



Colorado All-State Band

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Visit us on the Web
coloradoallstateband.com
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Step-By-Step Recording Instructions

PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS

We HIGHLY recommend everyone follow these simple step-by-step instructions so your final product will best represent your playing and give the adjudicators the information they need to evaluate your audition.

ADJUDICATORS MAY LOWER SCORES IF THESE INSTRUCTIONS ARE NOT FOLLOWED

BEFORE YOU RECORD

- **RECORDING LOCATION** – Choose a quiet space with minimal background noise that still allows some natural resonance. Do not use artificial effects (such as reverb).
- **CAMERA SETUP** – Position your camera so your embouchure and finger technique are clearly visible.
- **DO A TEST RECORDING** – Check your sound quality. Make sure the audio is not peaking or too soft and that it accurately represents your sound. Remember, **TONE** is very important in your recording.
- **VIDEO SETTINGS** – If possible, set your video to 720p. There is no need to record in 4K. Sound quality is most important, and larger video files take longer to upload.
- **ELIGIBILITY** – Make sure you can fully participate. Do not submit a recording if you cannot attend **EVERY REHEARSAL** and the **FINAL PERFORMANCE**. Check all dates on the All-State website and confirm with your director.

RECORDING GUIDELINES

- **SPLICING** – You may splice **COMPLETE** elements together (for example, a full major scale), but **CANNOT** splice within the element. You do not need to record your entire audition in one continuous take. Record each element in one complete take.
- **MULTIPLE SESSIONS** – You may record in multiple sessions (for example, record scales at one time and prepared excerpts on a different day).
- **ORDER** – You may record in any order, but you must assemble your final submission in this order:
 - MAJOR SCALE
 - MINOR SCALE
 - MALLETT PREPARED PIECE
 - SNARE DRUM PREPARED PIECE
 - TIMPANI TUNING AND TIMPANI PREPARED PIECE (no splicing between tuning and excerpt)

REQUIRED ELEMENTS

- **MAJOR AND MINOR SCALES** – Record major and minor scales with correct rhythm (outlined in the audition information). Play each scale two octaves; do not include arpeggios.
- **CHROMATIC SCALE** – Record a two-octave Chromatic scale starting on C (outlined in the audition information).
- **PREPARED PIECE(S)** – Each excerpt includes a **RECOMMENDED** tempo.
 - Choose tempos that allows you to **PLAY** the music with a great sound.
 - Mallets – Our preference is that the audition is performed on Marimba, but you will not be penalized if you have to play it on a different mallet instrument
 - Snare – All rolls are to be performed as “Concert Rolls” (not rudimental rolls)
 - Timpani – Record the tuning and the prepared excerpt in the same take (no splicing). Begin with all drums set to their lowest pitch. Use any reference pitch (pitch pipe, tuning fork, keyboard, mallet instrument) to tune one drum, then tune the remaining drums by interval without a reference pitch. You will be assessed on both accuracy and speed. Immediately perform the prepared excerpt after tuning. If you re-record, you must re-record the tuning as well.
- **NOTE** – With all the elements, do not have a metronome sounding while recording. You may use a metronome to check your tempo before you begin but turn it off before you play.

ASSEMBLE YOUR AUDITION VIDEO

- **FINAL VIDEO** – Combine all recordings into a **SINGLE** video for submission. Do not submit separate files.
- **ORDER** – Your final video must be in this order:
 - **MALLETS MAJOR SCALE**
 - **MALLETS MINOR SCALE**
 - **MALLETS CHROMATIC SCALE**
 - **MALLETS PREPARED PIECE**
 - **SNARE DRUM PREPARED PIECE**
 - **TIMPANI TUNING/PREPARED PIECE**
- **NOTE** – DO NOT have any speaking in your recording. Students may lose points for doing a verbal introduction.
- **EDITING** – Trim any unnecessary time before and after each element to make your audition video more concise. **Do not edit within an element.**
- **FORMAT** – Export your final video as an **.mp4** file. Use 720p when possible and avoid large file sizes. Free video converters are available if needed.
- **REVIEW** – Watch your entire video as the adjudicator would. Make sure all elements are included and in the correct order. Review your video with your band director before submitting. You will not receive comments from the adjudicator.
- **FILE NAME** – No specific naming convention is required. The adjudicator will not see the file name. Name your file clearly so your director can identify it (for example: *YourName_All-StateBand*).

SUBMISSION PROCESS

- **ELIGIBILITY** – Confirm all required dates for the event. You must attend **EVERY REHEARSAL** and the **FINAL PERFORMANCE**. No absences are allowed. Do not submit an audition if you cannot commit to all dates.
- **PAYMENT** – Audition fees must be paid through your director (see the All-State Band website for current fees). Confirm with your director how payment will be handled.
- **SUBMISSION** – Your **DIRECTOR** must upload your audition video. Provide your completed video to your director for submission.
- **RESULTS** – Results are typically posted on the All-State Band website during the last week of December.