



2021 Jazz Band Auditions Manual

This manual includes specific information about auditions for the NMEA All-State Jazz Band. (Please refer to the other manuals for information about auditions for the All-State Band, Orchestra, and Chorus.)

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO AUDITION FOR THE 2021 ALL-STATE JAZZ BAND?

- Students must be chosen by their director and be declared eligible for auditions by their Administration. No student will be eligible without the permission of the music director and administrator.
- All students **MUST** be currently participating in the music program of the school in which they are enrolled.
- Students in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 who are enrolled in their school's jazz band program may audition for jazz band.
- Jazz band applicants who attend a school without a band, jazz band or orchestra may audition if they are currently enrolled in their school's vocal music program. If no music program exists in the school their private music teacher may sponsor the students. That teacher must be an active member of NMEA.
- Final determination of student eligibility is made by each school's music teacher and administration.
- No student is eligible if his/her director is not a current member of NMEA/NAfME and is not planning to attend the in-service conference/clinic.
- No student below ninth grade will be accepted in any All-State ensemble.
- Students may audition for multiple All-State ensembles but must prioritize their ensemble choice. A separate application and fee are required for EACH audition.
- Directors will verify, on the students' application, the eligibility of the student(s).

CONTENT OF THE JAZZ BAND AUDITION:

The timeline for submitting live auditions will be September 15 - September 25. **No entries will be accepted before or after these dates.**

- A 9:00 minute time limit will be observed for each audition.
- Auditions for all instruments will be live-recorded by the respective directors at their respective schools and live-recorded to the OPUS website (audition.opusevent.com).
- Only the director and the student are to be in the room at the time of the actual audition.
- All musicians auditioning for the jazz band, except for drum kit, will need to play the scale etude found on the NMEA website. These scales do NOT need to be memorized.
- Drummers will be expected to know the Drum Kit Jazz Style Patterns found on the NMEA website. The student will be asked to play all of the patterns contained on the Drum Kit Style Patterns sheet.

HOW ARE APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED?

All applications will be submitted through the OPUS website (audition.opusevent.com).

Guidelines for submitting applications:

- Use only the website (audition.opusevent.com) for registration and live recording.
- Director's membership fee must be completed by accessing the NAFME website.
- It is the director's responsibility to check the accuracy of the information on their school's application(s).
- Applications will NOT be accepted if they are for instruments not considered part of the instrumentation of the respective All-State ensembles.

AUDITION FEES AND DEADLINES:

- The fee for each audition is \$25.00. The only way to submit an application is through the website (OpusEvents.com). Directors should pay for ALL of their applicants together in one payment.
- The application deadline is September 6, 2021. All applications submitted after midnight on September 6, 2021 will incur a \$20.00 late fee. (That fee is in addition to the regular application fee.) Late applications will be accepted from September 7 until September 13, 2021. No applications will be accepted after September 13, 2021.
- Once a submission is complete there will be no changes allowed to the application. If a change in instrument is required, the applicant will need to submit a new application and pay the application fee again.

NOTIFICATION OF AUDITION RESULTS:

Notification of acceptance into an All-State ensemble will be made via email. Directors of all students auditioning will be sent the results. Results are scheduled to be posted on Wednesday, October 18, 2021.

HOUSING INFORMATION:

- Participating schools are responsible for their own housing. Rooms will be filled on a first come-first served basis. The official conference hotels for the NMEA In-service Conference/Clinic are:
 - ✓ Embassy Suites Lincoln, 1040 P Street, (402) 474-1111
 - ✓ The Graduate, 141 North 9th Street, (402) 475-4011
 - ✓ The Cornhusker Hotel, 333 South 13th Street (402) 474-7474
 - ✓ Courtyard by Marriott, 808 R Street, (402) 904-5135
- November 1, 2021 is the deadline for reserving rooms at the special conference rates at the official conference hotels. The Cornhusker Hotel will not refund cancellations made after November 1.
- Be sure to identify yourself as a music director attending the NMEA Conference when you make your reservations at Lincoln area hotels.

DIRECTOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES:

- The director of all students accepted for the All-State Jazz Band will receive a packet of forms to give to each student. This will be a PDF file that you receive by email. It should be printed and given to the student or forwarded to a parent's email address. Included in this packet will be a congratulatory letter, the order form for tickets to the All-State final concert, links to the order forms for All-State memorabilia (apparel, CDs, DVDs, plaques, photos, etc.), and the student's participation contract.
- The All-State Jazz Band's music will be sent to you by the NMEA Jazz Band Coordinator. Expect this music to arrive as an email attachment in PDF format, or in a Google Drive folder.
- All-State Student Contracts - Selection to a prestigious All-State ensemble carries with it an implied level of maturity. Therefore, each student will be expected to complete and sign a participant's contract and medical release form indicating his/her agreement to fulfill all responsibilities. Contracts will be sent to directors by email at the time of notification of acceptance into All State ensembles. It is the director's responsibility to make sure that the student completes each contract and their parents, notarized and the HARD COPY returned to NMEA. **A HARD COPY of the contracts must be returned to the NMEA Auditions Chair by November 1st.** Emailing the contracts is not acceptable as the forms need to be notarized.
- All participating schools and their directors are responsible for the behavior and well-being of students selected for the All-State ensembles.
- It is the director's responsibility to notify the Ensemble Affairs Director if their all state students are part of a performing or a demonstration group.

ALL-STATE JAZZ BAND REHEARSAL SCHEDULE (Tentative schedule based on available space)

Wednesday, NOVEMBER 17th

3:00 – 4:15 P.M. – All-State Jazz Band Rehearsal (Johnny Carson Theater)

6:30 – 9:00 P.M. – All-State Jazz Band Rehearsal (Johnny Carson Theater)

Thursday, NOVEMBER 18th

8:00 – 10:00 A.M. – All-State Jazz Band Rehearsal (Johnny Carson Theater)

1:00 – 3:30 P.M. – All-State Jazz Band Rehearsal (Johnny Carson Theater)

6:00 – 8:00 P.M. – All-State Jazz Band Rehearsal (Johnny Carson Theater)

Friday, NOVEMBER 19th

8:00 – 10:00 A.M. – All-State Jazz Band Rehearsal (Johnny Carson Theater)

3:00-3:45 P.M. – All-State Jazz Band Set-up and Final Rehearsal (Lied Center Stage)

4:30 P.M. – All-State Jazz Band and Chorus Final Concert

(Any adjustments to this schedule will be announced during rehearsals. Check the NMEA website for a complete student schedule – www.nmeanebraska.org.)

NMEA ALL-STATE STUDENT REHEARSAL POLICY

Students participating in NMEA All-State ensembles are expected to attend and participate in all scheduled rehearsals and the final concert performance. Absences from any rehearsals because of an emergency reason will be considered on an individual basis to be determined by the respective clinic group chairman and the NMEA President.

Note: It is expected that all students actively participate in rehearsals. If a student cannot participate in a rehearsal due to illness it is considered a missed rehearsal.

Regardless if students stay in their own homes or a hotel, it is the director's responsibility to get their students to All-State rehearsals on time. NMEA will not be responsible for contacting any students absent from rehearsal.

PLEASE BE AWARE THAT...

- Any student who is a member of an ensemble performing as an "NMEA Performance Group" during the conference/clinic may be excused from All-State rehearsal 30 minutes prior to the start of the performance. The student is expected to return to the All-State rehearsal immediately after the performance if the All-State rehearsal is still in progress.
- Any student who is a member of an ensemble performing as a demonstration group during the conference/clinic may be excused from All-State rehearsal 15 minutes prior to the start of the performance. The student is expected to return to the All-State rehearsal immediately after the performance if the All-State rehearsal is still in progress.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE DIRECTOR FOR JAZZ BAND AUDITIONS

You will record your voice announcing. The remainder of the recording will be the student's performance. Please note that each SECTION is continuous and cannot be paused.

1. Be sure your room is a quiet, well-lighted environment for best live audio recording.
2. Check to see that you have the mp3 for the playback material and a recording device for live-recording. Use the test function as many times necessary to determine audio quality.
3. Check your CD/mp3 player to make sure that it is working. Use the prepared CD or mp3 file that provides accompaniment for the etudes and excerpts for jazz auditions.
4. Use the test function as many times necessary to determine audio quality. This may require you to change the distance between the recording device and the instrument.
5. Record your student's audition. Do not stop the recorder until the SECTION is complete.
6. Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application. You are now finished and can set up for the next audition.

