

ALL-STATE BAND HANDBOOK 2024-25

South Dakota High School Activities Association

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ALL-STATE BAND REGULATIONS

Review Information in the General Music Section for regulations pertaining to all music events.

1. All-State Band is a program of the South Dakota High School Activities Association.
2. All financing of the program is handled by the SDHSAA. All receipts go into the treasury of the SDHSAA and all disbursements in payment of bills for the program are to be made from the SDHSAA treasury.
3. **ALL-STATE DATES & SITES:** Dates and sites for the event shall be established by the SDHSAA.
4. **ATTENDANCE POLICY FOR ALL-STATE BAND: Attendance is required at all rehearsals.** Students not in their seat at the beginning of rehearsal, which starts at tuning of the Band, will need to meet the following:
 - A. Band members tardy to a rehearsal session along with their director must report to the All-State Band Chairperson or SDHSAA Fine Arts Administrator before entering the rehearsal. The student(s) and director will give a verbal explanation of the reason for the tardiness. If the All-State Band Chairperson or SDHSAA Fine Arts Administrator accepts the explanation, the student(s) will be admitted to the Band immediately.
 - B. If the explanation is denied, the student(s) and director will appear before the Band Committee prior to being admitted to the rehearsal. The SDHSAA will send a letter to school's administration, and local school discipline policy will be followed.
 - C. Any student(s) missing a rehearsal, and their director, will be required to meet with the Band Committee during the next rehearsal session to explain their absence. If the explanation is accepted by the Band Committee, the student(s) will be readmitted to the Band immediately.
 - D. If the absence is not excused by the Band Committee, a letter will be sent by the SDHSAA to the administration of the Band member's school indicating the absence occurred and that the explanation was unacceptable. Local school discipline policy will be followed.
 - E. Band students may not leave the rehearsal space during the rehearsal times. If the musical parts are not needed during a selection during rehearsal it is recommended that the student(s) have schoolwork or reading material available. Electronic devices are not allowed, even if you are not rehearsing.
 - F. **The following are examples and not limited unacceptable circumstances as justification for absence from a rehearsal session: athletic or other practice, athletic or other contests, or standardized testing dates.**
5. **STUDENT ELIGIBILITY:** Only students in grades 9 through 12 in high schools which are members of the SDHSAA are eligible to audition. Students must meet the requirements as outlined in the parallel program rule. All students auditioning for or participating in the All-State Band must be certified as eligible by his/her principal according to the standards listed in the SDHSAA By-Laws.
6. **AUDITIONING ON MORE THAN ONE INSTRUMENT:** Any student auditioning on multiple instruments must declare their priority as to which instrument they choose to play if their auditions should result in their being selected for more than one instrument. The declaration of priority must be made at the time the audition registration is submitted by the student's school. The instrument entered first on the registration form will be considered the student's first choice.
7. **AUDITION ENTRY FORMS:** The Audition Entry Form **must be submitted electronically** on the SDHSAA website.
 - a. Directors should check the SDHSAA website for information on completing the web forms.
 - b. All requested information on the form must be completed before the form can be sent. Also, **make sure that names are spelled correctly.** The spelling sent in on the form will be the spelling used in the All-State program.
 - c. **The electronically submitted Audition Entry Form must be submitted no later than December 20, 2025.**
8. **ALL-STATE BAND INSTRUMENTATION**
 - a. The All-State Band will be comprised of two separate and independent 88-member bands.
 - b. The following shall be the instrumentation for each of the All-State Bands:

4 Alto Saxophone	2 Oboe
2 Baritone Saxophone	7 Percussion
4 Bass Clarinet	1 Piano (to be split between both bands)
1 Bass Trombone	2 String Bass
2 Bassoon	2 Tenor Saxophone
20 Clarinet	6 Tenor Trombone (no valve)
4 Euphonium	8 Trumpet/Cornet
9 Flute	6 Tuba
8 Horn	
 - c. Instrumentation of the All-State Band may vary from year to year based on cut-off score ties.
 - d. **Alternate Instrumentation.** In the event of significant Alto Clarinet, Eb Clarinet, Piccolo, English Horn and the Soprano Saxophone parts in an All-State Band will be assigned. Directors who have students that are proficient in the above listed instruments should signify it on the registration form.
 - e. If the All-State Music requires a harp, the All-State Band committee will use the All-State Orchestra results of the corresponding year to select a harpist for both bands.

