



All nominated students and their caregivers should read the following information about All State ensembles BEFORE registering for an audition.

If a student is accepted to an All State ensemble, the students and caregivers must be aware of the following:

What and how long is the All State experience?

All State is a three (3) day and two (2) night experience, consisting of rehearsals and culminating in a concert. All students are required to be present for the entire event including all rehearsals, meals, activities, downtime, and travel. All students will stay in hotels two (2) students per room, with all meals provided, chaperoned by MMEA members. Caregivers are not allowed to be on-site until the ensemble's final concert. **Students may not arrive late or come and go during the event.**

When and where do the All State experiences happen?

February 20-22, 2026, Baltimore, MD

As part of the MMEA Annual Conference

Senior Band

Senior Orchestra

Senior Mixed Chorus

Senior Treble Chorus

March 5-7, 2026, Hanover/Baltimore, MD

Senior Jazz Band

March 6-8, 2026, Baltimore, MD

Junior Band

Junior Orchestra (strings only)

Junior Mixed Chorus

March 13-15, 2026, Hagerstown, MD

Senior Commercial Band

Specific hotel and check-in information will be provided to caregivers of accepted/committed students.

When are rosters announced and when do students need to commit?

All State ensemble rosters will be posted in early December. There will be a month-long window for caregivers to confirm student acceptance/participation and pay the commitment fee. **The deadline to commit is January 7, 2026.**

How much will the All State experience cost?

The cost of the All State weekend for accepted students who participate is:

Public School Students - \$525

Private School Students - \$670

Fees must be paid at the time of commitment (December/Early January), unless arrangements are made with the school/school booster.

What does the All State fee pay for?

The All State experience is all inclusive. The fee pays for the student's lodging, food, transportation during the weekend, sheet music, logistics, and clerical costs.

Student Commitment Fee - \$525 per student*

This is the cost for the student to participate in the three (3) day experience. This fee is based on rates MMEA negotiates for lodging and may fluctuate. All State commitment fees are announced prior to the nomination/audition process, once hotel costs are confirmed. *Note* - Some schools or districts may offer to cover part or all of this fee.

Student Commitment Fee Breakdown

\$250 - Hotel Room (two [2] students to a room)

\$250 - Meals/Catering (6+ meals/snacks)

\$25 - Associated Administrative Fees

***Private School Students (Additional Fee) - \$145 per student**

Why are the All State commitment fees for private school students higher?

MMEA has a 40+ year agreement with the Public School Superintendents Association of Maryland (PSSAM) to have a portion of the administrative and chaperone costs paid by the county districts for their participating All State students. These fees are not covered by county districts for private school students, and are therefore added onto their commitment fee. *Note* - Some schools may offer to cover part or all of this fee.

Will there be financial aid available?

MMEA is unable to offer financial aid. We encourage students and their families to speak with their educators to see if their school communities can support this experience.

Can a student miss any part of the All State experience or commute to rehearsals from home?

No. Students accepted into All State must participate in 100% of the experience during the designated weekend. This includes all rehearsals, meals, activities, downtime, and travel.

Why can't I arrange for my child's hotel and food, or bring them to All State each day?

All State is an inclusive experience. Students must participate in the entire event both to maintain the integrity of the ensembles as well as to foster and encourage the statewide student musician community. All students are required to be present for the entire event including all rehearsals, meals, activities, downtime, and travel. All students will stay in hotels two (2) students per room, with all meals provided, and chaperoned by MMEA members. Students are allowed to bring food with them at check-in but caregivers/students may not arrange for food to be delivered or brought to the hotel during the event weekend.

Can a caregiver, family member, or friend attend any part of the All State Weekend?

Students will be dropped off during a check-in window on the first day. Caregivers, family, or friends will not be allowed to remain or interact with the students. Caregivers are not allowed to enter or see the hotel rooms. All family and friends are encouraged to be present at the final concert. All State concerts are open to the public. Ticket information will be available closer to the concert date.

Do All State students get complimentary tickets to the final concert?

MMEA is unable to offer comps to every student. However, during the commitment process, there is the opportunity to purchase two (2) discounted Performer Reserve tickets per student for each ensemble in which they were accepted. Concert tickets will go on sale to the public after the commitment window closes.

Are there All State ensemble rehearsals prior to the event weekends?

MMEA does not host All State rehearsals prior to the event weekends. It is the student's responsibility, in coordination with their music educators and caregivers, to prepare the provided repertoire music..

When will accepted students receive the All State repertoire?

The MMEA All State Committee will circulate sheet music to the student's school music educator approximately one (1) month prior to the All State experience.

The full All State Participation Handbook will be provided to those students who have been placed in an ensemble and completed the commitment form.