



HANDBOOK

**T.M.E.A REGION 15
JR. HIGH VOCAL DIVISION**

Region 15 Middle School Division Audition Policies and Procedures

Elected Positions

Responsibilities of Officers

I. Region Coordinator (MS/JH)

A. General Duties

1. Preside at Region 15 Vocal Division meetings.
2. Represent Region 15 Vocal Division at all TMEA State-wide affairs.
3. Notify each director through written correspondence of TMEA State-wide affairs.
4. Secure clinicians prior to Fall meeting and supply them with appropriate music.
5. Provide links to the following information:
 - a) Region 15 Middle School Vocal Division Handbook and Appendix.
 - b) A schedule of all event dates, entry deadlines, sites, and fees for the current year.
 - c) Region Audition Procedure Manuals and all relevant appendixes.
 - d) All-Region Choir Repertoire List and Rehearsal Notes.
6. Provide screens for audition rooms.
7. Provide a copy of audition sites, dates, and fee deadlines to each director following the Fall Region meeting.
8. Provide a calendar of events and distribute copies of written procedures and rules which have been approved by the membership.

B. Fall Duties

1. Arrange for All-Region patches from the TMEA State Office.
2. Notify directors of selections to be heard at each audition.
3. Notify directors of music to be performed in the concert.
4. Assist in arranging the clinics.

C. Spring Duties

1. See that new officers are elected at the Spring Region meeting every two years.
2. Select and secure accompanists for the All-Region Clinic/Concert.
3. See that each participating director is a member of TMEA and have on record a copy of valid TMEA number by the district entry deadline.

D. Audition Duties

1. Certify that each student is entered according to audition regulations by the entry deadline.
2. Notify each director by written correspondence in the event of any changes in Region activities.
3. Certify eligible students at each audition.
4. See that each audition follows the guidelines of the Audition Procedures Manual.
5. Provide each director with a list of the songs to be auditioned.
6. Be present when audition scores are tabulated.
7. Provide the following materials:
 - a) MP3s, raw score sheets, and all other pertinent materials to the contest.

- b) MP3 Players & Speakers
- c) Audition Screens
- d) Pens and Pencils
- e) Paper clips, rubber bands, scissors, tape, stapler
- f) Writing paper
- g) Large envelopes

II. Coordinator-Elect Duties

A. Audition Duties

1. Duties as assigned by the coordinator.
2. Conduct a judging workshop at each audition at coordinator's discretion.

B. Clinic and Concert Duties

1. Make lodging arrangements for the clinician.
2. Arrange for any additional instruments and players.
3. Arrange for a professional recording of the concert.
4. Make seating and standing arrangements.
5. Assign section leaders.

III. Secretary/Treasurer Duties

- A. Take minutes at all meetings.
- B. Post a copy of current minutes on the website within two weeks of the meeting.
- C. Have minutes from the previous year available.
- D. Preside over Region meetings when the Coordinator and Coordinator-Elect are in absentia.
- E. Pay all Vocal Division bills.
- F. Prepare and present a financial statement for each Spring meeting.
- G. Be the collecting agent for all monies pertaining to the Vocal Division.
- H. Notify the Region Coordinator of any school in debt to the Vocal Division.
- I. Keep all Region monies in a non-interest bearing checking account.
- J. Arrange for the printing of the All-Region concert program.

Stipends for Officers

- A. Region Coordinator (MS/JH) - \$400
- B. Region Coordinator-Elect - \$300
- C. Secretary/Treasurer - \$300

Director/Active Member Sponsor Responsibilities

Attendance Policy

Director responsibilities:

1. Directors are responsible for informing their students of all the information in these guidelines and procedures of the audition before attendance at the event.
2. Directors must submit a list (via google form) of all DNA's to the Middle School Region Coordinator by 4:00 pm on the Friday before Region Auditions.
3. Directors must register immediately upon arrival at the audition site.
4. No one will be allowed to register once the auditions have begun, except those students approved by the coordinator prior to the audition date. Approved late auditionees must register by 1:00 pm and audition before the panel closes. The Student may not leave the audition site without the approval of the Coordinator. If the student leaves (due to a school related function) they must be back before the panel is closed.
5. Directors are responsible for requesting early or late audition times prior to the DNA deadline (usually at 4:00 PM on Friday before the audition via the google form). Be advised that early time requests will begin at approximately 10:00 AM.
6. Only school-sponsored activities shall be considered for approval by the region coordinator.

