

All-State Jazz Band Audition Information



- All-State Jazz Band auditions will be held Friday evening, **February 6, at Conway High School, 2300 Prince Street, Conway, AR 72034**. Please try to arrive no earlier than 3:45 p.m. due to school traffic.
- All audition fees, **\$11.00**, must be paid before 4:00 p.m. **February 6**.
- The Judges' meeting will begin at 4:00 p.m. Signs will direct you to the room.
- Music will be posted at 4:30 p.m. and auditions will begin at 5:00 p.m.
- Students may pick up their cards at their audition room from 4:00-4:45 p.m.
Make sure the students have picked up their card by 4:45 p.m.
- Alternates – check in/register at the ASBOA office 5:00-5:15 p.m.
- Alternates Draw – will be at 6:00 p.m. in the same room as the Judges' meeting.
Must have checked in between 5:00-5:15 p.m.

Please Report Cancellations ASAP to Dewayne Dove at the ASBOA Office – ddove@atu.edu

Audition Procedures

Prepared music will be chosen from the 2025-26 ARJE All-State Jazz Ensemble Audition Etudes. Check www.asboa.org for errata. Three excerpts from the prepared music will be selected. Students may use their own prepared music for their audition. Jazz drum set players will use the CD background during the jazz tryout process.

Students will be required to play from memory the following:

1 – Wind, string, and piano players will be required to play 3 key centers (1 sharp key center, 1 flat key center and a 3rd key center of the judging committee's choice: (ABA 2021)

Key centers-ii, V, I – (to be selected from all 12 keys included in jazz audition materials). Key centers (ii, V, I) will be played in swing pattern to the 9th degree in the order of Dorian, Mixolydian, and Major with indicated articulation at a tempo of quarter note = 72: 2/4 - sixteenth notes, swing. Piano scales are to be played hands together. (ABA 2013) Any student not playing the required tempo and/or rhythmic pattern and/or articulation should receive credit, but shall not be scored above the center line of the scale score sheet. ABA 2007)

2 – Drummers will play 8 measures of 3 specific beat patterns selected from the reorganized sets of drum beat patterns compiled by ARJE (available through ARJE at arkansasjazzeducators.com). Judges will select from the beats for Sets I, II, and III as indicated for the region and state level. (ABA 2022/All-State 2023).

No warm-up will be allowed in the tryout room. A student may play only the first note of a scale, exercise or sight-reading as a sustained tone. No repeated rhythmic variations of that note will be allowed. Failure to abide by this rule will result in the deduction of five points on the score sheet for that scale/exercise of the tryout. A warm-up area will be provided for the students. **Do Not Warm-Up in the Halls.**

Students may audition on one instrument only.

Students are responsible for being at the tryout room at their appointed time. A student who misses his/her playing time will have 5% per sheet deducted from their score and be allowed to audition at the next available time.

All students will sight-read. In addition, all students will also improvise on the 'State Improv Etude' from the ARJE packet. Students will not be allowed to read a prepared improvisation solo. All students will perform all improvisation with the accompaniment track.

If a student encounters mechanical problems that interfere with the audition, the chair of the audition committee in their room must verify the problem at that time and instruct the student in an appropriate procedure. Problems that are revealed after the audition will not be recognized.

A drum set and a piano will be provided. **Guitarists and bassists will use their own amplifier in the audition room. A "community amp" will not be provided for the tryout.** Any set-up of personal equipment should be done **before** auditions begin.

When possible, all audition procedures will follow the procedures for All-State Concert Band auditions. Results will not be final until 5:00 p.m. on the Monday following auditions. If you have any questions about any aspect of the Jazz Bands, please contact the All-State Jazz Band Committee member for your region or **Trent Warner**, State Chair, prior to the All-State Jazz Band Clinic.

Trent Warner – Chairman, All-State Jazz – Jonesboro
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