

Jazz Ensemble

All-State Information

The six All-State organizations perform annually during the LMEA conference, which is traditionally held during the early part of the Thanksgiving week. Student membership in the six organizations number **approximately** as follows: 60 in symphonic band, 80 in concert band, 100 in orchestra, 160 in choir, 65 in women's chorale, and 25 in jazz ensemble. The jazz ensemble is chosen by recorded auditions held in each district and submitted to the jazz division chair for adjudication.

Eligibility

Students must be in grades nine through twelve and enrolled at a school accredited by the Louisiana Department of Education. A student auditioning for the All-State Jazz Ensemble must be a member of their school's instrumental music program and their director must be a current member of LMEA. In a situation where there is no program in the school, the student must be certified by the eligible music teacher at the school or an LMEA-member private teacher. Home school students are not eligible for LMEA All State events.

Students selected to the All-State Jazz Ensemble are not eligible to participate in any other LMEA All-State ensemble due to conflicts in the registration, rehearsal, or performance schedules of other ensembles.

Audition

There is a single audition for All-State Jazz Ensemble. District level auditions will be recorded by the District Director or the district's Jazz Chair and submitted to the All-State Jazz Division Chair for adjudication according to deadlines set by individual districts in conjunction with the Division Chair. District Directors will verify that teachers of all students participating in LMEA auditions are current members of LMEA.

There is a \$15.00 audition fee for each audition submitted. Students may audition on more than one instrument but must pay the audition fee for each instrument. An audition registration form and a student information release form must be received by the District's District Director or Jazz Chair for each student auditioning prior to the audition. Both can be downloaded from the LMEA website.

The official results will be posted on the LMEA website as soon as they are confirmed. Music for the All-State Jazz Ensemble will be distributed to the District Director or the district's Jazz Chair.

Audition Materials

Scales

Required scales for wind and rhythm players include selected blues, major, chromatic, and "other" scales. There is a 2-year rotation of scales that corresponds to the 4-year rotation of audition materials. A copy of the scale sheet for each instrument can be downloaded from the LMEA website's All-State Jazz Ensemble page.

Prepared Materials

There is a four-year rotation cycle of prepared materials that have been written for the LMEA All-State auditions. All audition materials, including rehearsal tracks, can be found on the LMEA website and are available for download.

Sight-Reading

All students will sight read a short selection to be provided by the jazz division chair just prior to the audition recording session. This will be sent electronically to each district's jazz chair or district director.

Audition Process

Students will be required to play the designated selections with the appropriate audition recording. This recording shall be a single track provided by the jazz chair and available on the LMEA website for students to practice with. The audition track will include (in this order):

1. Three minutes of silence for playing the required scales (If there is extra time, a student may replay a scale.)
2. The background tracks for all prepared materials
3. Thirty seconds to study the sight-reading selection before the student sight-reads.

Students will not be allowed to replay any portion of the audition (except as stated above) or stop the recording at any time during the recording process. To do so will disqualify the student.

It will be the responsibility of the district's District Director or Jazz Chair to provide a CD player and CD for each student auditioning for the All-State Jazz Ensemble.

Vocalists (male or female)

A student interested in performing as vocalist with the All-State Jazz Ensemble must submit a video of a performance singing with a jazz big band to the district's District Director or Jazz Chair by the audition date. This will be submitted to the Jazz Division Chair with all other audition recordings for adjudication.

Any student vocalists auditioning must meet all eligibility requirements. They must also submit the audition fee, audition registration form, and student information release form to their District's District Director or Jazz Chair (as designated by the district) by the district's due date. All forms can be downloaded from the LMEA website.

Equipment

Each student is to provide his/her own equipment for auditions. The only exception is the piano and amplifier.

All-State Rules and Regulations

All-State Rules and Regulations are part of the All-State Entry form and are to be signed by each student, parent, director and principal involved.

1. Teachers are instructed not to present for audition students who are discipline problems.
2. Students and parents are hereby notified that LMEA's authority and responsibility extends until a student is released to return home.
3. Students failing to adhere to any LMEA All-State rules, regulations and schedules are subject to dismissal.
4. Vandalism of any kind will bring immediate dismissal. The student and the school will be held responsible for any damages.
5. A student in possession of legally controlled drugs (without a doctor's prescription) or who consumes physiologically active substances for nonmedical use (including alcoholic beverages) will be sent home.
6. The student's principal, director and parents will be immediately notified of any rule violation.
7. A disciplinary committee consisting of the Executive Secretary, the LMEA President, and the Band, Orchestra, Vocal or Jazz Ensemble Chairperson (as pertinent) shall review any disciplinary problems before dismissal from the All-State group is recommended.
8. Any student dismissed (sent home) from an All-State event will be prohibited from participating in any LMEA event for one (1) full year starting from the time of the dismissal.
9. Any school organization whose student (or students) must be dismissed from an LMEA All-State event will be placed on a one-year probation. If a student is dismissed within the probation period, that school organization will be prohibited from participating in LMEA All-State events the following year.

10. Any infraction and subsequent dismissal will be referred to the Executive Board for resolution and clarification.
11. Students will be responsible for personal equipment and instruments. LMEA will not accept responsibility for students' equipment and instruments that are lost, damaged or stolen.