

ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS
Eligibility Requirements for ATSSB Activities in Affiliation With TMEA

These rules will apply to students in public and private schools in Texas. Students in grades 9-12 in class 1A, 2A, 3A, or 4A high schools who are auditioning for a place in the ATSSB All-State Band must abide by the rules listed in all three sections of this document.

SECTION I

Article 1: Full-time Student. A student must be enrolled as a full-time student (as defined by rule of the State Board of Education) in a Texas school classified by the University Interscholastic League according to enrollment grades 9-12 as a class 1A, 2A, 3A, or 4A high school or is a ninth grader in a junior high school that feeds a class 1A, 2A, 3A, or 4A high school during the semester in which the ATSSB activity takes place. If an audition takes place in one semester and the resultant concert or clinic takes place in another, then the student must be enrolled as a full-time student in both semesters.

Article 2: Membership in Parent Band. Students must be certified by their ATSSB-member director as a current member of the school's band during the semester in which the ATSSB activity is held. If there is no organized band in the school, students must be certified by an ATSSB member sponsor who must hold an Active Membership in ATSSB and TMEA and this sponsor must be designated as such by the chief administrator at the school the student attends.

Article 3: Extracurricular Activity. All ATSSB activities are extracurricular. In order to participate in ATSSB activities, a student must be passing the number of courses required by state law and by rules of the State Board of Education.

Article 4: Locality and Classification. A student shall compete in the Region in which he is currently receiving the majority of his educational instruction to meet graduation requirements. A private school student shall compete in the comparable UIL classification according to the enrollment of the school and must be accredited by an agency listed with the Texas Private School Accreditation Commission and file their TPSAC school code when applying for ATSSB membership. A public charter or magnet school must be accredited by the Texas Education Agency and file their TEA code when applying for ATSSB membership and shall compete in the UIL classification according to the enrollment of the school so long as there is no evidence of practices that would give the school an unfair advantage over other schools in the region. Home school students are not allowed to participate.

Article 5: Academic Standing Requirement. In order to participate in ATSSB activities, a student must have been in attendance and have passed the number of courses required by state law and by rules of the State Board of Education and by the University Interscholastic League (if applicable) for extracurricular participation. The participant must also:

- have been promoted from the eighth grade to the ninth grade at the beginning of the current school year;

- have five credits toward graduation requirements at the beginning of the second year in high school or have earned five credits during the preceding twelve months;

- have at least ten credits graduation at the beginning of the third year in high school;

- have at least fifteen credits toward graduation at the beginning of the fourth year in high school.

Article 6: Age Limits. A student may not participate in ATSSB activities after the end of the eighth semester following first enrollment in the ninth grade. Age restrictions shall conform to current University Interscholastic League regulations.

Article 7: Change of Residence. Changing schools within the state after acceptance to any level of the ATSSB All-State selection process will not affect eligibility for further competition so long as the new school is a class 1A, 2A, 3A, or 4A high school and the director is or becomes an Active Member of ATSSB and TMEA. A letter of approval from the student's former school administration, as well as from his/her new school, must be filed with the Executive Secretary of ATSSB. These letters must attest to the student's eligibility to continue in the selection procedure at the new residence. Some further clarifications of this policy are as follows:

- A. If the student moves to an ATSSB school in the same region (public or private), nothing changes regarding region band - he/she still plays where they were selected. They might list the new school on the program (or not, depending on student preference that one time).
- B. If a student moves to a private school that is NOT an ATSSB member, or to a 5A or 6A school (all still in the same region), the student would not be eligible to participate in the clinic-concert.
- C. If the student moves out of the region, then the chair is lost and the alternate moves into the band (regardless of whether the student is moving to an ATSSB school or not).
- D. In a related case, if a student is certified to Area from one region then moves to another, he/she does not lose the privilege of advancing to Area. The rules state that once entered into the track for all-state band, they may only be removed by the audition process itself (or by signing Form 16 forfeiting the position). See Section III. Article 2 of this Eligibility Requirement document.

SECTION II

These rules are to be followed in addition to the rules in SECTION I by those students who advance to the Area and State level of competition.

Article 1: Certification to Area. A student advancing beyond Region level auditions must be certified by his/her Region Coordinator.

Article 2: Duplication of All-State Honors. A student may audition for and participate in one or more region bands, choirs, orchestras, jazz bands, etc., but once he/she has selected a track (ATSSB, 5A or 6A) in his/her initial audition entry, he/she shall not be allowed to advance to any other Area audition.

Article 3: Certification to State. A student advancing beyond Area level must be certified by his/her Area Coordinator.

SECTION III

Article 1: Proxy. Each student's director or proxy must be in attendance at all ATSSB auditions as directed by region rules. Each region should define guidelines determining the use of proxies.

Article 2: Removal. Once a student enters the ATSSB audition process, he/she may be eliminated only by either the audition process itself, eligibility or by the ATSSB Appeals Process.

Article 3: Appeals Process. The ATSSB Prescribed Audition List specifies an appeal process that shall be used in conjunction with protests arising from the ATSSB All-State Band selection procedures.

Article 4: Penalties to be Imposed. A student violating any of the rules in SECTION I or SECTION II above governing the ATSSB All-State Band selection procedure may forfeit the right to further participation in the audition process. This could include forfeiture of a place in the ATSSB All-State Band. In those events that are sanctioned by ATSSB, violation of any of the rules in SECTION I or II above may jeopardize the student's ability to advance to the next level of competition. Students who have not completed the rehearsal or performance obligations of the ATSSB All-State Band may not be eligible for a patch or other award provided by ATSSB.