

Proposed Music Performance Assessment Adjustments for the 2021-2022 School Year

Submitted to the ABA Board by the COVID-19 Task Force Committee; Meredyth Petersen - Chairman, Travis Bender, Emily Gray, and Nathan Haskew.

Due to the learning loss of COVID-19, for Music Performance Assessment during the 2021-2022 school year, bands will have the choice to perform either two or three concert selections. One of those selections must be selected from the ABA Cumulative Music List or have had a piece approved by the President-Elect with an accompanying letter of approval. Every band that performs for a rating must sight read at the level that corresponds to their ABA list piece.

All bands should plan to participate in Music Performance Assessment as it is laid out in the ABA bylaws. The only exception to this format would be extenuating circumstances that must be approved by the ABA president. In those instances, bands will be allowed to submit a recording to be assessed at their district's event. However, ratings will not be given for these submissions as they will not be able to complete the sight reading component of Music Performance Assessment. A rating of "comments only" will be assigned to all of these submissions.

For reference: Bylaws related to Music Performance Assessment

Article XVI. Section 2. Classification of Bands (found on page 13 of ABA bylaws)

- a. For the purposes of the ABA Music Performance Assessment, bands will be classified according to the following criteria:

- i. Classifications:

- AA Bands will play a composition off the AA ABA Cumulative Music List
 - A Bands will play a composition off the A ABA Cumulative Music List
 - BB Bands will play a composition off the BB ABA Cumulative Music List
 - B Bands will play a composition off the B ABA Cumulative Music List
 - CC Bands will play a composition off the CC ABA Cumulative Music List
 - C Bands will play a composition off the C ABA Cumulative Music List
 - DD Bands will play a composition off the C/CC ABA Cumulative Music List
 - E Bands will play a composition off of the D ABA Cumulative Music List
 - F Bands will play a composition off of the D ABA Cumulative Music List
 - G Bands will play a composition off of the D ABA Cumulative Music List

- ii. Sight Reading:

- Bands Classified as AA will sight read from the level VI sight reading list
 - Bands Classified as A will sight read from the level V sight reading list
 - Bands Classified as B and BB will sight read from the level IV sight reading list
 - Bands Classified as C and CC will sight read from the level III sight reading list
 - Bands Classified as DD will sight read from the level III sight reading list * See letter e below
 - Bands Classified as E including 9th grade students will sight read from the level II sight reading list
 - Bands Classified as F and G with no 9th grade will sight read from the level I sight reading list

- b. From the pieces chosen by the director for performance at Music Performance Assessment, ONE COMPOSITION must be from the approved Alabama Bandmasters Association (ABA) Cumulative Music List.
- c. If a band plays more than one composition off the ABA Cumulative Music Lists, bands will be classified by the director's chosen selection.
- d. Any band can choose to sight read at a higher level. This request must be made at the MPA check-in table before their scheduled warm-up time.
- e. Class DD Bands are those whose school mandates that students enrolled in grades 6-12, 7-12 or 8-12 are in the same band class and will play according to the following guideline:
- i. Band Programs that have 6th-12th or 7th-12th grade students enrolled in the band class will select a piece from the ABA Class C Cumulative list and sight read at Level II.
 - ii. Band Programs that have 8th-12th grade students enrolled in the band class will select a piece from the ABA Class CC Cumulative list and sight read at Level III.
- f. Class E bands are those bands that are any middle school/junior high bands that include 9th graders, or stand alone 9th grade bands.
- g. Class F bands are middle school bands with 2nd and 3rd year players
- h. Class G bands are middle school bands with 1st and 2nd year players, or the 2nd band in a middle school band program.
- i. No student may perform in multiple bands.
- j. An exception may be requested if the student(s) performing in multiple bands are officially enrolled in each of the band classes corresponding to the bands with which they are to perform. Directors may request an exception by submitting official school rosters with an administrator's signature to the Vice-President for approval no later than the third Friday in January. If approved, this request is valid for one year only and must be requested again for any exceptions during subsequent years.
- k. If a director has a special need for a student playing in a second band, that director shall then appear before the Board of Directors at the AMEA In-Service meeting. The director shall present the facts and circumstances prompting the request to the Board at that time. The Board will decide whether to grant the request. The Board shall notify the director immediately after the meeting if possible, but if the situation warrants further study, the director shall be notified within seven (7) days.

Section 3. Procedures

b. Every band that performs for ratings at the Music Performance Assessment (MPA), must play at least one selection from the cumulative list for the band's classification. Directors may request a one year exception from this requirement by submitting a score to the Vice-President for approval no later than the third Friday in January.

c. Electronic instruments may be used if they are included in the score by the composer or with approval from the Chairman of the Music Selection Committee (Vice President). An electronic piano and necessary hardware, provided by the band performing, will be allowed to be used to substitute for a piano / celesta / harp part that is included in the score by the composer.

[Sight Reading Criteria](#)