- f. Instruments other than those named in the above instrumentation shall not be included as eligible for tryout for All-State Band.
- g. **Quality of Audition can Change Instrumentation of Band.** If the quality of playing does not reach the judges' expectations, instrumentations may be changed to fit their recommendations.
- h. **Selection Committee Authority to Adjust Band Instrumentation.** The selection committee has final authority to make adjustments in the instrumentation of the band relative to the number of instruments in each section if it sees fit to do so.
9. **ALL-STATE REGISTRATION CLERICAL ERRORS.** Clerical errors in All-State Band registration (omissions or wrong instrument indicated on the registration form) can be corrected after the Registration Due Date by paying a \$10.00 per student penalty.
10. **AUDITIONS:**
- a. A system of auditioning shall be used to determine the members of the All-State Band.
 - b. **AUDITION CENTER ASSIGNMENT:**
 - 1) **SCHOOLS MUST AUDITION AT ASSIGNED SITE:** A school must audition at the center to which it is assigned. (A listing of Audition Center assignments can be found following these "All-State Band Regulations".)
 - 2) **TRANSFER OF LARGE NUMBERS TO ANOTHER SITE:** A school cannot change its students in large numbers to another audition center unless permission to do so is granted in advance. *Such requests to change audition centers must be made by December 15.*
 - 3) **STUDENTS AUDITIONING WITH EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES:** Each year there are a few students who must change audition centers due to extenuating circumstances such as a serious schedule conflict. Directors with students having extenuating circumstances must request a change in audition date and site for each such student when submitting the "Audition Entry Form". Unless a request for a change of audition center is submitted with the "Audition Entry Form", a student with a non-emergency conflict on the date of auditions will not be allowed to transfer to an alternative audition center.
 - 4) **AUDITIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH EMERGENCY CIRCUMSTANCES:** Each year, there are a few students who must change audition centers due to a non-scheduled emergency such as an illness. In such cases, the director of a student with a non-scheduled emergency must make arrangements with the SDHSAA.
 - 5) **AUDITIONS ARE CLOSED:** All auditions are closed. Only the adjudicator and the contestant are to be allowed in the room. The student's band director, parents and friends are not allowed in the audition room during the audition. No recording devices are permitted in the audition rooms.
 - 6) Live auditions will be held on the Wednesday-Monday of NFHS Calendar week 28. On Tuesday of NFHS Calendar week 28, after consulting with the National Weather Service offices of Sioux Falls, Rapid City and Aberdeen, the weather forecast will be reviewed for confident large weather events, and the decision will be made by the SDHSAA Fine Arts Executive, the band representatives of the Music Advisory Committee and the All-State Band audition judges to either have live auditions as listed above or to move to the weather contingency plan.

** In the event that live auditions are initiated but cannot be completed due to unforeseen circumstances, the above-mentioned committee will determine whether to reschedule the auditions for makeup dates or to use video recordings to complete the process.

- A possible option for the committee could be rescheduled in person auditions on Saturday of NFHS Calendar week 29. In the event the makeup date cannot transpire due to unforeseen circumstances, auditions will become recorded video auditions and will be due on the Friday of NFHS Calendar week 31. The sightreading portion of the audition will be exempted for everyone.

Weather Contingency Plan: If there is confidence that live in person auditions could be impacted, this weather contingency plan will be put in place and auditions will move to a videoed format as outlined in the video recorded audition section.

