

PMEA Judge Checklist

Follow this list step by step to guarantee that each section is handled in the same manner.

1. Make sure that the audition room has a music stand and a chair for auditioning students.
2. Make sure that no Judge can see an auditioning student through a mirror or window. Position Judges chairs with their backs to the auditioning student. All auditions must be blind auditions.
3. If a Judge Chairperson has not been appointed, select a Judge to serve in that capacity. It is the Chairperson's duty to ensure that the auditions remain completely anonymous.
4. Judges confer and determine passages for audition. Passages must be selected and students must be auditioned on like (not exact) parts within the audition section. Passages should distinguish a student's technical skills, rhythmic skills and musicality. Students must play/sing a minimum of two excerpts; a third excerpt is optional. Students must play/sing excerpts in the order as decided by the judges.
5. Judges, along with the Sergeant at Arms, should write the excerpts in order of their audition preference as well as the start measure, midpoint measure, and end measure on the excerpt form.
6. Do NOT start auditions until all Judges and the Sergeant at Arms are completely certain everything is in order and are ready to begin. Please double check music selections and excerpts and be certain that everyone understands the audition procedures. If anyone has any questions, contact the Region Chair or another Officer for clarification before beginning.
7. Judges will not speak to auditioning students. All necessary dialogue must be done through the Sergeant at Arms while the auditioning student is in the room.
8. The restart procedure will be as follows: **Only one restart per excerpt is permitted.** A requested restart prior to the midpoint will occur at the start measure. A requested restart after the midpoint will occur at the midpoint measure. No restart on the 1st selection will be permitted once the student begins the 2nd selection. No restart on the 2nd selection will be permitted once the student begins the 3rd selection (if applicable). Students are permitted to restart at the midpoint measure of the final selection after the last note. The audition is complete when the student leaves the room.
9. After evaluating all auditioning students in a section, Judges will tally scores for that section and send scoring sheets to the tabulations room. Judges will not see the individual student audition forms.
10. The Chairman of each room judges along with all other Judges.
11. Refrain from unnecessary eating, drinking, and cell phone usage during the audition process.

PMEA Sergeant at Arms Checklist

Follow this list step by step to guarantee that each section is handled in the same manner.

1. Do NOT start auditions until you and the Judges are completely certain you have everything in order and are ready to begin. Remain with the Judges while they select passages for audition so that you are completely aware of what is to be auditioned. Please double check music selections and excerpts and be certain that you understand the audition procedures. If you have any questions, contact the Region Chair or another Officer for clarification before you begin.
2. Students are escorted to the holding room and arrive with folders and their student audition form.
3. Introduce yourself to the students and identify yourself as the Sergeant at Arms. Inform them if they have any questions or issues they need to address them to you. Remind them if they have questions before or during their audition they must address it with you and not with the Judges.
4. Remind students that they are not permitted to have any electronic devices with them in the holding room or audition room. Remind students that they are not permitted to practice while waiting for their audition.
5. Review auditioned excerpts with the students, having students mark their own music with the start measure, midpoint measure, and end point measure.
6. Explain the restart procedure: **Only one restart per excerpt is permitted.** A requested restart prior to the midpoint will occur at the start measure. A requested restart after the midpoint will occur at the midpoint measure. No restart on the 1st selection will be permitted once the student begins the 2nd selection. No restart on the 2nd selection will be permitted once the student begins the 3rd selection (if applicable). Students are permitted to restart at the midpoint measure of the final selection after the last note. The audition is complete when the student leaves the room.
7. Open an envelope that contains a paper with the student names and audition number assignments and read these assignments to the students. Students should place their audition number on their student audition form and/or student folder at this time.
8. Collect student audition forms (if applicable) and student folders of music in audition order. Collect the whole folder and not just the audition pieces.
9. Escort each auditioning student to the audition room when the Judges are ready for the next student.
10. When the students arrive outside of the audition room, the student will verify their audition number on the student audition form and or student folder and verify that they are using their own music folder and the audition number is in fact their audition number before they begin the audition. Students must initial beside their audition number that is listed on the Sergeant at Arms audition number assignment paper as they prepare to enter the audition room, prior to entering the audition room but not while in the holding room.
11. Remain with the student in the audition room the entire time so that you are available to communicate for him/her to the Judges for any requests for restarts.
12. Ask the auditioning student if he/she would like to sit or stand for his/her audition when he/she enters the audition room. Students may warm up when entering the room after being given their music folder.
13. Notify the Judges of the student audition number and that the student is ready to begin. Refer to them as “the student” at all times. No gender specific pronouns (he, she) shall be used.
14. Notify the Judges of any gaps in student audition numbers due to a student absence. Do not change audition numbers to fill in the gap. Keep all student audition numbers exactly as given to you.
15. Stand by quietly in the room while the student auditions. When the student is done, thank the student and show them to the door, do not let the student take their music and tell student to return to the designated area. Put used music in a separate pile in the audition room. Ask the judges when they are ready for the next student. Only tell the judges the audition number, not the student’s name or school and notify the judges of any gaps in the numerical audition sequence.
16. Following the last audition, take the student audition forms and PMEA Judge Assessment forms to the tabulations room.
17. Return student folders to the designated area within the rehearsal space.
18. The Sergeant at Arms does not judge.

Holding Room Monitor Responsibilities

If Holding Room Monitor is not available, these responsibilities fall to the Sergeant at Arms.

1. Students should not have any electronic devices. Students found with electronic devices in the holding room or audition room will be removed from the festival.
2. Do not permit the students to practice in the holding room. (Warm ups as a collective group can occur as needed between auditioning students.)
3. Do not permit the students to have their music in the holding room.

Audition Selections Material and Performance Excerpts

To be completed by the Judge Chairperson with the Sergeant at Arms.

Excerpt #1 _____

Start - Measure _____ Midpoint – Measure _____ End – Measure _____

Excerpt #2 _____

Start - Measure _____ Midpoint – Measure _____ End – Measure _____

Excerpt #3 _____
(Optional)

Start - Measure _____ Midpoint – Measure _____ End – Measure _____

Excerpt #4 _____
(Optional for Percussion only)

Start - Measure _____ Midpoint – Measure _____ End – Measure _____

Students must audition on a minimum of two excerpts, a third excerpt is optional, however if selected by the judges, it must be performed in the audition by the student.

Students must perform excerpts in the order as decided by the Judges listed on this paper.