



# Alabama Vocal Association

**Outstanding Choral Student (OCS)** auditions are held in each district to select male and female winner who then compete at the state level to be selected as Outstanding Male or Outstanding Female Choral Student. All candidates will prepare a résumé and a vocal solo; and will be interviewed at both the district and state levels. All district and state OCS winners are honored at the All-State Concert. The State Male and Female OCS winners receive scholarships.

---

---

## *Standing Rules for* **Outstanding Choral Student (OCS)**

### **1 Eligibility**

1. To be eligible to audition for Outstanding Choral Student a student must:
  - A. Have the character and record of choral participation to represent the district as an outstanding example of the model choral student.
  - B. Be enrolled in the high school choral program at their school.
  - C. Be a high school junior or 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.
  - G. Not be a previous State OCS winner (previous OCS State winners are not eligible to audition again)
2. The choral director must be a member of AVA/NAfME (NAfME.org).
3. If a school is on the block system, students who are enrolled for one semester in that school year will be eligible for all AVA activities during that entire school year.
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 school to participate in any AVA event.
6. A director may nominate as many OCS candidates from the school choral program as are eligible.

### **2 Music and Résumé**

1. Each candidate for OCS will sing one solo selection from memory.
2. Candidates do not need to supply music for the adjudicators, although accompanists must have original music (no photocopies).
3. Although there is no required music list, music should be age appropriate and of good quality. Original pieces, pop, show music, vocal jazz and Broadway selections are unsuitable.
4. It is preferable that music be performed in the original language in which it was written; however, the director may choose a text translation if one or more translations exist in the music.
5. Students are not allowed to perform as their own accompanist or use recorded accompaniment.
6. Students, with the director's help, must compile the Outstanding Choral Student Résumé packet. The components of the Résumé packet must be in the following order:

- A. **OCS Résumé Form F6.2** (as the cover sheet)
- B. A current photograph
- C. A list of school vocal/choral organizations in which you have participated (starting with the present and going backwards through grade 7)
- D. A list of music related honors (starting with the present and going backwards through grade 7)
- E. A list of other music related activities
- F. An essay (300 words or less) describing what the choral music experience means to you
- G. Three letters (and only 3) of recommendation: one from your school choral director, one from another school official, and one from another adult not related to the applicant.
- H. A synopsis of the school choral program provided by director

### 3 Application for District Level OCS

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

**Carl Davis**  
**AVA Executive Secretary**  
**27346 Walnut Grove Road**  
**Elkmont, AL 35620**
3. No registrations 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 District Audition

1. Directors will receive notification of the audition time(s) after the completed registration has been received and the OCS times have been scheduled.
2. Directors should provide three copies of the **Outstanding Choral Student Résumé** (per applicant, with **Form F6.2** as the cover page) no later than 24 hours prior to the audition.
3. Directors and candidates should arrive at the OCS 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. Each district nominee will perform from memory one vocal selection of his/her choice.
6. After singing the vocal selection, each district nominee will be interviewed by the panel of judges.
7. The panel of two or three judges will select one male and one female winner from each district, if there are qualified candidates.
8. The three components of the total score for each candidate shall be weighted as: résumé 35%, performance 35%, and interview 30%.
9. The choral directors of all of the OCS participants will be notified within 24 hours after the auditions as to the results of the audition.

10. The District Chairman will notify the AVA Executive Secretary of the results. The District Chairman will return the candidate résumés to the director at or after the OCS audition.

## **5 State Level Auditions**

1. There is no separate registration form for State OCS candidates; however, directors of district winners are responsible for providing seven résumés (the state résumé may be identical to the district résumé) for the state level OCS competition. These résumés should be delivered to the District Chairman one week prior to the All-State Festival.
2. The State OCS Coordinator will determine the order of performance. Candidates not arriving to perform at the designated time will forfeit their candidacy.
3. Directors and candidates should arrive at the OCS audition site for check in at least one hour prior to their first scheduled warm-up time.
4. 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 between the scheduled female and male OCS auditions. The State OCS Coordinator will notify directors of OCS candidates about time of arrival for the audition.
5. The music requirement, performance and interview process, attire standards, and scoring rubric are the same as those at the district level.
6. The seven District Chairmen on the Board of Directors will serve as the panel of adjudicators for the State OCS candidates. District Chairmen will not score their own District representatives.
7. One state level male OCS winner and one state level female OCS winner will be chosen if there are qualified candidates.

## **6 District and State OCS Winners**

1. State OCS winners will be recognized at the All-State Concert.
2. State OCS winners will receive a trophy and a scholarship award.
3. The remaining District OCS winners will receive trophies at the All-State Festival.
4. The schools of each OCS 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.