



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

January 11, 2022 - 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 will be required when a student auditions for All-State.

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).

Requesting a Medical or Religious Exemption (All-State Students)

For a Medical Exemption: A completed [Medical Exemption Form](#) from the student's medical provider is required and must be submitted via the online form specific to the ensemble to which the student is applying. (If applying for multiple ensembles, just one completed medical exemption form is required, however a completed form for each ensemble to which the student is applying must be submitted.)

[All-State Orchestra Medical Exemption Form](#) (Due Jan 28)

[All-State Band/Wind Ensemble Medical Exemption Form](#) (Due Feb 11)

[All-State Jazz/Vocal Jazz Medical Exemption Form](#) (Due Feb 25)

[All-State Chorus Medical Exemption Form](#) (Due Feb. 25)

For a Religious Exemption (All-State Students): A copy of the [Pennsylvania Code 23.84 Exemption from Immunization form](#) on file with the student's school district, exempting them from any of the state required immunization listed on the form is required and must be submitted via the online form specific to the ensemble to which the student is applying. (If applying for

multiple ensembles, just one copy of the Exemption from Immunization form is required, however a completed form for each ensemble to which the student is applying must be submitted.)

[All-State Orchestra Religious Exemption Form](#) (Due Jan 28)

[All-State Band/Wind Ensemble Religious Exemption Form](#) (Due Feb 11)

[All-State Jazz/Vocal Jazz Religious Exemption Form](#) (Due Feb 25)

[All-State Chorus Religious Exemption Form](#) (Due Feb 25)

****Students with an approved accommodation will be required, at a minimum, to comply with all other PMEA COVID-19 policies and protocols designed to mitigate the spread of the virus and safeguard community health and safety, including but now limited to COVID-19 testing, masking, physical distancing and other applicable preventive requirements. Additionally, those students with an approved exemption will need to submit a negative PCR test taken within 72 hours of the start of the festival, as well as bring with them two (2) rapid tests for on-site testing each morning of the festival.**

Conference Attendees: PMEA will require proof of full vaccination for all conference attendees at the time of registration. Masking will also be required.

Exhibitors: PMEA will require proof of full vaccination for all conference exhibitors. 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.

Requesting a Medical or Religious Exemption (Conference Attendees & Exhibitors)

For a Medical Exemption: A completed [Conference Medical Exemption Form](#) from the individual's medical provider is required and must be submitted via the [Conference Medical Exemption Form](#) (due March 16).

For a Religious Exemption:

A completed [PMEA Conference Religious Exemption Form](#) must be submitted by March 16.

****Individuals with an approved accommodation will be required, at a minimum, to comply with all other PMEA COVID-19 policies and protocols designed to mitigate the spread of the virus and safeguard community health and safety, including but now limited to COVID-19 testing, masking, physical distancing and other applicable preventive requirements. Additionally, those individuals with an approved exemption will need to submit a negative PCR test taken within 72 hours before arrival at the event, as well as bring with them two (2) rapid tests for on-site testing as requested.**

*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!

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