If the decision is made to move to video recorded auditions on Tuesday of NFHS Calendar week, directors, students, or private instructors will video record student auditions. All auditions will be due on the Friday of NFHS Calendar week 30. Directors are responsible for verifying that all audition requirements are contained in each audition before submitting them.

Please review the Audition Recording Tips section found at the end of this handbook in advance to be adequately prepared for video recorded auditions. It is recommended that adequate recording equipment be purchased in advance.

Required Audition Elements

- **Prepared Etude:** We will use the previously established rotation of etudes that is currently used.
- **Quickly Prepared Etude:** The Quickly Prepared Etude (the judge's sightreading) will be available on the SDHSAA website and sent as a pdf to all schools on Tuesday of NFHS Calendar week 28 (January 14, 2025).
- **Scales/Rudiments:** One major scale, one minor scale, a chromatic scale, and rudiments for percussion will be required. Specific scales/rudiments for each instrument will be sent to directors on Tuesday, NFHS Calendar week 28 (January 14, 2025).
- **Solo:** Students will perform a 90-120 second solo of their choice with each solo excerpt being at least 30 seconds in length. They may not use a solo that has been performed in any previous high school All-State Band audition. Students should select sections of the solo that demonstrate technical skill, musicality, expression, and varying articulations. It is recommended that students choose contrasting sections from their solo.

Upload Requirements

- *PDF of Solo:* All measures must be numbered. Sections being performed in the audition must be marked.
- *Mp4 Video:* The video must be recorded in one continuous take. No video or audio editing is permitted. The video must be submitted in an mp4 format.

c. PLAYING PORTION OF AUDITION:

WIND INSTRUMENT AND STRING BASS AUDITIONS: The playing portion for all wind auditions will be conducted using the following components: 1) the Major Scales, 2) the minor Scales, 3) the Chromatic Scales, 4) the Solo, 5) the 8-10 measure Sight Reading (or Quickly Prepared Etude for recorded auditions) 6) the 8-10 measure prepared etude to be released following the All-State Orchestra Auditions.

PERCUSSION AUDITIONS: Students will perform the playing portion of their audition using the following components: 1) the Major Scales, 2) the minor Scales, 3) the Chromatic Scales, 4) the Solo, 5) the Sight Reading (or Quickly Prepared Etude for recorded auditions) , 6) the 8-10 measure prepared etude.

PIANO AUDITIONS: 1) Major Scales, 2) Minor Scales, 3) Solo, 4) Prepared Etude, 5) Sight Reading (or Quickly Prepared Etude for recorded auditions)

1) **SCALES:** Students will be asked to play from a list of All-State Audition Scales which can be downloaded from the SDHSAA website. The list of Audition Scales will include Major, Melodic minor and Chromatic scales. Each student is expected to bring his/her own copy of scales to the audition. Every year the judges will select two major scales of a similar level of difficulty. Each student will play one of the scales as chosen randomly by the judge. Every year the judges will select two minor scales of a similar level of difficulty. Each student will play one of the scales as chosen randomly by the judge. Every year the judges will select one Chromatic scale which the student will play.

NOTE: The Chromatic scales are to be memorized. (Chromatic fingerings are to be used where applicable.) The other scales may be read.

2) **SOLOS:** In the audition tryouts each student is expected to be ready to play a solo of his/her choice. It need not be memorized and will be unaccompanied. A one-point penalty will be assessed to each student who fails to supply the judge with an original copy of the solo to be performed. (EXCEPTION: A letter from a music publisher indicating the music is not available because it is out of print.) The same penalty (one point) will be assessed to each student who fails to supply any copy of the solo to the judge.

NOTE: The judges have agreed that the grade of solo played will have a bearing on their decision.

3) **SIGHT-READING:** Each student should prepare, to the best of their ability, for the sight-reading, which is part of the audition. Sight reading material will be furnished at each audition site for the instrument the student is auditioning on.

4) **PREPARED ETUDE:** Each auditioning student will perform an eight – ten measure etude. The etudes will be posted after the All-State Orchestra auditions have concluded in October.

