



Alabama Vocal Association

The purpose of the **Pat Blackwell Music Education Award (ME)** is to recognize and provide scholarship support for one outstanding choral student per year from Alabama who is entering the field of choral music education.

Standing Rules for:

Pat Blackwell Music Education Award

1 Eligibility

1. To be eligible to audition for the Pat Blackwell Music Education Award a student must:
 - A. Have plans to enter the field of choral music education in college.
 - B. Be enrolled in the high school choral program at their school.
 - C. Be a high school senior.
 - D. Have participated in All-State choir (SATB, SSA, TTBB) the previous year
 - E. Have been selected for the current year's All-State Choir (participation in ASSC does not affect eligibility for OCS candidacy)
 - F. Have an overall C average or above.
2. If a school is on the block system, students who are enrolled for one semester will be eligible for all AVA activities during that entire school year.
3. The choral director must be a member of AVA/NafME.
4. Homeschool choirs must meet at least weekly for students to be eligible to participate in AVA events. Homeschool choirs must be covered under an umbrella school with a governing administrator and a choral director who is a member of AVA/NAfME.
5. Students must be in good standing with their choral department and their school to participate in any AVA event.
6. A director may nominate as many students from his/her school program as are eligible.
7. If selected as a district winner, a student must register for and attend FAME.

2 Résumé

Each Pat Blackwell Music Education Award candidate, with the director's help, must compile the **Pat Blackwell Choral Music Education Award Résumé packet**. The components of the Résumé packet must be in the following order:

1. **Music Education Résumé Form F6.4**
2. Musical honors (specify individual and group honors, leadership roles, and responsibilities).
3. Community and extra-curricular activities (include whether work is paid or volunteer, years served, offices held).
4. An essay (300 words or less) explaining why you want to become a music educator and what your choral experience has meant to you.
5. Three letters of recommendation: one from your choral director, one from another school official, and one from another adult in your community who is not related to you.
6. A current photo.

3 Application for District Pat Blackwell Music Education Award

1. A complete registration includes:
 - Submitting **OCS/OA/ME Registration Form F6.1** online via www.myamea.org/ava.
 - Payment including:
 - \$50.00 school fee for ME which also covers the school fee for OA and ME
 - \$10.00 fee for each student
 - Late Fee: 2 Weeks at \$50 3rd week at \$100 4th week at \$150
 - Mail your fees by the deadline posted on the website to:

Carl Davis
AVA Executive Secretary
27346 Walnut Grove Road
Elkmont, AL 35620

3. No applications will be accepted more than twenty business days late.
4. Directors must have current NAFME membership in order to register for any AVA event.

4 The Interview

1. Directors will receive notification of the interview time(s) after the complete registration application has been received and the district interview times have been scheduled.
2. Directors and candidates should arrive at the Pat Blackwell Music Education Award Interview site for check in at least one hour prior to the first scheduled interview time.
3. Directors should provide **three copies** of the **Pat Blackwell Choral Music Education Award Résumé** (per applicant, with **Form F6.4** as the cover page) no later than 24 hours prior to the interview.
4. Attire for the interview is not specified, but dress clothes such as that for a job interview or college audition (rather than formal evening wear) are appropriate.
5. A panel of two or three judges who have previously read the résumé will interview each candidate and will select one district winner, if there is a qualified candidate.
6. The two components of the total score for each candidate shall be weighted as: résumé 60% and interview 40%.
7. The choral directors of all of the ME participants will be notified within 24 hours after the auditions as to the results of the audition. The District Chairman will notify the Executive Secretary of the results and will forward two copies of the winners' résumé to the President-Elect.
8. District winners must register for and attend FAME at the AMEA conference unless participating in a conflicting AVA event.

5 The State Level Interview

1. There is no separate registration form for State ME candidates; however, district winners must register for and attend FAME at the AMEA conference unless participating in a conflicting AVA event.
2. State level interviews will be held in a designated place and time at the AMEA Conference. District Chairmen will notify directors of Pat Blackwell ME Award candidates about time and place of the interview.
3. The interview process, attire standards, and scoring criteria are the same as at the district level.
4. The AVA President-Elect will choose the panel of adjudicators. One overall State Pat Blackwell Music Education Award winner will be chosen, if there is a qualified candidate.

6 State Pat Blackwell Choral Music Education Award Winner

1. The state winner will be recognized and awarded a trophy at the High School All-State Concert.
2. The school of the Pat Blackwell Music Education Award winner will receive a plaque

7 Scholarships

1. All AVA scholarships will be paid directly to the college in which the recipient is enrolled. It is the responsibility of each AVA scholarship recipient to notify the Executive Secretary of his/her college enrollment in order for payment to be made. Students will forfeit the AVA scholarship if they fail to use it within five years.
2. Recipients of the Pat Blackwell Music Education Award must submit written verification to the AVA Executive Secretary of acceptance to the music teacher education program at their college in order to receive their scholarship. This can usually be obtained from the Dean or chairman of the music education program, usually after the first or second year of music education study.