

NCDA Alternate Information

First of all, congratulations! We are incredibly proud of you. Earning an alternate spot in NCDA is a significant accomplishment. NCDA is one of the most competitive regions in Oklahoma, and being named an alternate reflects your hard work, dedication, and musical growth.

Below are a few important things to know about being an NCDA alternate:

- Alternates are selected because they are fully capable of participating at the NCDA level. You are chosen as a replacement if a selected student is unable to attend the clinic for any reason.
- Alternates do **not** attend the NCDA clinic unless they are officially called into a band, but please know that this does not diminish your achievement.
- You may be notified that you have been called into a band anytime from weeks before the clinic to early Friday morning.
- If you are called in on Friday, you must arrive at Stillwater High School **by lunch** to be eligible to participate.
- Because of this, we encourage you to have an adult “on hold” who can take you to Stillwater on short notice.
- We also recommend having all required items washed and ready to pack quickly, just in case that exciting phone call comes Friday morning.
- You are still responsible for preparing all clinic music. Please continue practicing as if you *will* attend—the preparation itself is valuable and will make you a stronger musician.
- While there is no guarantee that you will be called into a band, many alternates are, and being ready matters.

We truly hope you have the opportunity to participate in the clinic. Whether or not that happens, please know that your band directors are extremely proud of you and all that you have accomplished. This recognition is something to celebrate, and it speaks volumes about your musicianship.