5) **AUDITION TIME LIMITS:** Auditions will be for a time not to exceed seven minutes for each student who auditions on any instrument, except for those who audition on percussion. (SEE: "Percussion Auditions" below).

6) **PERCUSSION AUDITIONS:**

a) Percussionists will be required to play solos and sight-read on two of the three main areas of percussion performance: snare drum, timpani, and mallets. The scores from the two areas will be combined and will be used for All-State Band consideration.

b) Students may use an electronic device as a pitch source for tuning timpani during auditions. Once the pitch has been played, the device must stop playing the pitch before the student begins tuning the timpani.

c) It is recommended that mallet players furnish their own instruments for auditions since every audition center may not have all the mallet percussion instruments.

- d) Snare drummers will be asked to play rudiments taken from the PAS 40. Please see the percussion rudiments link on the All-State Band page at www.sdhsaa.com. Each snare drum student will play two of the rudiments as chosen randomly by the judge.
- e) Time for percussion auditions is not to exceed fifteen minutes.
- f) Students will be rated on their solo and sight-reading performances but will not be told at the audition whether or not they have made the band.
11. **SELECTION:** After the results of all the auditions have been tabulated, the personnel of the All-State Band will be selected on the basis of audition scores. While it is hoped that many schools and all sections of the state will be represented in the band, it must be emphasized that the primary objective is to select the best players possible.
- a. **ASSIGNMENT INTO SECTIONS:** The members of the Lewis and Clark bands will be assigned using the following alternating rotation.
- 8 Alto Saxophone – LCCLLCCL
 - 4 Baritone Saxophone – LC
 - 8 Bass Clarinet – LCCLLCCL
 - 2 Bass Trombone – LC
 - 4 Bassoon – CLLC
 - 40 Clarinet – CLLCCLLCCLLCCLLCCLLCCLLCCLLCCLLCCLLC
 - 8 Euphonium – LCCLLCCL
 - 18 Flute – LCCLLCCLLCCLLCCLLC
 - 16 Horn – LCCLLCCLLCCLLCCL
 - 4 Oboe – LCCL
 - 14 Percussion – CLLCCLLCCLLCCL
 - 1 Piano – Shared between both bands
 - 4 String Bass – LCCL
 - 4 Tenor Saxophone – CLLC
 - 12 Trombone – CLLCCLLCCLLC
 - 16 Trumpet – CLLCCLLCCLLCCLLC
 - 12 Tuba – CLLCCLLCCLLC
- b. The assignment into bands will alternate from year to year. (i.e. one year, the Clark Band will start; the next year, the Lewis Band will start the alternating rotation.)
12. **RATING SCALE:** A ten-point scale will be used on the audition form. The form will contain ten items including:
 SCALE TECHNIQUE, SOLO (Technique, Interpretation and Articulation)
 GENERAL CAPTIONS (Tone Quality, Intonation and Musicality)
 SIGHT READING (Note Accuracy, Rhythmic Accuracy and Articulation Accuracy)
13. **CHAIR PLACEMENT:** In the event of a tie in the “total audition score” of the All-State audition, chair placement will be determined by the following, to be taken in the order listed:
1. Solo Score
 2. Scales
 3. Number of years of participation in All-State Band
 4. Class rank (year/grade in school)
 5. Rank within the section the previous year
14. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF ALL-STATE BAND PERSONNEL:** Audition results will be announced no later than the Friday following the final audition weekend.
15. **ALL-STATE CONCERT DRESS:** For the All-State Concert, it is recommended that students use black concert dress codes. Modesty is of the utmost importance for this performance. ***Hats are not to be worn during rehearsals or the performance. The only exception to this policy is headwear worn for religious reasons.**
16. **ALL-STATE BAND AWARDS:** Each participant will receive a medal. The medal type will be based on the number of years the participant has performed in the All-State Band.
- a. Antique gold medals will be presented to first year members.
 - b. Bronze medals will be presented to second year members.
 - c. Silver medals will be presented to third year members.
 - d. Gold medals and a 4-year recognition plaque will be presented to four-year members in the band.
17. **ALL-STATE CONCERT TICKET POLICY:**
- a. **Complimentary Concert Passes.** Schools with students in All-State Band will receive complimentary concert passes based upon the SDHSAA Pass Policy (**SEE:** “All-State Band Pass Policy”).
 - b. **Concert General Admission Tickets.** General Admission tickets only will be sold for the Concert. No advance tickets will be sold prior to the Concerts. The ticket prices are set as follows:
Adult: \$15.00*
Student: \$10.00*
 *Plus any service charges imposed by the All-State venue.

