

A. GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. All instrumental ensembles and solos may use music with the exception of piano solos which are considered a category of their own and must be memorized..
2. Pianos in good tune and up to pitch (A-440 at room temperature of approximately 70 degrees F) will be provided.
3. Participants in TAPPS music competition are responsible for providing all instruments and equipment necessary for their performance.
4. Percussion instruments which should be provided for Large ensemble events: bass drum, 26" and 28" timpani, xylophone (or bells/vibraphone). Any other requests for the State competition must be submitted to the TAPPS Music Director 4 weeks prior to the State competition. A final list of any additional items provided will be sent with State information.

B. LARGE ENSEMBLE

1. Bands and orchestras will compete in the same category.
2. Large Ensembles will consist of a minimum of 8 members. If a large ensemble has an enrollment of between 8-20 students, it may be entered as small ensemble or as a large ensemble (but not both).
3. Maximum time allowed will be 20 minutes for warm-up, 10 minutes for transition, and 30 minutes for Concert. Time begins when you enter the room and includes set-up, tuning, performance, and break-down.
4. Schools may enter one or more large ensembles as long as they are not identical personnel. For example: It is possible to enter a Concert Band and a String Orchestra and a Full Orchestra as long as there is no identical personnel.
5. No Large Ensemble may perform the same selections as another Large Ensemble from the same school.
6. Students may enter a maximum of TWO Large Ensembles with overlapping personnel. For example: It is possible for a student to enter a Full Orchestra Large Ensemble and a String Orchestra Large Ensemble.
7. Keyboards may be used in the large ensemble only to play parts specifically written for them by the original composer/ arranger, or to substitute for one instrument (bass, vibes, chimes, etc.), not for a whole section of instruments (brass, strings, flutes, etc.).
8. 1A/2A/3A Large Ensembles must perform three selections
 - a. one selection from the current UIL PML (100-, 921-, or 926-) of Grade I, II, III, IV, or V
 - b. two selections of the director's choice
 - c. Bands must choose a warm-up march for one of the director's choice selections. Orchestras need NOT play a march.
9. 4A/5A Large Ensembles must perform three selections
 - a. one selection from the UIL PML (100-, 921-, or 926-) of Grade II, III, IV, or V. (A grade I piece may be played, but the ensemble will not advance to state.)
 - b. two selections of the director's choice
 - c. Bands must choose a warm-up march for one of the director's choice selections. Orchestras need NOT play a march.

10. Large ensembles must supply for judges THREE ORIGINAL conductor scores for each song performed with measures numbered.

- C. **SIGHT-READING** Refer to the Sight-Reading Guidelines in the Instrumental Documents section of www.tappster.com *for procedure and expectations.*
1. All Large Ensembles have the option to participate in Sight-reading at the Region level.
 2. Once a Large Ensemble has elected to participate in Sight-reading at the Region level, they must participate in Sight-reading at the State level if they advance. Once a Large Ensemble has elected not to participate in Sight-reading at the Region level, they will not be allowed to participate in sight-reading at the State level.
 3. A school may enter only one sight-reading entry per voicing (Band, String Orchestra, Full Orchestra) at the Region and State levels.
 4. 1A/2A/3A Schools advance to State in Sight-reading only if they receive a I rating for their Large Ensemble Concert performance at the Region level, no matter the Sight-reading rating.
 5. 4A/5A Schools advance to State in Sight-reading only if they receive a I rating for their Large Ensemble Concert performance as well as a I or II rating in Sight-Reading at the Region level.
 6. Large Ensembles that do not sight-read are ineligible for the Sweepstakes award at the State level.
 7. Twenty minutes will be allowed for sight-reading which will immediately follow the concert performance.
 8. TAPPS Music Director provides Concert band, Full Orchestra, and String Orchestra music for both Region and State competitions.

D. SMALL ENSEMBLE

1. The Small Ensemble will consist of 3-10 members unless the PML or AGEHR requires more players.
 - a. Ensembles with 3-5 members must not have a director
 - b. Ensembles with 6 or more members may a director
2. Ten minutes maximum will be allowed. Time begins when you enter the room and includes set-up, tuning, performance, and break-down,
3. This Ensemble must perform one selection from the current UIL PML. Duet Music may not be used.
4. 1A/2A/3A Small Ensembles must perform Class 1, 2, or 3 to advance to State.
5. 4A/5A Small Ensembles must perform Class 1 or 2 to advance to State. A Class 3 selection may be performed at Region but will not advance to State.
6. You may substitute instruments (within reasonable limits). Parts may be transposed and re-written for other similar instruments but not simplified. The composer's intent must be respected.
7. 1A/2A/3A schools may include Handbell choirs in the small ensemble category. Handbell choirs must perform one selection which is rated as a Level 2 or above as set forth in the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers Grading System in order to advance to State.
8. 4A/5A schools may include Handbell choirs in this category. Handbell choirs must perform one selection which is rated as a Level 3 or above as set forth in the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers Grading System in order to advance to State.
9. **Small Ensembles must provide one original score with measures numbers for the judge.**

E. SOLO

1. Ten minutes maximum will be allowed for set up, tuning and performance.
2. Each soloist will perform one selection taken from the current UIL PML.
3. 1A/2A/3A Solo music must be Class 1 or Class 2 to advance to State. A Class 3 solo may be performed at Region but will not advance to State.
4. 4A/5A Solo music must be Class 1 to advance to State. A Class 2 or Class 3 solo may be performed at Region but will not advance to State.
5. Live accompaniment is preferred. Recorded accompaniment may be used, but the student must supply own playback equipment. The accompaniment track is the only acceptable track to be used. If a score has accompaniment, accompaniment must be provided.
- 6. Solos must provide one original score with measures numbered for the judge.**

F. **JAZZ ENSEMBLE**

1. The Jazz Ensemble will consist of a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 20 members.
 - a. Ensembles with 5-7 members must not have a director.
 - b. Ensembles with 8-20 members may have a director.
2. Maximum time allowed will be 20 minutes for warm-up, 10 minutes for transition, and 20 minutes for Concert. Time begins when you enter the room and includes set-up, tuning, performance, and break-down.
3. This ensemble will perform two selections scored for jazz band of the director's choice.
4. **Three original scores of each piece with measures numbered must be provided at State and 1 or 3 original scores must be provided at Region (confirm this with your Region Coordinator) for the judges.** Individual schools will accept the responsibility for the legality of their chosen program arrangements.

G. MEDIUM ENSEMBLE

1. The Medium ensemble will consist of a minimum of 11 and a maximum of 24 members.
2. Medium ensembles may be directed.
3. Maximum time allowed will be 20 minutes for warm-up, 10 minutes for transition, and 20 minutes for Concert. Time begins when you enter the room and includes set-up, tuning, performance, and break-down.
4. This ensemble will perform two selections of the director's choice.
5. **Three original scores of each piece with measures numbered must be provided at State and 1 or 3 original scores must be provided at Region (confirm this with your Region Coordinator) for the judges.** Individual schools will accept the responsibility for the legality of their chosen program arrangements.