



2024-2025 GMEA All State Orchestra Information

REGISTRATION DEADLINE- FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2024

The GMEA All State Orchestra is an exceptional ensemble of players selected from the best young musicians in the state of Georgia. This year the event will be held from **Thursday, February 27th - Saturday, March 1st** at the [Classic Center in Athens](#). Audition requirements can be found at www.gmea.org/aso-information. In order to be selected for the All State orchestra, students must successfully pass two auditions: district and state.

The district audition will be **Saturday, October 19th** at Pope High School. The district audition includes three octave scales (two octave for bass), an etude, and sight reading. The required etude is posted on <https://www.gmea.org/aso-audition-information>. This is a pass/fail audition.

Students who perform exceptionally well at the audition on October 19th will be invited to go on to the final All State audition, which will be held on **Saturday, January 18th** at the [Riverwood International School](#) in Sandy Springs. In case of inclement weather, the audition will be moved to January 25th, so please save this date also. The state level audition includes excerpts and sight reading. Approximately 33% of the students that audition at the state level are selected for All State.

There will be two middle school All State Orchestras and they are equal level, and both are mixed grade levels. Here is a recap of the dates:

OCTOBER 19th, 2024

District Audition- Pope High School

JANUARY 18th, 2025

All State Final Audition- [Riverwood Intl School](#)

FEBRUARY 27-MARCH 1st, 2025

All-State Orchestra at [The Classic Center](#) - Athens, GA

The fee to audition at the district level is \$25.00 *per instrument*. This payment is non-refundable for any reason. The payment link is not posted now and will be posted a few weeks after you commit your child to the first audition by filling out this form: <https://tinyurl.com/35t3zb7f>. If selected, the fee to participate in All State is also \$25. By paying the audition fee, your child is committed to the first audition.

Transportation, lodging and meals at these auditions and events are the responsibility of the parent. For All State in Athens, many parents choose to reserve a convenient hotel in advance of the auditions ([Hyatt Place](#) and [Hilton Garden Inn](#) are walking distance).

Students who are not taking private lessons may have a more limited chance of being selected for All State, as they may need more individual help than can be provided at school. Students should be able to comfortably shift and play three octave scales in order to audition. Use of vibrato is not a requirement, but helps a student's chance of passing the auditions. Students will need to practice diligently each day to be successful, *especially at sight reading*, which is difficult to practice in larger groups. All students auditioning for All State will be provided with [SmartMusic](#) for sight reading practice.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding these events or the auditions.

Thank you,

Mrs. Champion

evelyn.champion@cobbk12.org