ALL-STATE BAND AUDITION CONTACT INFORMATION

SDHSAA
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All-State Band Chairperson
James Stueckrath
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Email: james.stueckrath@k12.sd.us

NOTE: All students participating in All-State Band or any other SDHSAA sponsored music event shall be accompanied by qualified personnel or will be prohibited from participating.

ALIGNMENT FOR ALL-STATE BAND AUDITION CENTERS: 2024-2025

All high schools have been assigned to a specific audition center. A school must audition at its assigned center. Go to the All-State Band page on the SDHSAA website to view assigned audition centers.

ROTATION FOR FUTURE ALL-STATE BAND DATES AND SITES

(Standard Calendar Week 38 unless moved to Week 39 due to Good Friday)

FUTURE DATES & SITES:

2024-25	Watertown	March 27-29, 2025
2025-26	Rapid City	March 26-26, 2026
2026-27	SF Jefferson	April 1-3, 2027

SDHSAA ALL-STATE BAND TICKET/PASS POLICY

The only tickets/passes for admittance into All-State Band shall be those issued by the SDHSAA. The tickets/passes issued will be based upon the following formula*

Directors/Chaperones:

<u>Students in Band</u>	<u>Tickets/Passes Issued</u>
1 to 4 students -	2 tickets/passes
5 to 8 students -	3 tickets/passes
9 to 16 students -	4 tickets/passes
17 or more students-	5 tickets/passes

Award Recipients: 1 or 2 tickets/passes per recipient (as needed)
(i.e. "Hall of Fame")

Host School: Limited number as determined by Local Chairperson
Local Workers & School Personnel (up to 10 tickets/passes)

*NOTE: tickets/passes are only issued to instrumental music directors who have students participating in the band.

2025 ALL-STATE BAND AT A GLANCE
March 27 - March 29, 2025 – Watertown High School
Watertown, South Dakota
GUEST CONDUCTORS
 Dr. Christopher Morehouse – Lewis Band
 Dr. Dennis Llinas – Clark Band

AUDITION REGISTRATION DEADLINE: December 15
AUDITION ENTRY FORM: Available online in the **Bound** area on the SDHSAA website:
www.SDHSAA.com

Forms not submitted online on or before the deadline will be assessed a \$50 late penalty.

THREE YEAR ALL-STATE BAND AUDITION SCHEDULE:
 (Friday & Saturday in Standard Calendar Weeks 28, 29 & 30)

Audition Schedule:

2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
January 15 – Huron	January 14 – Huron	TBD
January 16-18 – Sioux Falls	January 15-17 – Sioux Falls	TBD
January 20 – Rapid City	January 19 – Rapid City	TBD

Schools auditioning in Huron:

Aberdeen Central	Groton	Lyman	Stanley County
Aberdeen Roncalli	Hamlin	Milbank	Sully Buttes
Aberdeen Christian	Hanson	Miller	Summit
Andes Central	Henry	Mitchell	Sunshine Bible Academy
Britton-Hecla	Herried	Mitchell Christian	Tiospa Zina Wambdi
Castlewood	Highmore-Harrold	Mobridge-Pollock	Warner
Chamberlain	Hitchcock-Tulare	Mount Vernon	Waubay
Clark	Hoven	Northwestern	Webster
Crow Creek	Huron	Oldham-Ramona	Wessington Springs