Proxy Policy

Director Penalty – All directors are to attend all TMEA activities. Directors failing to fulfill their assignment will be subject to the TMEA Grievance Process. Directors are required to arrange for and pay a fee of \$100.00 for an appropriate proxy, who must be approved in advance by the region coordinator. It is at the discretion of the region coordinator to excuse or not excuse a director.

Instrumentation or Voicing for each Ensemble

- A. All-Region 8th Grade Treble Choir: SSA
- B. All-Region 7th Grade Treble Choir: SSA
- C. All-Region 7th & 8th Grade Tenor-Bass Choir: TTB

Number of Students Selected

- A. 8th Grade Girls Choir – 34 SI, 34 SII, 34 Alto
- B. 7th Grade Girls Choir – 34 SI, 34 SII, 34 Alto
- C. Tenor-Bass Choir – 34 TI, 34 TII, 34 Bass

Audition Entry Procedures

Entry Procedures

- A. There is no limit applied to the number of students entered, however, it is encouraged that all students auditioning are screened by their directors.
- B. Notify the Region 15 Vocal Division Coordinator of any withdrawals of students as soon as possible. If a student becomes ineligible, the student's director should notify the Region 15 Vocal Division Coordinator immediately.
- C. ENTRY
 - a. On the campus list, click "View Contests" next to the campus for which you want to enter students.
 - b. The contest list will display all contests in the selected school's region. Make note of the deadlines for the contest as you will not be able to add, edit, or delete entries after this date.
 - c. Click "Enter Students" next to the desired contest.
 - d. The student list will display the current entries for a contest.
 - e. Click the "Student Handout" link for a printable form that you can give your students to fill out. This form will contain all of the required student information for the contest you have selected. The form may be different for other contests.
 - f. You have two options on how to enter students:
 - i. If you have a large number of entries and want to upload them in a file, click the "Enter Students via File Upload" link and continue with the instructions on that page.
 - ii. To enter students through a form on the website, click the "Enter Students via Web" link and continue with step g.
 - g. Enter all of the required information and click "Enter Student" to save the entry. If errors are present, a message will be displayed and you will be able to correct them.
 - h. Once submitted you can add another student or return to the student list.
 - i. To edit or delete an entry click the appropriate button next to the student on the student list.
 - j. NOTE: Entries cannot be deleted after the initial deadline, but can be edited.
 - i. An edit after the deadline will be considered a "late entry" and a late fee will be applied.
 - k. See instructions below for finishing your entry.

Finish Your Entry

- A. Once you have completed the entry of students for a contest, go to the student list for the contest.
- B. Click the "Official Entry Form" link.
- C. Print and sign the form. Your membership card will already be attached.
- D. Mail/Drop Off the TMEA Official Entry Form and payment to the address listed in the Region 15 Appendix. Be sure it is postmarked on or before the contest deadline!
- E. Submit the Local Entry Form (found in the appendix) to the Region MS Coordinator.

Entry Fees

Fees for each participant are set by the Region at the Spring or Fall Meeting.

Currently the fees are as follows: (Revised: 07/20/26)

- A. A one-time \$10.00 fee for each student entered in the All-Region Audition.
- B. A one-time \$100.00 campus fee (attached to the 8th Grade Treble Region Choir entries).
- C. Late fees are double the original entry fee.

