



MENC Northwest Division

MENC All-Northwest Music Group Governing Policies

Updated August 2009

PARTICIPATION-ELIGIBILITY

1. Students in grades 9-12 are eligible to participate in MENC All-Northwest honor groups. They must be attending and represent an accredited public or private school in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington or Wyoming. They must apply through that school's MENC member school music teacher of the music class in which they participate.
2. Students must be regularly participating in that school's performing group corresponding to the MENC All-Northwest group for which they apply. They must be regularly participating from the time of application through the time of the MENC All-Northwest event. The following definitions will govern this policy.
 - 2.1 The school music performing group in which an applicant is performing must be a class offered for academic credit.
 - 2.2 For purposes of selection, applicants for wind and percussion will need to participate in the school's orchestra and/or band.
 - 2.3 Applicants for strings 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.
 - 2.4 Applicants for large vocal groups must participate in the school's large-group choir.
 - 2.5 Applicants for the jazz groups (vocal and instrumental) must participate in their corresponding school jazz class. Rhythm section applicants can be in the school's instrumental or vocal jazz class.
 - 2.6 In exceptional circumstances where there is no corresponding group, a request can be made to the appropriate state president.
3. Participating teachers must be active members of MENC from the time of application through the time of MENC All-Northwest. They must be teaching the applicants in their appropriate 9-12 school groups.
4. Students who are accepted into MENC All-Northwest groups and then change schools within the six states may continue to participate in the MENC All-Northwest group if and only if each of the following conditions is met. Otherwise they must withdraw and will be subject to the published refund policy.
 - 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.



FEES

5. Student fees will be established by the WMEA Board, upon the recommendation of the MENC Northwest Division Board. Previous costs and fees will be considered in determining fees. Fees will be stated in the application information.
6. A non-refundable application fee will be charged for each audition. This is not applied to registration fees for those accepted.
7. Registration fees for those accepted may include, but not be limited to, the following:

Administration costs	Local transportation	Rehearsal site costs
Conductors	Meals	Social activity
Housing	Music	Souvenirs
8. A late registration fee will be assessed for payments and registrations sent after the stated deadline.

SELECTION

9. Screeners will be members of MENC. Each state coordinator is responsible to verify this information.
10. Screeners will listen to all recordings for a given category and rank the recordings in order of quality. If any recordings are considered of such poor quality (either in recording or performance) as to render the performer *unacceptable* (defined as *likely detrimental to the group's artistic success*), such recordings will be so marked and listed alphabetically at the end of the section.
11. State coordinators will forward auditions to the MENC All-Northwest group manager according to the quotas established by the MENC All-Northwest manager.
12. The Northwest group managers, in conjunction with the conductors, will set the instrumentation or voicing for each group within the numbers assigned by the MENC All-Northwest manager. When the screening results are returned to the group managers, they will determine the membership according to the specified instrumentation/voicing, including adherence to the state quotas.
 - 12.1 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.
 - 12.2 The following groups will be established as MENC All-Northwest groups.

Band Jazz Band	Orchestra	Treble Choir (SSAA) Mixed Choir (SATB) Jazz Choir
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 - 12.3 For women vocalists in the choirs, winds and percussion in the band and orchestra, and the rhythm sections of the jazz groups, students will be assigned to the groups alternately according to their ranking.



MISCELLANEOUS GUIDELINES

13. In the interest of student safety, NO students may bring cars to MENC All-Northwest. Students who do so will not be allowed to participate and will be sent home with no refund.
14. In the interest of student safety and group management, students will be required to remain with the MENC All-Northwest/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 MENC All-Northwest, they will be subject to the published refund policy.
15. Students missing rehearsals without prior clearance from the MENC All-Northwest 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 MENC Northwest Division conference.
16. Audition recording must be done in the presence of the teacher submitting the application or another MENC active member from that school. Once the recording process has begun, the recording may not be returned to the student. Teachers and students may not electronically or otherwise enhance any recordings beyond the actual recording session. By submitting the audition materials online, the director attests that these conditions were met.
17. If extenuating circumstances dictate emergency needs for the smooth operation of this event, the MENC All-Northwest 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 MENC and WMEA boards in writing at their next scheduled meetings.

