



# Alabama Vocal Association

**All-State Choral Festival**, a three-day event that culminates in a professionally recorded concert, is an opportunity for students with outstanding ability and initiative to receive public recognition, to sing under the direction of nationally recognized choral clinicians, and to perform choral literature of the highest quality.

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## *Parent Information for* **All-State Choral Festival**

### **1** Eligibility and Choirs

1. Students may choose to audition for one of the following choirs:
  - **High School SATB Choir:** open to female and male students in grades 10-12; 9th graders may not audition.
  - **High School SSA Choir:** open to female students in grades 9-12
  - **High School TTBB Choir:** open to male students in grades 9-12
  - **Middle School Mixed Choir:** open to male students in grades 7-8 and to female students in grade 8. Male students may audition for any voice part of Middle School Mixed Choir.
  - **Middle School Treble Choir:** open to female students in grades 7-8.
2. Students who audition and are selected for All-State Show Choir must also audition and be selected for an All-State Choir for the same school year in order to participate in All-State Show Choir.
3. Students who were selected for the previous year's All-State Choir Festival or All-State Show Choir Festival and did not attend, or who were dismissed from either festival, are not eligible to audition for All-State Choir unless absences are excused. All absences are reviewed by the AVA Board. Documentation must be submitted by the Choral Director to the AVA Executive Secretary within ten days of that year's festival (doctor's excuse, funeral program, etc...)

### **2** Music and Preparation for the Audition

1. Each student must have an original copy of each piece of music for the choir for which they plan to audition. Photocopied music may not be used during auditions or at All-State Festival.
2. Students are responsible for knowing their entire voice part in all of the selections for the choir for which they are auditioning. Each student will sing an excerpt from every music selection by himself/herself. Excerpts will be announced in the audition. A student who does not know the music will not make All-State, regardless of vocal and musical ability.
3. Music does not have to be memorized. Students will use their music in the audition.
4. Alabama All-State practice recordings are available for students to learn their All-State music. They are optional, and are not officially endorsed by AVA, but can serve as a rehearsal aid to supplement the time the director spends teaching the music. Contact your choral director for information about ordering recordings.
5. Students must be prepared to sing a cappella pieces without accompaniment. The adjudicator may elect to have other parts or accompaniment interludes played when those parts are crucial to hearing entrances.

# 3 The Audition

1. If a student is unable to attend a scheduled All-State audition because of extreme illness, a death in the family, or other emergency, the director must contact the Executive Secretary to be assigned an alternate site and date.
2. Directors must accompany students to the audition and should bring to auditions only the students who have learned their music.
3. **Each student must bring the following to auditions:**
  - **All-State Audition Adjudication Form F2.2**, signed by parent and student, after reading *Parent Information for All-State*.
  - A complete set of music, with measures numbered, for the choir for which they are auditioning, including "Alabama" (no photocopies)
4. **The procedure for auditions is as follows:**
  - Approximately 10-12 students will be scheduled for the same audition time and will be escorted into the vocal audition room with their completed **Form F2.2** and music.
  - For each of the pieces, including "Alabama," the adjudicator will tell students the page and measure of the audition excerpt.
  - One at a time, each student will sing each excerpt with recorded accompaniment (or a cappella for unaccompanied pieces).

# 4 All-State Festival

1. Directors must accompany students to All-State and must be on the premises while students are in rehearsal.
2. Each student must bring a complete original set of music and a pencil to each rehearsal. Photocopied music in rehearsals is not allowed.
3. Students must wear nametags to each rehearsal. Replacement nametags can be purchased from the Choir Coordinator at a cost of \$5.00.
4. Attendance is taken at each rehearsal and names of students who are absent are reported to the AVA Board. If a student is late for two rehearsals he/she will be removed from the choir. Absence from a rehearsal or performance, or removal due to disciplinary actions will result in disqualification from this and the following year's All-State festival.
5. Students are required to participate in the All-State Festival and concert in its entirety. Students should wear their school choral uniform (formal attire or choir robe) for the All-State Concert. If the school choral uniform is not formal, students must dress in formal concert attire that meets the minimum dress code (knee length or floor length dress for girls with appropriate dress shoes, and a shirt, tie and dress slacks with dress shoes for boys). Show choir uniforms or prom-style dresses (sequins, spaghetti straps, etc.) are not acceptable. Any revealing attire is inappropriate for this occasion.
6. Students must bring a black folder for the All-State concert.
7. For further information, see your school's choral director.