*** Fees and proof of membership are due to the Region Secretary by the registration deadline for the number entered online and printed on the TMEA Official Online Entry Form. **Make checks payable to the TMEA Region 15 JH Vocal Division.**

Refunds

- A. Refunds will **ONLY** be issued for students who were deleted from the TMEA Online Registration Portal **PRIOR** to the deadline. An updated Official TMEA Registration Form must be printed (reflecting the exact online entries) & submitted to the Secretary/Treasurer **PRIOR TO** the deadline.
 - a. No handwritten edits are allowed on the printed Official TMEA Registration Form.
- B. Any questions can be directed to the Region MS Secretary/Treasurer.
- C. If any part of your entry (check, TMEA Online Registration, & printed TMEA Online Registration Form) is received after the postmark deadline, **NO REFUNDS WILL BE ISSUED.**

The Audition Procedure

Audition Personnel Responsibilities:

1. All judges must be in attendance at the directors meeting where the judging procedures will be reviewed.
2. All judges have the responsibility to be familiar with all music before the audition.
3. All judges have the responsibility to avoid contact with any students they may be judging.
4. All judges must be silent and sit facing away from the screen once a student enters the audition room.
5. There shall be no discussion between judges about a student's audition.
6. There shall be no use of any electronic devices except those specifically used for the audition judging process.
 - a. **Cell phones, iPads, and iPods may NOT be used as calculators.
7. All judges must remain in the director's lounge until their panel is cleared by the region coordinator.
8. Judges may not duplicate scores.
9. All judges must use a consistent method of scoring. Leave sufficient space between scores to avoid "boxing" oneself in by scoring students too closely together.
10. Audio monitor must ask students if they are ready and exit the room out of the view of the student, before the head judge starts the music.

Etiquette

1. Judges should have the courtesy and professionalism not to make remarks that might be heard by a student and be misinterpreted.
2. All judges should be actively involved in the audition process and not involved in doing other tasks.
3. Avoid making visual contact with any auditionees.
4. Abstain from entering tabulations and the computer room.

Stipends Associated with Auditions

1. Any person outside the Region Membership who is asked to serve as a judge will receive a stipend of \$100.00, to be paid by Region check on the day of the audition.
2. Computer Facilitator will receive a stipend of \$300.00 to be paid by Region Check on the day of the audition for setting up and running all contests. (Revised - 4/30/23)

Audition Procedure

Registration/Audition Guidelines and Procedures

Student's Responsibility:

1. Students should report to the holding area by 7:30 AM for prompt check-in and registration to follow.
2. Each student will receive a wristband/badge (at registration) with an audition number that is worn throughout the audition day. Approved late arrivals will report to the late registration table by 1:00 PM to receive further instructions. If a student loses their wristband/badge during the day, they must immediately report to the late registration table to receive further instructions.
3. Students will sing portions of the selected music: The "cuts" will be provided via email to all directors by 8pm the Thursday before the auditions. Students should have pencils and paper clips. Students may use their photocopies to audition, however, directors must have original music for each student auditioning. Music does not have to be memorized.
4. Students will have the opportunity to sing their cuts with the recording twice.
5. After cuts have been sung twice, no students will be allowed to sing, hum or play any music including the cuts. Late students receive the same procedure.
6. No electronic devices may be used or accessed by a student participant until all auditions for the student's section have been concluded. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the student's disqualification. The list of non-allowable electronic devices includes, but is not limited to, phones, electronic games, computers, cameras, smart watches, smart glasses, or smart jewelry (within an audition room), and playback systems. (Revised 7/20/26)
7. When the student's number is displayed or announced, the student will proceed to the monitor. The first set of students will go directly to the audition room. Late auditionees report to the late registration table upon arrival, no later than 1:00 PM.
8. The monitor will direct the student to the proper audition area.
9. Upon entering the audition room, the student's number will be announced by the monitor. The auditioning student should remain behind the screen throughout the audition.
10. Each student will sing the assigned part of the selected literature with the recorded piano accompaniment. The recording on the mp3/tablet will play all voice parts on unaccompanied numbers. Pieces having a piano accompaniment independent of the voice parts will be played as printed. If the "cut" of a song with a piano accompaniment contains passages that are unaccompanied, the recording will play the voice parts until the regular accompaniment is resumed. The mp3/tablet used in all auditions will be the same accompaniment tracks sent by the Region Coordinator.
11. All students will return to the waiting area at the conclusion of their audition.
12. Students should remain attentive during the calling of audition numbers and to the announcer for last-call on auditions.
13. If a student is permitted to leave the audition site early before auditioning, it is understood that they forfeit any possible placing in the auditioned choir.
14. Results will be made accessible to each director through their TMEA Online Portal, and each director is responsible for sharing these results with their students. All students should accept the results with a display of good taste and good sportsmanship.
15. All school rules and regulations apply.
16. The use of tobacco products, alcohol, drugs, and other illegal substances will not be permitted.

