

# Washington Music Educators Association

## WMEA All-State Music Group Governing Policies



*Adopted June 1989  
Revised August 1991, October 1997,  
June 2001, June 2004, June 2006,  
October 2006, August 2009*

### **PARTICIPATION-ELIGIBILITY**

1. WMEA will offer the following All-State opportunities: Youth Honor Chorus for students in grades 5 and 6, Junior All-State for grades 7-8 and high school All-State for grades 9-12. They must be attending and represent an accredited public or private school in Washington. They must apply through that school's WMEA/MENC member teacher of the music class in which they participate.
2. Secondary students must be regularly participating in that school's performing group corresponding to the WMEA All-State group for which they apply. They must be regularly participating from the time of application through the time of the WMEA All-State event. The following definitions will govern this policy.
  - 2.1 In all high school and Junior All-State cases, the school music performing group in which an applicant is participating must be a class offered for academic credit.
  - 2.2 For purposes of selection, applicants for winds and percussion will need to participate in the school's orchestra and/or band.
  - 2.3 Applicants for large vocal groups must participate in the school's large-group choir.
  - 2.4 Applicants for string groups must participate in the school's orchestra class or perform on the audition instrument regularly and as their primary involvement in a school's music performing group.
  - 2.5 Applicants for the jazz groups (vocal and instrumental) must participate in their corresponding school jazz class. Rhythm section applicants can be in either school jazz class.
3. Participating teachers must be active members of WMEA/MENC from the time of application through the time of WMEA All-State.
4. Students who are accepted into WMEA All-State groups and then change schools may continue to participate in the WMEA All-State group if and only if each of the following conditions is met.
  - 4.1 The school change was caused by a residence change and the new school is the appropriate school for the student to attend, or the move is made between public and private schools.
  - 4.2 The old school agrees to release the student financially.
  - 4.3 The new school agrees to accept responsibility for the student.
  - 4.4 The student is participating in the appropriate music class at the new school.



## SELECTION

5. Screening committee will be members of WMEA unless the WMEA All-State manager waives this requirement for specific personnel. Each group manager is responsible to verify this information.
6. Individual screening committee members will listen to all recordings for a given section and rank the recordings in order of quality. If any recordings are considered of such poor quality (either in recording or performance) to render the performer *unacceptable* (defined as “likely detrimental to the group’s artistic success”), such recordings will be so labeled and listed alphabetically at the end of the section. The screening committee members will not determine the number of performers to be selected for the given section. Neither will the screening committee “select” the group. Their only responsibilities will be to rank all acceptable students and to designate any which may truly be so poor as to be unacceptable under any circumstances.
7. The group manager, in conjunction with the conductor, will set the instrumentation or voicing for each group within the numbers assigned by the WMEA All-State manager. When the results of the screening committee are returned to the group manager, he/she will cut off the rankings according to the specified instrumentation/voicing and determine the membership.
  - 7.1 If there are not enough acceptable recordings for a given instrument/voice, the group manager will be empowered to call member teachers and accept non-applying students based on the teacher’s recommendation for such positions. Those students will be subject to all eligibility, fees (except for the application fee), regulations and timeliness as students applying through normal channels.
  - 7.2 The following groups will be established as WMEA All-State groups. Schools not represented in a given high school or middle school area (bands, choirs or orchestras—excluding jazz) after the first selection will have one student added to one of the groups in that area provided that (1) the school had at least two acceptable recordings in different categories for those groups (excluding jazz) and (2) adding those students will not endanger the artistic balance of the given WMEA All-State group. The basic selection will “cut off” at 90% of the target totals; students will be then added until the groups are completed. No student accepted at the 90% level will be removed in order to ensure representation. During All-Northwest years, students accepted in All-Northwest groups will count toward school representation in the given area.
    - 7.2.1 HIGH SCHOOL BANDS (9-12)
      - Wind Ensemble** (Non-Northwest Conference years)
      - Wind Symphony** (BB-B-A-AA schools, Non-Northwest Conference years)
      - Concert Band**
      - Jazz Band** (Non-Northwest Conference years)
    - 7.2.2 HIGH SCHOOL CHOIRS (9-12)
      - Treble Choir** (SSAA, Non-Northwest Conference years)
      - Symphonic Choir** (SATB)
      - Jazz Choir** (Non-Northwest Conference years)
    - 7.2.3 HIGH SCHOOL ORCHESTRAS (9-12)
      - Chamber Orchestra** (Non-Northwest Conference years)
      - Symphony Orchestra**
    - 7.2.4 MIDDLE SCHOOL ENSEMBLES (7-8)
      - Junior Baker Band**
      - Junior Rainier Band**
      - Junior Mixed Choir**
      - Junior Treble Choir**
      - Junior Orchestra**
    - 7.2.5 ELEMENTARY ENSEMBLES (5-6)
      - Youth Honor Chorus**



## FEES

8. Student fees will be established by the WMEA Board. Previous costs and fees will be considered in determining fees.
9. An application fee will be charged each applicant. This will not be applied to later fees for those accepted.
10. Registration fees for those accepted may include, but not be limited to, the following:

Administration costs  
Conductors  
Housing  
Local transportation  
Meals

Music  
Rehearsal site costs  
Social activity  
Souvenirs

## MISCELLANEOUS GUIDELINES

11. In the interest of student safety, NO students may bring cars to WMEA All-State.
12. In the interest of student safety and group management, students will be required to remain with the WMEA All-State/convention activities for the duration, from the check-in until the concert is concluded. Students will not be released for school, church, family or personal reasons barring an emergency or another unique, extraordinary and unexpected circumstance. If students have conflicts arise after registration and choose to not participate in WMEA All-State they will be subject to the published refund policy.
13. Students missing rehearsals without prior clearance from the WMEA All-State manager will be subject to immediate return home. This includes but is not limited to emergencies and the school music group's participation at the concurrent WMEA or other conference.
14. Audition recording must be done in the presence of the teacher submitting the application or another WMEA active member from that school. Once the recording process has begun, the recording may not be returned to the student. Teachers and students are asked to NOT electronically or otherwise enhance any recordings beyond the actual recording session
15. If extenuating circumstances dictate emergency needs for the smooth operation of this event, the WMEA All-State manager is empowered to temporarily waive or change any rules to cover the given situation. A detailed report of any such decisions must be given to the WMEA board in writing at the next reasonably available opportunity.

