown.

Demonstrate how to properly roll and store a cable.
STUDIO ETIQUETTE TIPS

Some tips to remember if you are serving as a studio assistant, an assistant engineer, or journeyman engineer:

1) DON’T offer your opinion unless asked, and even then, offer your opinion VERY carefully.

2) Do NOT repeat information you hear in the studio among clients. That is THEIR business.

3) You are there to DO YOUR JOB. It that means making coffee and taking out the trash, do it well and with purpose.

4) BE COURTEOUS and POLITE even if other people aren’t.

5) If the atmosphere gets volatile in the studio or control room (which it sometimes will with creative endeavors), learn how to gracefully EXCUSE yourself from the room.