Several qualifications are considered assets for hire either as an instructional/academic staff or tenure-track faculty member in the BA/BS-Liberal Arts Music, BME-Music Education-Choral-Vocal, and BME-Music Education-Instrumental programs at the University of Wisconsin – River Falls.

Candidates for undergraduate faculty status have earned a degree (i.e. earned credential) in:

- D.M.A., Doctorate of Musical Arts
- D.M., Doctorate of Music
- Ph.D., Doctorate of Philosophy in Music
- Ph.D., Doctorate of Philosophy in Music Education
- Ed.D., Doctorate of Education in Music
- M.A., Master of Arts in Music
- M.M., Master of Music
- M.M., Master of Music Education
- Graduate Artist Diploma in Music

In addition, they have a record of research, scholarship, and achievement that includes:

- Record (meeting a minimum requirement of one year) of professional music research and scholarship, as documented by published articles, books, awards, and papers/presentations, OR:
- Record (meeting a minimum requirement of one year) of professional music education research and scholarship, as documented by published articles, books, awards, and papers/presentations, OR:
- Record (meeting a minimum requirement of one year) of professional musical performance as documented by solo concerts, large ensemble, chamber music settings, OR:
- Record (meeting a minimum requirement of one year) of professional musical conducting/directing as documented by large ensemble and chamber music settings.

According to the Higher Learning Commission, “faculty teaching in undergraduate programs should hold a degree at least one level above that of the program in which they are teaching” (e.g. at least a master’s degree or equivalent).