Jazz Saxophone, Trombone and Bass Trombone Recording Procedure and Script

You will begin each section by reading the name of the section that is being recorded. The remainder of the recording will be the student's performance. Please follow this script exactly! You will record each section of the audition separately. You will stop the recording at the end of each section but do NOT stop the recording during the section.

Follow and announce the script exactly as follows:

1. Press RECORD on the Jazz Scale Etude portion. Tell the student to **“Play the Jazz All State Audition Scale Etude – Set A.”** The student plays the scale etude. Stop the recording for the Scale Etude. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**
2. Press RECORD on the Jazz Etude 1 portion. Tell the student to **“Play Jazz Etude 1 - Shuffle. Play the melody the 1st time through and two choruses of an improvised solo.”** The student plays etude number 1 with the backing track. Stop the recording for Etude 1. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**
3. Press RECORD on the Jazz Etude 2 portion. Tell the student to **“Play Jazz Etude 2 - Funk. Play the melody the 1st time through and two choruses of an improvised solo.”** The student plays etude number 2 with the backing track. Stop the recording for Etude 2. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**
4. You are now finished and can set up for the next audition.

Jazz Trumpet Recording Procedure and Script

You will begin each section by reading the name of the section that is being recorded. The remainder of the recording will be the student's performance. Please follow this script exactly! You will record each section of the audition separately. You will stop the recording at the end of each section but do NOT stop the recording during the section.

Follow and announce the script exactly as follows:

1. Press RECORD on the Jazz Scale Etude portion. Tell the student to **“Play the Jazz All State Audition Scale Etude – Set A.”** The student plays the scale etude. Stop the recording for the Scale Etude. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**
2. Press RECORD on the Jazz Etude 1 portion. Tell the student to **“Play Jazz Etude 1 - Shuffle. Play the melody the 1st time through and two choruses of an improvised solo.”** The student plays etude number 1 with the backing track. Stop the recording for Etude 1. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**
3. Press RECORD on the Jazz Etude 2 portion. Tell the student to **“Play Jazz Etude 2 - Funk. Play the melody the 1st time through and two choruses of an improvised solo.”** The student plays etude number 2 with the backing track. Stop the recording for Etude 2. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**
4. Press RECORD on the Lead Trumpet portion. Tell the student to **“Play Lead Trumpet Etude - Shuffle.”** The student plays the lead trumpet etude with the backing track. Stop the recording for Lead Trumpet. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**
5. You are now finished and can set up for the next audition.

Jazz Piano and Guitar Recording Procedure and Script

You will begin each section by reading the name of the section that is being recorded. The remainder of the recording will be the student’s performance. Please follow this script exactly! You will record each section of the audition separately. You will stop the recording at the end of each section but do NOT stop the recording during the section.

Follow and announce the script exactly as follows:

1. Press RECORD on the Jazz Scale Etude portion. Tell the student to **“Play the Jazz All State Audition Scale Etude – Set A.”** The student plays the scale etude. Stop the recording for the Scale Etude. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**
2. Press RECORD on the Jazz Etude 1 portion. Tell the student to **“Play Jazz Etude 1 - Shuffle. Play the written etude followed by two choruses of improvisation solo followed by one chorus of comped chords.”** The student plays etude number 1 with the backing track. Stop the recording for Etude 1. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**
3. Press RECORD on the Jazz Etude 2 portion. Tell the student to **“Play Jazz Etude 2 - Funk. Play the written etude followed by two choruses of improvisation solo followed by one chorus of comped chords.”** The student plays etude number 2 with the backing track. . Stop the recording for Etude 2. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**
4. You are now finished and can set up for the next audition.

Jazz Bass Recording Procedure and Script

You will begin each section by reading the name of the section that is being recorded. The remainder of the recording will be the student’s performance. Please follow this script exactly! You will record each section of the audition separately. You will stop the recording at the end of each section but do NOT stop the recording during the section.