De Smet	Ipswich	Pierre	White Lake
Doland	Iroquois	Plankinton	White River
Edmunds Central	James Valley Christian	Redfield	Willow Lake
Eureka	Kimball	Rosholt	Wilmot
Faulkton	Lake Preston	Sanborn Central	Woonsocket
Florence	Langford	School for the Blind	Wolsey-Wessington
Frederick	Leola	Selby	Bowdle
Gettysburg	Lower Brule	Sisseton	

Schools auditioning in Rapid City:

Belle Fouche	Harding County	New Underwood	Takini
Bennett County	Hill City	Newell	Timber Lake
Bison	Hot Springs	Oelrichs	Tiospaye Topa
Black Hills Christian Academy	Jones County	Phillip	Todd County
Cheyenne-Eagle Butte	Kadoka	Pine Ridge	Wakpala
Crazy Horse	Lakota Tech	Rapid City Central	Wall
Custer	Lead-Deadwood	Rapid City Christian	
Douglas	Lemmon	Rapid City Stevens	
Dupree	Little Wound	Spearfish	
Edgemont	Mahpiya	St. Francis Indian	
Elk Mountain	McIntosh	St. Thomas More	
Faith	McLaughlin	Sturgis-Brown	

Schools auditioning in Sioux Falls:

Alcester-Hudson	Dakota Christian	Harrisburg	Sioux Falls Lincoln
Arlington	Dakota Valley	Howard	Sioux Falls Lutheran
Armour	Dell Rapids	Irene-Wakonda	Sioux Falls Roosevelt
Avon	Dell Rapids St. Mary	Lennox	Sioux Falls Washington
Baltic	Deubrook	Madison	Sioux Valley
Beresford	Deuel	Marion	Tea

BonHomme	Elk Point-Jefferson	Marty	Tripp-Delmont
Brandon Valley	Elkton-Lake Benton	McCook Central	Tri-Valley
Bridgewater-Emery	Estelline	McCrossan	Vermillion
Brookings	Ethan	Menno	Viborg-Hurley
Burke	Flandreau	Montrose	Wagner
Canistota	Flandreau Indian	O'Gorman	Watertown
Canton	Freeman	Parker	Waverly-South Shore
Centerville	Freeman Academy	Parkston	West Central
Chester	Garretson	Platte-Geddes	Winner
Colman-Egan	Gayville-Volin	Scotland	Yankton
Colome	Great Plains Lutheran	Sioux Falls Christian	
Corsica-Stickney	Gregory	Sioux Falls Jefferson	

AUDITION RECORDING TIPS

Do's and Don'ts for Making a Fantastic Audition Video!

These are some excellent tips for making an outstanding audition video. Make sure you always read the guidelines for each submission.

Equipment Tips

- You can use your phone, tablet, computer, or a hand held camera.
- Your phone or tablet should be set **HORIZONTALLY**, not vertically – put it in Airplane mode or Do Not Disturb mode to avoid interruptions – and tap the screen to focus.
- Use a tripod or stand. This cannot be a “selfie” even with a stick. Or, have someone with a steady hand take your video. You can also place your computer on a table or music stand to film your audition.
- Be sure the device is at the right distance from you to frame the shot. Do not use the zoom function as this makes the image grainy or fuzzy. See below for framing information.
- External mics are allowed. Here are a few examples of quality microphones for reasonable prices:
 - Zoom H1essential Stereo Handy Recorder (2024 Model, Essential Series) with 32-Bit Float, Accessibility, X/Y Microphones, USB Microphone, Portable, for Musicians, Podcasters, Filmmakers... <https://a.co/d/erREUvZ>
 - Logitech for Creators Blue Yeti USB Microphone for Gaming, Streaming, Podcasting, Twitch, YouTube, Discord, Recording for PC and Mac, 4 Polar Patterns, Studio Quality Sound, Plug & Play-Blackout... <https://a.co/d/iSGiuex>
 - Razer Seiren V2 X USB Condenser Microphone for Streaming and Gaming on PC: Supercardioid Pickup Pattern - Integrated Digital Limiter - Mic Monitoring and Gain Control - Built-in Shock Absorber... <https://a.co/d/amoPJ6e>
 - Wireless Lavalier Microphone for Type-C Phone, Plug-Play Wireless Mic with 2 Microphone for USB-C Android Phone Video Recording, Interview, Vlog, Auto Sync and Noise Reduction... <https://a.co/d/5Nsg5mP>
 - AUDIOPRO USB Microphone, Computer Condenser Gaming Mic for PC/Laptop/PS4/5, Headphone Output, Volume Control, USB Type C Plug and Play, LED Mute Button, for Streaming, Podcast, Studio Recording... <https://a.co/d/4RdXQdU>

