



Alabama Vocal Association

State Solo & Ensemble Performance Assessment is offered in each district in the spring, and in some districts in the fall, for soloists and choral ensembles that have 2-16 singers. Soloists and ensembles perform from memory two selections for one judge in a closed setting. There is no sight-reading at State Solo & Ensemble Performance Assessment. Directors may choose any of the assessment sites and may register for more than one site.

Standing Rules for State Solo & Ensemble Performance Assessment

A. Eligibility

1. All students who participate in State Solo & Ensemble Performance Assessment must be enrolled in a school choral program, and the choral director must be a member of AVA/NAfME. If a school is on the block system, students who are enrolled for one semester will be eligible for all AVA activities during that entire school year.
2. Homeschool choirs must meet at least weekly in order for students in these choirs to be eligible. Homeschool choirs must be covered under an umbrella school with a governing administrator and a choral director who is a member of AVA/NAfME.
3. Students in grades 6-12 are eligible to participate in State Solo & Ensemble Performance Assessment.
4. An ensemble for this assessment is defined as consisting of 2-16 members.
5. Students must be in good standing with their choral department and their school in order to participate in any AVA event.

B. Music

1. Each soloist or ensemble will perform two selections from memory.
2. Although there is no required music list, directors should choose music that is pedagogically appropriate. Pop, show music, vocal jazz, and Broadway selections are unsuitable for adjudication at Performance Assessments.
3. Ensembles may not perform for assessment any music from the current year's All-State list unless it is a different voicing or arrangement of that title.
4. Choirs and ensembles with like voicing from the same school are not permitted to perform the same literature at State Choral Performance Assessment and/or State Solo & Ensemble Performance Assessment.
5. Photocopied music is not allowed and such use will disqualify a soloist or ensemble from the festival. Photocopied music will only be accepted at the State Solo & Ensemble Festival if the director offers proper proof, in the form of written communication from the supplier, that the music in question has been ordered eight weeks prior to the assessment date.
6. Directors may not edit music for Performance Assessments. If either selection is marked a cappella, it must be performed a cappella. Music must be performed as written.
7. It is preferable that music be performed in the original language for which it was written; however, the director may choose a text translation if one or more translations exist in the music.

8. Middle school directors may make slight changes to accommodate the changing voice, but must notate changes in the adjudicators' copies of music.
9. Music must be performed from memory. Only accompanists and/or directors may use music.
10. Recorded accompaniment is not permitted at Performance Assessments.
11. The director(s) may not sing with their ensembles.

C. Registration and Fees

1. A complete audition registration includes:
 - a. Submitting **State Solo & Ensemble Performance Assessment Registration Form F4.1** online via www.alabamavocalassociation.org
 - b. Total fees, which include:
 - \$50 school fee
 - \$15 fee for each soloist
 - \$25 fee for each ensemble
 - Late fee (if applicable): 2 weeks at \$50, 3rd week at \$100, 4th week at \$150
2. Pay or postmark fees by the deadline on the website to:

John Kincaid
AVA Executive Secretary
4921 Twin Pine Circle
Hoover, AL 35226
3. No applications will be accepted more than twenty business days late.
4. Directors must have current NAFME membership in order to register students for State Solo & Ensemble Performance Assessment.

D. The Assessment

1. Directors will receive notification of the Performance Assessment times after the completed registration and payment have been received.
2. Directors should arrive at the State Solo & Ensemble site for registration at least one hour prior to their first scheduled warm-up time.
3. Directors should bring to the registration desk:
 - a. One copy of **State Ensemble Adjudication Form F4.2** with information completed **for each ensemble**.
 - b. **One copy of State Vocal Solo Adjudication Form F4.3** with information completed for each soloist.
 - c. One copy of **Auxiliary Information for Adjudicators Form F1.5** with information completed for each soloist and ensemble.
 - d. One clean, original copy of each music selection, with measures numbered, for the adjudicator (no photocopies unless an approved ePrint copy or cpdl.org copy)
4. Performances at State Solo & Ensemble are closed to the public; however, the director may be in the room for the assessment. The director may not sing with ensembles, but may accompany soloists or ensembles.

5. Directors may choose to conduct their ensembles.
6. The adjudicator will assign each soloist and ensemble a rating of I (highest) through IV (lowest).
7. Discipline requirements:
 - a. Students must arrive at the assessment site dressed to perform and may not change clothes at the assessment site.
 - b. Students are not allowed in the registration area.
 - c. Students from a school who are not in the assessment cycle must be chaperoned.
 - d. Inappropriate student behavior can disqualify a school from Solo & Ensemble Festival.
 - e. Students may not have access to electronic devices in the performance area.
 - f. Food and/or drink is prohibited at State Solo & Ensemble Performance Assessment.

E. Medals

1. Soloists and individual students in ensembles that receive superior ratings qualify to receive an AVA medal for the event.
2. Only directors are authorized to purchase medals.
3. Directors should order medals from the Executive Secretary by submitting the **Medal Order Form F1.4** online via www.alabamavocalassociation.org along with applicable fee.