***Failure to adhere to any of the above listed student responsibilities are grounds for dismissal.**

****Chaperones may use electronic devices such as laptops, tablets, etc. but may NOT allow students to use them. Any emergencies requiring the use of cell phones by students must be cleared with the Region Coordinator. Situations will be taken on a case-by-case basis. If a student must use an electronic device, they must be monitored by a chaperone and return their electronic device upon completion of use.**

Audition Music

The All-Region music is selected at the Region Selection meeting (July 31, 2026). The selected music is listed in the minutes of the Fall Meeting and can be found on our Region Website.

7th Grade Treble:				
Title	Composer	Jw Pepper	Price	Publisher #
Riversong	Andy Beck	10089278	\$2.05	Alfred 33076
Poor Wayfaring Stranger	Christi Jones	10735247	\$2.30	BL955
Shule Aroon	Ruth Elaine Schram	10366682	\$2.50	15/3002H
I Will Lift Up My Voice	Laura Farnell	10026422	\$2.75	HL 08746972
7th & 8th Grade Tenor Bass				
Title	Composer	Jw Pepper #	Price	Publisher #
I'll Sail Right Home to You	Strid	3296261	\$2.25	SVM02079
O Magnum Mysterium	Ramos	10586916	\$2.30	BL919
Roses I Give To You	Farnell	11607880	\$3.10	SBMP1821
Canto del agua	David Hill	10189537	\$2.80	AMP 0834
8th Grade Treble				
Title	Composer	Jw Pepper #	Price	Publisher #
Who Has Seen the Wind?	Bruce W. Tippet	11674792	\$2.50	Excelcia SSA2602
Somewhere Above The Clouds	Ruth Elaine Schram	10348660	\$2.75	15/2990H
Elijah Rock	Victor C. Johnson	11202498	\$2.25	CGE385
Uhuru	Matthew Gawronski	11219799	\$2.10	MGC24

Clinic/Concert

Stipends/Honorariums Associated with Clinic/Concert

Clinicians

All Clinicians will receive an honorarium of \$400.00 and a per diem as suggested by the US General Services Administration for each travel day (Friday and Sunday). All meals (Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner) and snacks shall be provided for Clinic Day (Saturday) by the Region 15 M.S. Choir Division.

Hotel expenses will be fully paid excluding incidentals.

Transportation costs of actual airfare or state allocated mileage will be fully reimbursed with receipts.

Accompanists

The accompanists shall be selected by the Region Coordinator and will receive an honorarium of \$300.00 for the clinic and concert.

Instrumentalists

Instrumentalists who accompany the choir in any performance will receive a \$100.00 honorarium, to be paid on the date of the clinic and concert. Must be present for clinic rehearsal with ensemble and concert.

Student and Director Attendance Requirements

1. Those students who are placed in the region choir will receive rules/procedures and contract for their signature (and the signature of parent and director), signifying their agreement to fulfill their responsibility as a member of the region choir and explaining the consequences if they don't.
2. Those students who are placed in the Region Choirs must not miss more than 1/3 of the clinic rehearsals. If the student cannot attend 2/3 of the clinic rehearsals, they will be ineligible to participate. Any request must be submitted and approved by the vocal coordinator no later than one week before Clinic/Concert. (As voted by the region on 4-26-15)
3. Students must meet the attendance requirements listed above and perform in the Region Concert to receive their All-Region patch at the conclusion of the concert.

Student Elimination

1. Once a student enters the TMEA audition process, he may be eliminated only by:
 - a. Audition process itself
 - b. Discretion of the Region Coordinator.
 - c. Student's TMEA Director/Member Sponsor
2. Any audition that is involved in the selection or elimination of students for any All-State organization must include excerpts from the selections and/or etudes prescribed by the State Vice-President. The judges must hear each student play/sing a portion of each of the prescribed selections, etudes, or excerpts before auditions are complete.