

2025-2026 All State Modern Band Audition Requirements (rev 8.21.25)

There are several parts of this audition. Please read the info below carefully.

- 1) Song performance.
- 2) Improvisation (melodic instruments and vocalists)
- 3) Drummers and Vocalists Only
- 4) Coaching.

For their song performance, all instrumentalists and vocalists will perform

[Superstition](#) (by Stevie Wonder)

The most successful auditions will best match the stylistic intent of Stevie's original recording.

Students may learn the song using a variety of resources (by ear, youtube, provided notation, etc) but should be prepared to play along with a backing track minus their part (e.g. drummers will perform to a backing track that includes all of the parts other than the drums).

PART 1 // SONG PERFORMANCE

SUPERSTITION // AUDITION DETAILS

- **Rhythm Section perform:** 00:00 - 02:00. (On the traditionally notated charts: measure 8 - 51)
- **Horns:** 00:50 (first horn entrance) - 01:28 (end of first verse)
- **Vocalists:** First Verse and Chorus (00:30 - 01:27). Rhythm Section: 00:00 - 01:27
 - Vocalists can perform on one of the following keys: Eb (original); F (higher key); C (lower key). *Transposed Backing Tracks (coming soon).*
- **Practice Resources**
 - [Isolated Stems](#) *DAW/Soundtrap Project coming soon . . .*
 - [Charts, Tabs, Chords and Lyrics](#)
 - Youtube Tutorials/Practice Resources:
 - [bass](#) [keys/clavinet](#) [simplified guitar](#) (as primary clavinet part w/ funky comping) [guitar](#) (as the 2nd clavinet part) [drums](#))

PART 2 // IMPROVISATION

- **All Instrumentalists** other than drummers, will audition on a 12 bar blues in one of the following keys: Bb, Eb, G, E, or D. The adjudicators will choose the key of your solo.

- **Vocalists:** 8 Bars Riff over the main groove (use the soundtrap session w/ muted vocals to practice this)

PART 3 // DRUMMERS AND VOCALISTS ONLY

DRUMMERS ONLY

Students will be asked to perform a 16-measure demonstration of three (3) styles of grooves with fills every 4 measures. Options include: rock, hip hop, funk, Motown/soul, latin. The student will choose two of these styles and the adjudicator will choose one.

VOCALISTS ONLY: HARMONIES

In your audition, you will be taught a harmony to an accompanying vocal riff for Superstition and then asked to perform the harmonized riff to a backing track.

PART 4 // COACHING

Playing in a popular music ensemble requires strong collaboration and communication skills.

Throughout the rehearsal process, the music is a work in progress where we will shape and adapt our song arrangements. To that end, we will use the audition as an opportunity to coach and work with the students to gauge the above soft skills.