



Alabama Vocal Association

Outstanding Accompanist (OA) auditions are held to recognize those students who contribute significantly to the choral programs of the state with outstanding choral accompanying. District winners will be chosen for each of the five All-State choirs, and one state winner will be chosen from this group. The State OA winner will accompany "Alabama" at the All-State concerts. District and State OA winners are honored at the All-State Concert.

Standing Rules for **Outstanding Accompanist (OA)**

1 Eligibility

1. A candidate is eligible to audition for more than one All-State Choir but may only be selected as the winner for one choir.
2. An OA candidate must have an overall C average or above and be enrolled in a middle school, junior high school, or high school choral program.
3. OA nominees are not required to have been members of an All-State Choir the previous year but must audition to sing in an All-State Choir the same year as the OA audition. If a nominee is selected as a District OA winner but is not accepted to sing in All-State, he/she is still expected to attend the All-State concert in order to accept the trophy.
4. A student who is selected as a district or state OA winner may audition in subsequent years.
5. The choral director must be a member of AVA/NAfME (NAfME.org).
6. 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.
7. Homeschool choirs must meet at least weekly for students to be eligible to participate in any AVA event. Homeschool choirs must be covered under an umbrella school with a governing administrator and a choral director who is a member of AVA/NAfME.
8. Students must be in good standing with their choral departments and their school to participate in any AVA event.
9. A director may nominate as many students from his/her school program as are eligible.

2 Music and Résumé

1. Each OA candidate should learn the piano accompaniment and vocal parts for all of the All-State selections, plus "Alabama" for the choir(s) for which they plan to audition. In the case of four-hand music, the candidate should be able to play either part.
2. Candidates should be able to play accompaniments and vocal parts under the direction of a conductor.
3. Students, with the director's help, must compile the Outstanding Accompanist Résumé packet. The components of the Résumé packet must be in the following order:
 - A. **OA Résumé Form F6.3** as the cover page
 - B. A current photograph
 - C. A list of musical honors received
 - D. A letter of recommendation from school choral director
 - E. A letter of recommendation from piano teacher

3 Application for District Level OA

1. A complete registration includes:
 - Submitting **OCS/OA/ME Registration Form F6.1** online via www.myamea.org/ava.
 - Total Fees include:
 - \$50.00 school fee for OA 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
2. Mail your fees by the deadline posted on the website, www.myamea.org/ava 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 Audition

1. Directors will receive notification of the audition time(s) after the complete registration application has been received and the OA times have been scheduled.
2. Directors should provide three copies of the **Outstanding Accompanist Résumé** (per applicant, with **Form F6.3** as the cover page) no later than 24 hours prior to the audition.
3. Directors and candidates should arrive at the OA audition site for check in at least one hour prior to the first scheduled warm-up time.
4. Attire for the audition 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 will read the résumé prior to the audition will judge auditions.
6. During the audition, adjudicators will announce an excerpt for each piece, including "Alabama", and students will play it, under the direction of a conductor. Then they will play selected excerpts of vocal parts as requested by the judges.
7. The panel of judges will select a HS SATB, HS SSA, HS TTBB, MS Mixed, or MS Treble winner in each district, if there are qualified candidates.
8. The two components of the total score for each candidate shall be the résumé and the audition, with the audition being of primary importance.
9. The choral directors of all of the OA 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.
10. The District Chairman will return the candidate résumés to the director at or after the OA audition.

5 State Level Auditions

1. There is no separate registration form for State OA candidates; however, directors of district winners are responsible for providing the same résumés as for the district audition. These résumés should be delivered to the District Chairman *one week prior* to the All-State Festival.
2. Auditions will be held in a designated room at the All-State Festival site on the Wednesday afternoon and evening before the festival begins on Thursday. A group photograph will be taken during this time. District Chairmen will notify directors of OA candidates about time of arrival for the audition.
3. The music requirement, performance and interview process, attire standards, and scoring rubric are the same as those at the district level.
4. The AVA President will choose the panel of adjudicators. One overall State OA

winner will be chosen, if there is a qualified candidate.

6 District and State OA Winners

1. The state OA winner will be announced during a rehearsal session at the festival to all of the All-State choral students.
2. The state OA winner will accompany "Alabama" at the middle school and high school All-State concerts and will receive a trophy and a scholarship award.
3. The remaining District OA winners will receive trophies at the All-State festival. District winners must be present at the concert to accept the trophy, even if they have not been accepted to sing in an All-State Choir.
4. The school of the State winner will receive a plaque.

7 Scholarships

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.