Background, keep it simple!

- Classroom, band room, living room are all good choices. Think about acoustics when choosing a place to record.
- Stay away from a lot of clutter; use a simple background. Try to stay away from posters, fireplaces, prom pictures, trophies, food, laundry, etc. in the background. We want to focus on you; not the background. Blank walls or closed curtains work best.
- Make sure other people are not in the background of your video.

Lighting

- Be sure you are well lit and that we can see you. Try to minimize shadows. Shadows blocking your hands and face are not good.
- Be aware of the light you are filming in. Fluorescent light will give you a greenish or grey hue. Severe or high contrast lighting can cast hard shadows on you and overhead light can be unflattering. If you're in a room with overhead light, try shooting closer to an open window to add some natural light. Placing a lamp or two nearby is another way to add "fill" or soften light to reduce stark shadows and keep the attention on you.

Wardrobe

- Just like with getting a good headshot, you want to make wardrobe decisions that keep the attention on you in a positive way.
- Select a simple wardrobe avoiding logos, busy patterns and stripes.
- Don't wear a white shirt against a white background or a black shirt against a black background. Choose a contrasting color to achieve the best look.
- Don't wear anything that can distract from you. Again, the focus should be on your performance; not your clothes or body parts.
- Do not wear clothes with your school name or mascot showing. Avoid jeans and t-shirts. Rather, professional dressy attire will make a good first impression.
- Make sure your hair is out of your face.

Recording Tips

- Be sure the room is quiet. No background noise (television noise, other people practicing, dancing, cooking, etc.)
- Have someone else start and stop the video recording and your music if performing to backing tracks.
- Directional instruments should not point directly to the microphone. (ex. trumpets/trombones)
- Be sure we can see your hands on the instrument and your torso. Be in the center of the frame, but be sure the music stand does not block your face and instrument.
- Do not edit or manipulate your recording in any way. If a judge feels you have augmented sound, they may disqualify you.

Before you film the real deal!

- Film a rehearsal to make sure your lighting, sound, wardrobe and framing are good! Make any adjustments you need.
- Be sure to follow the protocol guidelines set forth by the SDHSAA. **All auditions must be done in 1 continuous recording with no stopping of the recording between audition elements. No video/audio editing is permitted!** The student must state their first and last name on camera before playing any portion of the audition. Be sure to adhere to the recording order requirements. Percussionists will record 2 video files; one for each instrument they are auditioning on. All other students will record 1 video audition. Please make sure that the camera is set in a position where fingerings/stickings can be seen by our judges.

- If a judge suspects any splicing/tampering of the video file, they will report it to the SDHSAA to determine if that audition will be disqualified.

After Filming and Before you Submit

- Before submitting, make sure there is video AND audio.
- Make sure it's not upside down or sideways. Small things like this can cause frustration for judges.
- Make sure the balance is correct. If you are too close to the microphone, the sound may become distorted.
- Make sure it's not blurry or fuzzy.
- Watch and listen all the way through to make sure there are no skips, pauses, or glitches in your audition.
Make sure you are labeling the recording according to the rules of the SDHSAA