

ATSSB Judges' Instructions

Each judging packet should contain adequate numbers of forms to be used in the audition process, including pencils, blank paper, instructions, and copies of the music.

Each judge should make sure that their name and number is affixed to each form in the space provided.

During the auditions and while any student is in the audition room, there is to be no contact between judges (do not look at each other, talk to each other, etc.). If comments are to be made, please wait until the student is out of the room. If the student has a question, they will have been instructed by the Monitor to raise their hand, after which they will be escorted from the room to resolve the question out of the presence of the judges, returning to complete the audition from the spot at which it was interrupted once the question or issue has been resolved. After the auditions are over and judges leave the audition room, please remember that you are not to discuss the auditions with anyone, especially auditioning students or their directors.

If judges must take a break of any kind, it should be for no more than ten minutes. Students are not to be told that a break is taking place - they will be told that auditions will resume shortly. **There will be no break for meals between rounds.**

No audible electronic communication devices are allowed in the audition room, so please put cellular phones, pagers, etc. on silent mode during the auditions. Students are allowed to use electronic media in lieu of the printed etude and scales, but may not use it for tuning or a metronome.

Each student will come into the room one at a time, at which time the monitor will instruct the student about questions, then announce the student's audition letter to the judges ("This is letter **1A**), after which the panel chair will repeat the audition letter for verification. If you cannot clearly understand the letter called, ask the Monitor to use the NATO Phonetic Alphabet for that student. The Monitor will then instruct the student to play scales and the etude (winds). If a student forgets to play a scale, they will not be reminded and judges are instructed to penalize the scale portion of the audition proportionately. Students are allowed a warm-up if they so desire which vary between winds (one-breath warm-up before first scale, before the slow etude, and before the fast etude) and percussion (5-second roll on first note of etude for timpani, mallets, and snare drum (timed by the Monitor). However, any additional notes played should result in a loss of points. Students are to receive up to a total of 100 points for scales and 100 points for each excerpt. Timpani judges are to consider tuning in assigning a timpani score (students have 30 seconds to tune the timpani after the Monitor has lowered all pedals to the floor). Interpretations and discrepancies in the music often occur and judges should be open-minded about possible printing and editing errors.

Should the student experience an instrument malfunction during the playing of the warm-up or scales, the student may have the instrument checked for mechanical problems and return to the audition room before the end of that round. Once a student sounds the first note of the etude, the student must continue to play and be scored.

After all students in that section have performed scales and the slow etude, they will return in the same order if at all possible to play the fast excerpt (this is for winds - percussion will play the audition in three rounds). Should a student fail to appear to play the final etude and all others have completed the audition, the student not appearing shall be given a total point value of "0" on **Form 2**.

If the audition file is not working after auditions are completed, judges shall total the points for each letter, then transfer each letter to **Form 3** by total point value. They will then transfer audition letters to **Form 4** going from top (fewest points) to bottom (most points). If not using a computer program, the chairman of the panel shall transfer each judge's ranking from their **Form 4** to his **Form 5**, then throwing out high and low shall total rank points for each letter. He will then transfer letters to **Form 6** by total point value. The letter will then be put on **Form 7** going from the top of **Form 6** (fewest points) to the bottom (most points).

Otherwise, after auditions are completed, each judge and the monitor should sign **Form 7**. Collect all forms and take them to the audition office. Judges should remain available for consultation for one hour after the results of their room are posted.

Each student certified to State must report to the designated area to complete housing arrangements. Students who do not complete housing arrangements at Area must make their own arrangements for lodging in San Antonio. Each director present should make sure their allotment of area patches have been received.