Follow and announce the script exactly as follows:

1. Press RECORD on the Jazz Scale Etude portion. Tell the student to **“Play the Jazz All State Audition Scale Etude – Set A.”** The student plays the scale etude. Stop the recording for the Scale Etude. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**

2. Press RECORD on the Jazz Etude 1 portion. Tell the student to **“Play Jazz Etude 1 - Shuffle. Play the written etude followed by two choruses of improvisation solo followed by one chorus of a walking bass line.”** The student plays etude number 1 with the backing track. . Stop the recording for Etude 1. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**
3. Press RECORD on the Jazz Etude 2 portion. Tell the student to **“Play Jazz Etude 2 -Funk. Play the written etude followed by two choruses of improvisation solo followed by one chorus of a Funk bass line.”** The student plays etude number 2 with the backing track. . Stop the recording for Etude 2. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**
4. You are now finished and can set up for the next audition.

Jazz Vibraphone Recording Procedure and Script

You will begin each section by reading the name of the section that is being recorded. The remainder of the recording will be the student’s performance. Please follow this script exactly! You will record each section of the audition separately. You will stop the recording at the end of each section but do NOT stop the recording during the section.

Follow and announce the script exactly as follows:

1. Press RECORD on the Jazz Scale Etude portion. Tell the student to **“Play the Jazz All State Audition Scale Etude – Set A. ”** The student plays the scale etude. Stop the recording for the Scale Etude. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**
2. Press RECORD on the Jazz Etude 1 portion. Tell the student to **“Play Jazz Etude 1 - Shuffle. Play the written etude followed by two choruses of an improvised solo followed by one chorus of comping chords.”** The student plays etude number 1 with the backing track. Stop the recording for Etude 1. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**

3. Press RECORD on the Jazz Etude 2 portion. Tell the student to **“Play Jazz Etude 2 -Funk. Play the written etude followed by two choruses of an improvised solo followed by one chorus of comping chords.”** The student plays etude number 2 with the backing track. Stop the recording for Etude 2. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**
4. You are now finished and can set up for the next audition.

Jazz Drum Set Recording Procedure and Script

You will begin each section by reading the name of the section that is being recorded. The remainder of the recording will be the student’s performance. Please follow this script exactly! You will record each section of the audition separately. You will stop the recording at the end of each section but do NOT stop the recording during the section.

Follow and announce the script exactly as follows:

1. Press RECORD on the Drum Kit Jazz Style Pattern - Swing w/brushes portion. Tell the student to **“Play the Drum Kit Jazz Style Pattern - Swing w/brushes.”** The student plays the Drum Kit Jazz Style Pattern – Swing w/brushes. Stop the recording for the Drum Kit Jazz Style Pattern - Swing w/brushes. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**
2. Press RECORD on the Drum Kit Jazz Style Pattern – Samba w/sticks portion. Tell the student to **“Play the Drum Kit Jazz Style Pattern – Samba w/Sticks.”** The student plays the Drum Kit Jazz Style Pattern – Samba w/Sticks. Stop the recording for the Drum Kit Jazz Style Pattern - Samba w/Sticks. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**
3. Press RECORD on the Drum Kit Jazz Style Pattern – Afro Cuban 6/8 Feel portion. Tell the student to **“Play the Drum Kit Jazz Style Pattern – Afro Cuban 6/8 Feel.”** The student plays the Drum Kit Jazz Style Pattern – Afro Cuban 6/8 Feel. Stop the recording for the Drum Kit Jazz Style Pattern - Afro Cuban 6/8 Feel. **Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.**
4. Press RECORD on the Jazz Etude 1 portion. Tell the student to **“Play Jazz Etude 1 -**

Shuffle.” The student plays etude number 1 with the backing track. Stop the recording for Etude 1. Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.

4. Press RECORD on the Jazz Etude 2 portion. Tell the student to **“Play Jazz Etude 2 - Funk.”** The student plays etude number 2 with the backing track. Stop the recording for Etude 2. Listen to enough of the recording to be sure that the student was recorded. If the audition was successfully recorded look for the green check mark of completion on the application.

5. You are now finished and can set up for the next audition.

NOTE: *

There is not a designated auxiliary percussion audition for 2021. Instead, two drum kit players will be accepted. One will be the PRIMARY kit player and perform MOST tunes. The other will be the SECONDARY kit player and play SOME tunes on kit as well as auxiliary percussion when needed.