

April 6-9, 2022 - Kalahari Resort & Conference Center in the Poconos

December 21, 2021 - PMEA is continuing its planning for the in-person 2022 All-State Festival and Annual In-Service Conference, to be held April 6-9 at the Kalahari Resort and Convention Center. In light of the continuing uncertainty surrounding Covid-19, we wanted to share an update regarding the steps being taken to ensure the best possible in-person experience for our attendees, clinicians, musicians and staff.

In accordance with PMEA's duty to provide and maintain an environment that is free of known hazards, we are adopting the following mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy to safeguard the health of those participating in the 2022 PMEA All-State Festival & Annual In-service Conference. This policy will comply with all applicable laws and is based on guidance from the CDC and the PA Department of Health, as applicable.

All-State Students & Chaperones: Due to the nature of the All-State festival where students will be in close proximity of each other, making music together for several hours, PMEA will require all student participants to be fully vaccinated as PMEA cannot guarantee the recommended social distancing at all times during the event. Masking and PPE measures, such as bell covers, will also be required. PMEA members serving as All-State chaperones will also be required to be fully vaccinated*. Proof of vaccination (one, two or three doses) will be required when a student auditions for All-State, however full vaccination* is not required until three weeks prior to the event. As the All-State Jazz & Vocal Jazz application window was open prior to the implementation of this policy, proof of vaccination will be collected at the time of acceptance into the All-State Jazz or Vocal Jazz Ensemble (early February).

Conference Attendees: PMEA will require proof of vaccination for all conference attendees. Proof of vaccination (one, two or three doses) will be required at the time of registration, however full vaccination* is not required until three weeks prior to the event. Attendees unable to get the vaccine due to medical reasons should write to <u>info@pmea.net</u>. Masking will also be required.

Exhibitors: PMEA will require proof of full vaccination* for all conference exhibitors. Exhibitors unable to get the vaccine due to medical reasons should write to <u>info@pmea.net</u>. Masking will also be required. Exhibitors are also strongly encouraged to sanitize all instruments, devices and products handled by attendees between uses.

Performing Ensembles: Directors of invited performing groups are asked to confirm that all ensemble members are fully vaccinated* or have received a negative PCR test 72 hours prior to the start of the conference.

*Fully vaccinated is defined as two doses of the Pfizer (ages 5+) or Moderna (ages 18+) or one dose of the J & J (ages 18+) vaccines

Sanitizing stations will be set up throughout the Kalahari Convention Center. We greatly appreciate your cooperation as we look forward to meeting and making music together as safely as possible!